

AINTREE STEWARDS' REPORT

Friday 08 April 2022

Stewards: Shaun Parker (Chief Steward), Jeremy Barlow (Stewards' Panel Chair), Peter Crafts (Stewards' Panel Chair), Greg Pearson (Steward), Tom Evetts (Steward), Dan Andrews (Assistant Steward), Bethany Dowswell (Raceday Assistant)

Going: **MILDMAY Course**
Chase Race: Good to Soft (GSt 6.3)
Hurdle Race: Good to Soft (GSt 5.7)
NATIONAL Course
Chase Race: Good to Soft (GSt 6.1)

Rail: Rails out wide with distance changes as advertised. Rails to be moved in c3-4yds each day on to fresh ground.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
1:45pm	SOME DAY SOON (IRE), trained by Jamie Snowden.	Vets Cert (Lame)
4:05pm	ROMAIN DE SENAM (FR), trained by David Pipe.	Other (Was a reserve for the Grand National and made the field following several NR's)
5:15pm	HOMME PUBLIC (FR), trained by Oliver Greenall.	Self Cert (Abscess)

Jockey Changes

Race	Horse	Declared Jockey	Replacement Jockey	Reason
1:45pm	SPEECH BUBBLE (IRE)	Gavin Sheehan	Davy Russell	Stood down from riding by the Stewards (See enquiry notice).

Race 1 - 1:45pm.

THE 20 YEARS TOGETHER, ALDER HEY & AINTREE HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 3) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for HANG IN THERE (IRE) to wear a red hood in the parade ring only.

The Jockey Sampling Officer reported that Gavin Sheehan had provided a sample which was found to contain alcohol above the threshold level for breath samples. The rider and the Sampling Officer were

interviewed. The matter was referred to the Head Office of the British Horseracing Authority and Sheehan was stood down from riding for the day.

At the fifth last hurdle NAVAJO PASS fell, badly hampering LUCKY MAX (GER), unplaced, TRONADOR (IRE), placed eighth and BROOMFIELD BURG (IRE), placed sixth.

Following the race, Jack Andrews reported that COBBLERS DREAM (IRE), unplaced, ran flat; the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding during routine testing failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Race 2 - 2:20pm.

THE BETWAY TOP NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

JONBON (FR) wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

Permission was given for JONBON (FR) to go early to post and for VINA ARDANZA (IRE) to wear a red hood to post.

At the third last hurdle, EL FABILOLO (FR), placed second, had to be switched right-handed and VINA ARDANZA (IRE), placed third, had to be switched left-handed in order to avoid SALAMANCA BAY (IRE) and its unseated rider.

The performance of FIRST STREET which finished fifth of nine runners, was considered. Nicky Henderson could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance.

Race 3 - 2:55pm.

THE BETWAY MILD MAY NOVICES' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

Shortly after coming onto the course, FURY ROAD ran through a section of plastic railing. Having been checked over by the Veterinary Surgeon at the start, the gelding was deemed fit to race.

The performance of BRAVEMANSGAME (FR) which started favourite before finishing fourth of the four runners, was considered. The representative of Paul Nicholls could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of BRAVEMANSGAME during routine testing, failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that FURY ROAD (IRE), placed second, was showing signs of post-race ataxia.

Race 4 - 3:30pm.

THE MARSH STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (REGISTERED AS THE MELLING STEEPLE CHASE) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

CAPTAIN GUINNESS (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

Following the race, James Bowen reported that MISTER FISHER (IRE), which was pulled up, made a bad mistake at the fifth last fence and was never travelling thereafter and Charlie Deutsch reported that FUNAMBULE SIVOLA (FR), which was pulled up, stopped quickly.

Race 5 - 4:05pm.

THE RANDOX TOPHAM HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 3) (GBB RACE)

MISTER COFFEY (FR) wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

Permission was given for COLORADO DOC to go early to the start and to wear a red hood to post, for RIDERS ON THE STORM (IRE) to be mounted in the chute and to wear a red hood to post and for MISTER WHITAKER (IRE) to wear a red hood to post.

