



NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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

STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Aiken Fall Races

DATE: November 23, 2024

WEATHER: Sunny, 58 degrees

COURSE: Bermuda
overseeded with Rye
COURSE CONDITION: Soft
COMPACTION: 90 psi
MOISTURE: 8.5

CLERK OF SCALES: Rosella Hunter

STARTER: Barry Watson

STEWARDS: Cook Edens (Presiding)
Greg Pachman
Phil Hanrahan
Anne Mitchell (Safety)

OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

PRERACE: Several flagged beacons were removed from the course as they were deemed unnecessary.

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.

The Official's 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 requested on all runners in the 7th. The Testing vet was unable to test #1 Clifton Down due to a time constraint.

Post Race tests were performed on the winners of all races.

Race 1:

Order: 8-3-5-2-1

Time: 3:59 2/5

Scratches: #4 NOBLE CONQUEST, #12 THATSMYBOXER.
#11 NEUTRAL draws in Rider change Evan Dwan on #11 NEUTRAL.
#7 DAD'S LIL SPARK and #10 TI SENTO pulled up after 6 (tired).
#11 NEUTRAL pulled up after 8 (tired).
#9 HASHTAG NO WONDER fell at the 9th.

Stewards Inquiry on the faller. Stewards determined that #6 BEOWULF interfered with the faller in the air over the 9th causing him to go down. #6 BEOWULF who had finished 5th was disqualified. No blame was assigned to the rider Virginia Korrell. Both horse and rider were found to be sound after

the incident.

Race 2:

Order: 5-1-9-7-4-8-6

Time: 4:20 1/5

Scratches: None

#2 PENICILLIN SUCCESS, #3 LOVE SAGA, #10 WEBB and #11 CLARA BELLE all pulled up before the last (tired).

It was determined later by the course veterinarian that #6 SOVIET PIMPERNEL Bowed his right front tendon but did ship home.

Race 3:

Order: 8-6-10-3

Time: 3:53 4/5

Scratches: #2 BIGGERTHANBIGTIME, #7 BASELINE BEATER.

#1 ORDERS ANTHEM, #9 MADE TO BE LUCKY Pulled up after 8 (tired).

#5 FINGAL pulled up after 9 (tired).

#4 MISCHIEF AFOOT fell at the last (rider and horse were cleared).

Following the third race, the Stewards after inspecting the track, made the decision to move the beacons on the turns to the inside by 15-20 feet to give the next runners better racing ground. The move was well received by both trainers and riders and the day proceeded without issue with the track.

Race 4:

Order: 7-3-1-8-4

Time: 3:52 4/5

Scratches: #9 OFF PIESTE RULES, #5 ST NEOTS (Vet scratch, lame left front).

#6 CAIRNDHU pulled up after 8 and was vanned off with a boot.

#2 CARTOGRAPHER, following several poor jumps, went through the inside wing on 4th fence taking it out completely. The Stewards made a quick decision to leave the fence open for the remainder of the race for safety reasons. This was based on the fact that the run-up and landing were clear of debris and the inside was compromised with debris to an unknown level. A wave around could have put horses and riders in more danger and it was felt that professional riders were more apt to handle a jump without a wing than volunteers were to clear a large debris field.

#6 CAIRNDHU and #2 CARTOGRAPHER were both shipped to a local veterinarian.

Race 5:

Order: 4-6-2-3-7

Time: 3:54 4/5

Scratches: None

#1 TOPIC CHANGER Pulled up after the 4th (tired).

#5 HE'LL DO pulled up after the 9th (tired).

The Starter did have a recall with a successful 2nd start.

Race 6:

Order: 2-1-5-3-4

Time: 4:21 4/5

Scratches: None

Race 7:

Order: 2-4-3-1

Time: 3:51 4/5

Scratches: None

#5 PALIO pulled up after 8 (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, the course was in the best condition seen to date.

The Stewards would like to recommend the following changes to the course going forward for safety reasons:

1. Add a running rail to the inside of each fence similar to that of the last to home.
2. Move all fences off the outside rail a minimum of 20 feet to allow for a safety factor of separation of horses and spectators as well as allowing for the proper wing and run-out allowance around the hurdles.

Respectfully,

Cook Edens
Presiding Steward