



NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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

STEWARDS' REPORT

Race Meeting: Willowdale

Date: May10, 2025

Stewards: Charles Fleischmann, Presiding
Gregg Morris (SAC)
Wayne Van Sant
Doris Paxson, Safety Steward

Weather: Sunny and cool, light breeze

Compaction: 100 (Good)
Moisture: 8 to 10

Clerk of Scales: Jake Chalfin
Stewards' Secretary: Rosella Hunter

Starter: Barry Watson

Official Actions Pre Race: Selected STORM TEAM, MASTER SEVILLE, MACHEEDA in the fourth race for TCO2. Jockeys were reminded that the whip policy was being enforced and there was a zero tolerance for pressuring the starter.
Weigh first three.

First Race: ICANDOT THAT was ridden by Charlie Marshall who was 6 lbs. over weight. BRIGHT EYED EAGLE was scratched.

Second Race: TIGERSPAW, was scratched. Charlie Marshall did not claim his bug and rode at 154 lbs. UNFOLDING BEAUTY rode with silks with red body and red and white stripes on the sleeves. WALKER'S GAP pulled up before the 9th. SLIABH AUGHTY, pulled up before the 11th. UNFOLDING BEAUTY, pulled up before the 12th.

THIRD RACE: DANTES FIRE, was ridden by Jordan Canavan. HERMANN CLERMONT and MAKE A STAND were scratched. KING TSUNAMI drew in. Charlie Marshall waived his bug and rode at 149 lbs. SAMUI SUNSET pulled up before the 13th. I AM FORTUNATA, lost rider Virginia Korrell at the 13th. CANT CATCH COMACHO, lost rider Luke Carberry at the 13th.

The rider of ROJA REDEMPTION who finished third, Dylan McDonough, did not inform the Quick Official of a claim of foul he wanted to lodge against the rider of DANTE'S FIRE, who finished second, but waited until he got back to the scales. This caused the Stewards to almost declare the race official before word came up of the foul claim. After a review of the video and an interview of the riders concerned, the Stewards disallowed the claim of foul.

FOURTH RACE: No changes. The Stewards reviewed the run from the last to the wire of Justin Batoff on STORM TEAM while finishing third. The Stewards counted 16 strikes delivered. Batoff was invited to view the video of his finishing ride. The decision was made to disqualify the horse, STORM TEAM, from third place, to fine Justin Batoff \$500 and to set him down for Radnor, Saturday, May 17, 2025.

The decision was based on consistency with the previous week's ruling, on the NSA "Revised NSA Whip Policy" of July 11, 2023 which states in part "Stewards will remain cognizant and enforce the limited strike policy of six (6) and **will** disqualify a horse for ten (10) strikes or more". The Stewards placed MASTER SEVILLE third, MACHEEDA fourth and PADDY'S CROWN fifth.

FIFTH RACE: Conor Tierney was named on TAKE PROFIT

ITSKNOWNASTHERBERN, was excused from the paddock and needed handling at the start. STRAW INTO GOLD, fell at the second. POTUS, lost rider Virginia Korrell at the fifth fence. ITSKNOWNASTHEBERN, fell at the 11th fence. RACAVAN, pulled up before the last

SIXTH RACE: Jordan Canavan rode COURT RULER. COURT RULER fell at the second and impeded IMPERIAL ASSASSIN who lost his rider. INCLUDE IT was carried off course by loose horses. CITY OF GRCE fell at the 12th.

All riders on the day were cleared on first exam and those who required a second exam due to having been on a fallen horse also cleared the second exam. All horses walked off.

Official Comments: It would be helpful if there could be a view of the landing side of fence 2 in the three mile timber (Landhope Cup). This could be achieved by moving the camera that looks at fence three back towards that fence.

The turf was well maintained and left long in case the predicted rain did not materialize. Parts of the course had irrigation on it until the rain came. There were two areas that had been damaged by trees falling onto the course and one area that had some erosion that had been filled but the grass had not established. These areas were beaconed out.

The hurdle races were run over natural hedges which were guarded by quarter round takeoff rolls used for the National fences. The rolls were installed by laying down the canvas cover and then spiking down. The canvas was then brought up and over the front of the roll and laced at the back. Despite several opportunities for them to be budged, they did not. The timber fences were all inviting and varied with timber guarded brush fences, open ditches and a water jump. The post and rails were tied down with ropes at either end of the rail. All fences were guarded with takeoff poles.

The Willowdale race committee, volunteers and support personnel are to be commended on a really well run day of racing.

Respectfully,
Charles Fleischmann