



NSA Official Notices Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Nominations

Nominations for Middleburg Spring Stakes, to be run Saturday, April 19, 2025, are attached to the link below.

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Middleburg-Nomiations-.pdf>

Nominations for the Grand National, to be run Saturday, April 19, 2025, are attached to the link below.

<https://nationalsteeplechase.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Grand-National-Nominations-2025.pdf>

Donation to the Temple Gwathmey Foundation

In addition to NSA fees, 5% of any purse money earned in the following races will be deducted as a donation to the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation and allocated to supplement the apprentice rider race purses. The timber stakes included in this new series are:

My Lady's Manor; Grand National; Middleburg Hunt Cup; Maryland Hunt Cup; Virginia Gold Cup; Willowdale Steeplechase; Brown Advisory Timber Stakes; Genesee Valley Hunt Cup; Nat'l Sporting Library & Museum Cup; International Gold Cup; Pennsylvania Hunt Cup.

Total purses for the 11 timber stakes scheduled for 2025 is currently \$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.

Grand National Course Report

Date of Inspection: 4/5/2025

Date of Race Meeting: 4/19/2025

Compaction 75-85 (soft)

Moisture 8 (average wet)

Middleburg Course Report

Date of Inspection: 4/7/25

Date of Race Meeting: 4/19/25

Course: Middleburg Spring

Clerk of Course: Doug Fout

Time In: 12:00 P.M.

Time Out: 1:45 P.M.

Turf: Tall Fescue

Smoothness: Course is smooth throughout.

Moisture: 6 (average)

Compaction: 83 (soft)

Notes: We had 1/2" of rain last night. expecting more rain Friday.

Loudoun Hunt Course Report

The Loudoun Hunt Racecourse, located at Morven Park, was inspected on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. by Don Yovanovich.

There are some great improvements to the course over the past few years. The previous east turn was very tight and narrow, making it difficult to turn at racing speed. This turn has been widened considerably and was built up so the grade now favors the left hand turn. Morven Park takes great care of the course by over and cross seeding and maintaining a good fertilizing and mowing routine. There will be permanent stabling for all NSA entries. There was .25 to .5 inch of rain today (Monday) with possible showers Thursday and Friday this week. Expect Morven Park to have wonderful footing by April 20th.

Moisture: 6 (average)

Compaction: 105 (good)

Loudoun Hunt

The allowances for the Apprentice Rider Hurdle (#38) have been modified to read as follows:

Four-year-olds, 150 lbs.; older, 158 lbs. Non-winners of a stakes race allowed 4 lbs.; of two races, 8 lbs. Riders who have never won a race, allowed 5 lbs, No other rider allowances. The ratings system will not be used to determine weights.

Virginia General Preference

At all Virginia NSA race meets (Old Dominion, Blue Ridge, Middleburg, Foxfield, and the Virginia Gold Cup) preference, in order, will be given to Virginia Bred, Virginia Sired, Virginia Certified, and all other horses that are stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians. (The "stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians" is restricted to one horse per trainer). Note: It is the trainer's responsibility to claim preferences at the time of entry.

Virginia Gold Cup Distance Change

Please note that all hurdle races at the Virginia Gold Cup (except for the Grade 1 Commonwealth Cup) will be run at a distance of **Two Miles and One Half over National Fences.**