



## NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

400 Fair Hill Drive Elkton,  
Maryland 21921  
Phone 410-392-0700 • Fax 410-392-0706

### STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Aiken Spring Races

DATE: March 23,2024

WEATHER: Sunny, windy 65 degrees

COURSE: Bermuda overseeded with Rye  
COURSE CONDITION: Good  
COMPACTION: 110 psi  
MOISTURE: 6/8

CLERK OF SCALES: Harrison Young

STARTER: Vince Paschal

STEWARDS: Cook Edens (Presiding)  
Greg Pachman  
Anne Pezzano  
Barry Watson (safety)

### OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

#### PRERACE:

On Friday afternoon the Stewards were informed by the Steward's Advisory Committee that the Safety Steward, with help from Steward Anne Pezzano, would be requested to conduct a search of all tack boxes and equipment of the trainers. This action was initiated as the trainers arrived on Association Grounds (those that had arrived prior to 1:00PM Friday March 22 were searched Saturday morning). The search was completed with no issues or complaints.

Several flagged beacons on the back side were removed from the course during the course set up as they were deemed unnecessary, and a potential hazard should a fence need to be closed. This was done as a result of an incident in the fall. The changes were met with 100% approval from the officials and the riders.

The Jockey's meeting went as scheduled at 11:45. All Jockeys were present and accounted for. The course modifications were explained, and the Course Doctor and Quick Official were introduced. Gerard Galligan was late due to abnormal traffic and was excused.

The officials meeting went as scheduled at 12:00 noon. All officials were present and accounted for. Cook Edens reviewed policies and procedures for closing a fence during the running of a race.

Pre-Race TC02 tests were performed on #4 WEST NEWTON and #5 CAMELISED. NSA officials had requested testing the entire field, however there was a shortage of test kits.

Post Race tests were performed on the winners of Races 2, 3 ,4 ,5, and first and second in Race#6.

## **Race 1:**

Order: 3-6-4-7

Time: 2:18 3/5

Scratches: #1 L'Emperor, # 2 CITE, #5 WIRED IN

#4 BEE MAJOR ran in Pink NSA Silks

Notes: The Stewards suggested that the Starter raise and drop his flag in a quicker fashion. This was done in the following races and produced well executed starts

## **Race 2:**

Order: 3-2-8-9-7-4-1-6

Time: 3:48 2/5

Scratches: #5 BLESS BLESS

#2 GREYLOVER ran in properly described silk; but the program picture was incorrect

#3 SECRET SOULMATE ran in Pink NSA Silks

## **Race 3:**

Order: 5-4-3-1

Time: 3:49

#2 MINELLA PLUS ducked inside through the wing at the 4<sup>th</sup> fence; rider JAMIE BARGARY was cleared

As a result, the Stewards widened the inside wings on jump #3 and #4 to provide a better visual

## **Race 4:**

Order: 1-3-5-6

Time: 3:51 4/5

#2 KENILWORTH KING ran in Pink NSA Silks

#2 KENILWORTH KING and #4 MADE THE CUT pulled up before the last (10<sup>th</sup>) fence. Both riders reported their mounts had tired

#7 MR. JEFFERSON lost rider at the first fence; rider Sarah Cundith was cleared

## **Race 5:**

Order: 4-1-3-2-5

Time: 3:44 2/5

## **Race 6:**

Order: 4-5-3-1

Time: 3:45 3/5

#2 THE INSIDER pulled up after the 8<sup>th</sup> fence. The rider reported his mount had tired

**OFFICIAL COMMENTS:**

The course was smooth and even. The turf was thick and had good cushion. The Race Committee should be commended for their continual improvement of the racing surface.

*Cook Edens*

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**Cook Edens**  
**Presiding Steward**

