

UTTOXETER STEWARDS' REPORT

Sunday 24 November 2024

Stewards: Greg Pearson (Chief Steward), Peta Evetts (Stewards' Panel Chair), Simon Connaway (Steward), Daniel Andrews (Assistant Steward)

Going: SOFT

Rail: Hurdlers moved off inside by 3-5yds Chase fences moved to outside winter positions
Fence 3 (2nd last in straight omitted) - Ground under repair All approx race distances as below:

Fixture Note: At the request of the BHA Racing Department, the following races have been delayed due to Exeter being abandoned:

Race 1 - 12:15pm (+5) now 12:20pm
 Race 2 – 12:50pm (+5) now 12:55pm
 Race 3 – 1:25pm (+5) now 1:30pm
 Race 4 – 2:00pm (+5) now 2:05pm
 Race 5 - 2:35pm (+5) now 2:40pm
 Race 6 - 3:10pm (+3) now 3:13pm
 Race 7 - 3:40pm (+3) now 3:43pm

In Race 2 only, due to the start being moved forward by 103 yards, the first hurdle was omitted in this race.

An enquiry was held to establish the circumstances which led to a request being made by the Clerk of the Course to reduce the distance of the second race by 103 yards, as the official 2 mile hurdle start in the chute was under water and had become unraceable. The Clerk of the Course, Trainee Clerk of the Course and the BHA Course Inspector were interviewed. The Clerk of the Course explained that initially when walking the track at 6am there had been no issue and the course was entirely raceable, however during the morning a stream which runs alongside this start had overflowed, flooding the 2 mile start and making it unsafe for use. Having heard their evidence, the BHA in exercising its executive authority to do so, granted permission for the start of this race to be moved forward by the requested 103 yards.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
12:15pm	TARBUCK, trained by Claire Dyson.	Travel (Adverse Weather)
1:25pm	HILLCREST (IRE), trained by Henry Daly.	Self Cert (Going)
2:00pm	DINONS (FR), trained by Brian Ellison.	Vets Cert (Infection)
2:35pm	FAITQUE DE L'ISLE (FR), trained by James Evans.	Going (Changed since declaration)

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
2:35pm	TOMMY CULLEN (IRE), trained by Matt Crawley.	Going (Changed since declaration)
3:10pm	HIDDEN HISTORY, trained by Chris Gordon.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
3:40pm	SKIFFLE MAN (IRE), trained by Dan Skelton.	Going (Changed since declaration)
3:40pm	LET'S SAIL AWAY, trained by Tom Lacey.	Going (Changed since declaration)

Jockey Changes

Race	Horse	Declared Jockey	Replacement Jockey	Reason
1:25pm	TOSS OF A COIN (IRE)	Freddie Gingell	Harry Cobden	Exeter abandoned
2:00pm	BELOW THE RADAR (IRE)	Freddie Gingell	Harry Cobden	Exeter abandoned

Race 1 - 12:15pm.

THE QUINNBET MAIDEN HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for ROARING CONQUEST (IRE) to wear a red hood to post.

Approaching the second last flight, the winner, DERRYHASSEN PADDY (IRE) hung left-handed whilst racing greenly impeding FARLAND (IRE), placed second, which was left short of racing room, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved and that it had not improved the placing of DERRYHASSEN PADDY (IRE).

Following the race, Jay Tidball reported that FARLAND (IRE), placed second, hung badly left-handed.

Race 2 - 12:50pm.

THE 2025 UTTOXETER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE MARES' 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for both ALEXANDRA LAROSE (IRE) and WILMCOTE to wear a red hood to post.

Following the race, Rex Dingle reported that WHAT'S ONE MORE (IRE), placed fourth, ran too freely. The Veterinary Officer reported that ESKIMO SAM, unplaced, bled from the nose.

Race 3 - 1:25pm.**THE PEKTRON NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 3) (GBB RACE)**

Richard Patrick, the rider of ATLANTA BRAVE (IRE), placed fourth, had made contact with the head of TOSS OF A COIN (IRE), placed second, on one occasion with his whip after jumping the second last fence, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was considered to be accidental.

An enquiry was held to consider two incidents of interference approaching and jumping the last fence involving the winner, ROCCOVANGO (IRE), ridden by Sean Bowen and ATLANTA BRAVE (IRE), placed fourth, ridden by Richard Patrick. The first incident was found to be accidental as the two horses made light contact on a number of occasions and leant into each other as a result of both riders attempting to hold competitive racing lines on the approach to the fence. The second incident was also found to be accidental as ROCCOVANGO (IRE) had jumped right-handed and made a mistake at the final fence, which caused Bowen to become unbalanced and further resulted in ATLANTA BRAVE (IRE) clipping the heels of ROCCOVANGO (IRE) a few strides after the fence and stumbling.

SHANAGH BOB (IRE) which finished last of the five runners, beaten by 14 lengths was routine tested. The Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

Race 4 - 2:00pm.**THE UTTOXETER RACECOURSE NEW YEAR'S EVE RACEDAY HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 3)
(Challenger Stayers' Hurdle Series Qualifier)**

The winner ICARE ALLEN (FR), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Uttoxeter on 1 November 2024, where the gelding finished seventh of eleven runners, beaten by 14 lengths. The representative of Jonjo and A.J.O'Neill's explanation that ICARE ALLEN (FR) had appreciated a combination of Soft ground conditions over this 2 miles and 7½ furlongs trip, whilst also benefitting from the favourite BELOW THE RADAR (IRE) performing below expectations on this occasion was noted.

The performance of BELOW THE RADAR (IRE) which started favourite and finished fourth, beaten by 14 ½ lengths was considered. Paul Nicholls could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance. The Veterinary Officer examined BELOW THE RADAR (IRE) post-race during routine testing and had nothing to report.

Following the race, Nathan Moscrop reported that CURLEY FINGER (IRE), which was pulled up, was never travelling and William Maggs reported that NORTH PARADE (IRE), placed fifth, ran too freely.

Race 5 - 2:35pm.**THE WINTER LADIES RACEDAY SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)**

Approaching the second last fence, ZESTFUL HOPE (FR), placed second, shifted left-handed before being corrected by its rider, briefly carrying the winner, FLASH IN THE PARK (IRE) off its intended racing

line, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Approximately ½ furlong out ZESTFUL HOPE (FR), placed second, hung quickly left-handed lightly bumping the winner, FLASH IN THE PARK (IRE) which was carried off its intended racing line, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, Sarah-Jayne Davies reported that NINE NINE NINE, which was pulled up, had scoped dirty post-race.

Race 6 - 3:10pm.

THE PAUL WEBB SEXAGESIMAL HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4)

Permission was given for COASTAL ROCK (FR) to wear a red hood to post.

Following the race, Freddie Gordon reported that BALLYBEGG (IRE), placed third, hung left-handed in the home straight.

Race 7 - 3:40pm.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY RACEDAY FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5)

Permission was given for POTTERSJETAMAY (IRE) to wear a red hood to post.