At the ninth fence, SNUGSBOROUGH HALL (IRE), unplaced, and TAMAROC DU MATHAN (FR), which was later pulled up, were hampered by the fall of FOXY JACKS (IRE).

The performance of MISTER COFFEY (FR) which started favourite before finishing unplaced, was considered. Nicky Henderson could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance; the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of MISTER COFFEY (FR) during routine testing, failed to reveal any abnormalities other than the gelding had lost its right-fore shoe.

Following the race, P. Townend reported that ROYAL RENDEZVOUS (IRE), which was pulled up, made a bad mistake at the sixth fence. The Veterinary Officer reported that JANIKA (FR), placed seventh, bled from the nose.

Race 6 - 4:40pm.

THE CAVANI MENSWEAR SEFTON NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

FAIR FRONTIERES (IRE) wore earplugs throughout.

Permission was given for FAIR FRONTIERES (IRE) to go early to post.

In a tightly packed field rounding the first bend MY BOBBY DAZZLER, unplaced, lost its position between CRYSTAL GLORY, placed fourth, and BOWTOGREATNESS, unplaced, resulting in MY BOBBY DAZZLER running out across the heels of BOWTOGREATNESS causing BANBRIDGE, unplaced, to be hampered, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

An enquiry was held to consider interference approaching the second last hurdle involving GENTLEMAN AT ARMS (IRE), placed second, ridden by Ciaran Gethings and STAG HORN, placed eighth, ridden by Nick Scholfield. Scholfield was suspended for 5 days for improper riding as he manoeuvred his horse left-handed towards GENTLEMAN AT ARMS (IRE) who was racing alongside him, when it ought to have been obvious that by doing so, he would force that gelding off its intended line. This resulted in the two runners making contact and caused Gethings to steer his mount right-handed in order to jump the hurdle.

The performance of BANBRIDGE (IRE) which started favourite before finishing unplaced, was considered.

J.J. Slevin reported that BANBRIDGE (IRE) was never travelling and ran flat on this occasion. Joseph O'Brien could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance other than BANBRIDGE (IRE) appeared unsuited by being crowded for room on a number of occasions throughout the race; the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding during routine testing, failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Following the race, Adam Wedge reported that BOLD ENDEAVOUR, which was pulled up, made a mistake at the first hurdle in the back straight; the Veterinary Officer reported that the gelding was found to be lame on its right-fore and Kielan Woods reported that BOWTOGREATNESS (IRE), unplaced, ran too freely.

Race 7 - 5:15pm.

THE PARK PALACE PONIES HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 2) (CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' AND AMATEUR RIDERS' RACE) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for SEVERANCE and WASHINGTON to each wear a red hood to post.

Between the second last and the final hurdle, FAIVOIR (FR), placed fifth, was tightened for racing room when WASHINGTON, placed third, shifted slightly left-handed at the same time that SEVERANCE, placed second, moved right-handed, 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 either WASHINGTON or SEVERANCE.

Cillin Leonard, the rider of WHIZZ KID (GER), placed fourth, was suspended for 4 days for using his whip above the permitted level from after the second last hurdle.

Following the race, Jack Tudor reported that ALBERT'S BACK, which was pulled up, was never travelling and Patrick O'Hanlon reported that MANDARIN MONARCH (IRE), unplaced, was also never travelling. Theo Gillard reported that RICHMOND LAKE (IRE), unplaced, ran too freely. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of RED FORCE ONE, which was pulled up, revealed the gelding to have an irregular heartbeat.

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Nick Scholfield	Race - 4:40pm	STAG HORN (GB)	5	3 May 2022 2 May 2022 30 Apr 2022 23 Apr 2022 22 Apr 2022

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Cillin Leonard	Race - 5:15pm	WHIZZ KID (GER)	4	3 May 2022 2 May 2022 30 Apr 2022 18 Apr 2022