



NSA Official Notices

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Middleburg

Attention Trainers: Champion Steeplechase Trainer Janet Elliott has graciously volunteered to serve as SOTA's Official Hostess of the Owner-Trainer-Rider (O-T-R) Tent this Saturday at Middleburg. Please tell your owners and syndicate partners, especially your new ones, to link up with her when they visit the tent. She will be happy to answer their questions, help them solve their race day challenges, and otherwise enhance their experience. Janet is happy to coordinate with you ahead of time, if you like, and can be reached at (706) 309-5594.

Middleburg Jockey Notice

ALL jockeys must park on the hill behind the owner, trainer, and lunch tent. There will be jockey parking signs to follow. Please go past the paddock and turn right at the top of the hill. The ground is too soft to park where you normally would.

Thursday Course Reports

Loudoun: The course will be ready to walk Thursday evening through to Sunday. The Course is smooth and turning green.

Compaction: 102 (good)

Moisture: 6 (average)

Middleburg: Middleburg had 1/2 inch of rain on Monday night. There has been extreme winds the past two days.

Compaction: 90 (soft)

Moisture: 1.64 (dry)

Grand National:

Compaction 90-100 (soft)

Moisture 7-8 (average wet)

Willowdale

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance safety, we'll be placing standard foam rolls in front of Dixon's natural hedges this year. We developed a new fixation system to help keep them securely in place, and Dr. Reynolds Cowles provided us with a testing protocol to evaluate its effectiveness. I'm sharing a video of the test for your review and distribution as you see fit. In it, you'll see a 100-pound tractor weight suspended on an 8-foot chain, simulating the type of impact the system is designed to withstand.

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtIMsW9-3wO8Pp3LppbJE6AegPIr5KynF

We also welcome anyone who would like to walk the course ahead of race day. Just a quick call or email in advance would be appreciated—otherwise, our groundskeeper may head out to see who's exploring the property.

To schedule a course walk - please call 610-220-3742 or send an email to office@willowdale.org.