



NSA Official Notices Tuesday, March 18, 2025

NSA Rules of Racing

The revised NSA Rules of Racing is now available on the NSA Website. Any questions may be directed to Bill Gallo, NSA Director of Racing.

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/NSA-RulesofRacing-2025-FINAL.pdf>

Carolina Cup Nominations

Nominations for the Carolina Cup Novice Stakes, to be run Saturday, March 29, 2025, are attached to the link below.

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Final-Carolina-Cup-Nominations.pdf>

Carolina Cup Course Report

Date of Inspection: March 18, 2025

Course: Springdale Race Course

Race Director: Toby Edwards

Time In: 10:00am

Date of Race Meeting: March 29, 2025

Clerk of Course: Toby Edwards

Time Out: 11:00am

Turf: The turf is a mixture of Bermuda grass overseeded with Perennial rye. Though the Bermuda is semi-dormant, there is a very good mat of Bermuda thatch. The rye grass germinated at 100%.

Smoothness: The course is fairly smooth throughout.

Compaction: 90 through 100 throughout the track. Average 95.

Moisture: Readings 2-4 throughout the race course: average. The irrigation will be run to hold the reading at this level.

Notes: The course was chain harrowed and cambridge rolled multiple times after the Colonial Cup. Course was fertilized on March 17th.

Jump track: FULLY IRRIGATED

Flat track: NO IRRIGATION

Rider Dress Code Policy

NSA jockeys are reminded that proper attire is required at all times while on Association grounds. Specifically, that prohibits jockeys from being inappropriately dressed in any area other than the private jockey quarters. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in a fine assessed by the Stewards of the race meet.

Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy

NSA licensed jockeys should be aware that, as a safety precaution, all participating jockeys at an NSA sanctioned race meet are subject to drug and/or alcohol testing when on Association Grounds on race day. Failure to comply to an order by the stewards of the meet to such testing will result in the forfeiture of all rides on such race day, and a possible fine or suspension.

Donation to the Temple Gwathmey Foundation

Starting this spring, all NSA Timber Stakes will include a clause that reads as follows: In addition to NSA fees, 5% of any purse money earned in this race will be deducted as a donation to the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation and allocated to supplement the apprentice rider race purses. The stakes included in this new series policy are the:

- \$ 50,000 My Lady's Manor
- \$ 35,000 Grand National
- \$ 30,000 Middleburg Hunt Cup
- \$100,000 Maryland Hunt Cup
- \$100,000 Virginia Gold Cup
- \$ 35,000 Willowdale Steeplechase
- \$ 25,000 Brown Advisory Timber Stakes
- \$ 25,000 Genesee Valley Hunt Cup
- \$ 50,000 Nat'l Sporting Library & Museum Cup
- \$ 75,000 International Gold Cup
- \$ 35,000 Pennsylvania Hunt Cup

Total purses for the 11 Timber Stakes scheduled for 2025 is \$560,000, therefore, if there are five purse earners in every race the donation pool will amount to \$28,000 for the year. Needless to say, this would be a unique and easy way to support the efforts of the Foundation, which "funds opportunity, growth and change within the steeplechase community," with a particular emphasis on amateur racing.

The NSA has had similar success with the Sport of Kings Series, which focuses on all NSA Hurdle Stakes throughout the year and adds a 5% fee that is accumulated and then used to support or enhance purses at any race meet that cards a stakes race. Over the years, a significant number of meets and races have put that grant money to good use and owners have benefitted greatly.

We hope you embrace this new policy and hope that you see the immediate positive impact it will have on the Foundation.

Required Safety Equipment for Riders

The following policy revision regarding body protector vests will go into effect on September 27, 2025. The Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation will be provide riders with financial assistance for the purchase of new vests, please contact the NSA office for additional details.

Revised March 18, 2025

All jockeys, when riding in a NSA sanctioned race, are required to wear the following: (1) An “approved” safety helmet, which is defined as one which carries an SEI label certifying that it conforms to ASTM standard #1163; or as approved by the British Horseracing Authority (EN 1384, PAS 015); **(2) An “approved” body protector vest which must comply with certified safety standard (BS) EN 13158: 2018, with evidence of Quality Testing (e.g. BETA approval mark) and must be at least Level 2.** (3) A medical identification tag, which is available from the Clerk of Scales.