



## NSA Official Notices

### Thursday, October 26, 2023

#### THURSDAY COURSE REPORTS

**International Gold Cup:** The course was irrigated for the last two weeks and completed on Tuesday. Compaction on Tuesday, October 24 was between 110-120. Moisture was 10 throughout, after the irrigation. Given the active irrigation system over the last two weeks, the moisture today (October 26) was 10 throughout the course with compaction running between 100 and 120.

**Montpelier:** Date of Inspection:10-23-2023

Date of Race Meeting: 11-4-2023

Course: Montpelier

Clerk of Course: David Perdue

Race Meet Director:Martha Strawther

Others on Inspection: Brooke Royster, Sandy Stuart

Time In:1:00 pm

Time Out: 2:25 pm

Turf: Thick and lush at 8 inches, virtually no weeds, no thatch

Smoothness: Smooth (see notes)

Compaction: Tested over the entire course, average 115

Moisture: Tested over the entire course, average 80

Notes: After the races in 2022, Montpelier embarked on an extensive renovation to its racecourse. A turf agronomist was consulted and a comprehensive plan was put in place. This included aeration, verti-cutting to smooth old depressions, seeding, fertilization and weed control. We will aerate again prior to race day and the turf will remain at 8 inches. See photo below which shows the improvement on course condition as opposed to the infield. The course will be walked on Tuesday prior to the course to identify any divets or areas that need attention.



## **MONTPELIER FILLY AND MARE STAKES**

The conditions of the Marion Dupont Scott Memorial(#123) have been adjusted slightly to allow for a traditional handicap, with no limit to the highweight.

The weights are listed on the link below:

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Filly-and-Mare-Stakes.pdf>

## **MONTPELIER NOEL LAING STAKES**

The weights for the Noel Laing Stakes are listed on the link below:

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/The-Noel-Laing.pdf>

## **MONTPELIER SUBSTITUTE RACE**

**(Ratings Handicap Hurdle)**

**Purse \$25,000. Hurdle Handicap. For Four Year Olds and Upward which are rated 110 or lower.** The highest rated horse will be assigned 158 lbs. with all other weights adjusted accordingly based on the current ratings. Minimum weight 140 lbs., not including apprentice allowances. Entry fee \$250; \$250 additional if not scratched on time Wednesday; \$250 additional to start.

**Two Miles and One Furlong over National Fences.**

## **MONTPELIER FLAT RACE**

Please note that the Training Flat Race (#119) **is opened to Virginia bred, Virginia sired, Virginia certified horses, as well as horses owned or trained by Virginians, with preference to Virginia bred, Virginia sired, and Virginia certified horses.**

## **VIRGINIA GENERAL PREFERENCE**

Similar to Colonial Downs, all Virginia race meets will have a Virginia General Preference. The Preference, in order, will be Virginia Bred, Virginia Sired, Virginia Certified, and all other horses that are stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians. Note: The “stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians” is restricted to one horse per trainer.

**It is the trainer’s responsibility to claim preferences at the time of entry.**

## **AIKEN RACE CONDITION CORRECTION**

The condition for race number #138 should read:

**(Ratings Handicap Hurdle)**

**Purse \$25,000. Hurdle Handicap. For Four Year Olds and Upward which are rated 115 or lower.** The highest rated horse will be assigned 158 lbs. with all other weights adjusted accordingly based on the current ratings. Minimum weight 140 lbs., not including apprentice allowances. Entry fee \$250; \$250 additional if not scratched on time Wednesday; \$250 additional to start.

**Two Miles and One Furlong over National Fences.**

## **BY ORDER OF THE STEWARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The “European Gather Up Start” will be used at all NSA race meets this fall, except for the Parimutuel meets at Far Hill’s and International Gold Cup, where races will be started in post position order.

The new standard fine for “careless riding” will be \$500. Should the infraction be deemed “reckless” or “dangerous” by the stewards, the penalty will be a minimum fine of \$1,000 plus a one (1) day suspension or greater.

