

ASCOT STEWARDS' REPORT**Saturday 19 October 2019**

Stewards: Sam Angell (Chief Steward), Rupert Sweeting (Stewards' Panel Chair), Simon Cowley (Steward), Kate Smith (Assistant Steward), Josie Brown (Assistant Steward), Guy Upton (Raceday Assistant)

Going:

Rail: Due to patches of false waterlogged ground the races scheduled to be held on the Round course will now be run on the Inner Flat Course. The distances are therefore revised as follows: The Long Distance Cup: 1m 7f 127yds (a decrease of 82yds) The Fillies and Mares: 1m 3f 133yds (a decrease of 78yds) The Champion Stakes: 1m 2f The order of running has been amended with the Long Distance Cup now run as race 2 and the Fillies and Mares as race 3. Approx 10yds of the stands side of the Straight course has been railed off from the 1m start to approx the 3f marker. The farside of the straight course will be used for this meeting.

Stalls: Straight Course: Farside. Inner Flat Course: 1m 2f and 2m: Inside. 1m 4f: Outside

Fixture Note: After Race 2 the going was changed on the Inner Flat Course to Soft (from Good to Soft, Soft in places).

Several runners in races 3, 4 and 5 did not Parade as required in the Conditions of these Races. Following racing, a discussion was held with the Clerk of the Course to establish the cause behind their failure to do so, and assurances were given that the Managing Executive would liaise with the British Champions Series and the British Horseracing Authority ahead of next year's fixture in order to agree on a workable solution.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
2:10pm	SOUTH PACIFIC, trained by Aidan O'Brien.	Vets Cert (Abscess)
4:40pm	DUNKIRK HARBOUR (USA), trained by Aidan O'Brien.	Vets Cert (Temperature)

Race 1 - 1:35pm.**THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (CLASS 1) (Group 1)**

Permission was given for DONJUAN TRIUMPHANT (IRE) to wear a hood in the Parade Ring and for MAKE A CHALLENGE (IRE) to go early to post.

KEYSTROKE arrived at the start with blood in its mouth. Having been examined by the Veterinary Surgeon at the start, the colt was deemed fit to race.

An enquiry was held to consider interference approximately 1 ½ furlongs out when MAKE A CHALLENGE (IRE), placed fifth, ridden by Joe Doyle, interfered with KHADEM (IRE), unplaced, ridden by Jim Crowley, who in turn interfered with ONE MASTER, placed second, ridden by Pierre-Charles Boudot, who in turn interfered with CAPE BYRON, unplaced, ridden by Andrea Atzeni, who in turn interfered with the winner, DONHUAN TRIUMPHANT (IRE), ridden by Silvestre de Sousa. Doyle was cautioned for careless riding as he allowed his mount to edge right causing Crowley to momentarily ease, resulting in Boudot, who was switching around the heels of KHADEM (IRE), to be carried sharply left and cause interference to Atzeni and in turn de Sousa.

Approximately ½ furlong out, MAKE A CHALLENGE (IRE), placed fifth, shifted slightly right away from the whip causing James Doyle, the rider of HELLO YOUMZAIN (FR), unplaced, to take a pre-cautionary check, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that SANDS OF MALI (FR), unplaced, lost its right fore shoe and James Doyle reported that HELLO YOUMZAIN (FR), unplaced, suffered interference on the run to the line.

Race 2 - 2:10pm.

THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (CLASS 1) (Group 2)

Turning into the home straight, WITHHOLD, placed fifth, hung sharply left-handed making contact with CAPRI (IRE), placed sixth, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, Jim Crowley reported that MEKONG, placed fourth, was slowly away, Frankie Dettori reported that STRADIVARIUS (IRE), placed second, hung right-handed under pressure and Jason Watson reported the WITHHOLD, placed fifth, hung badly left-handed throughout.

Race 3 - 2:45pm.

THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES & MARES STAKES (CLASS 1) (Group 1)

Permission was given for KLASSIQUE, ANAPURNA and SPARKLE ROLL (FR) to wear a hood in the Parade Ring.

ANAPURNA slipped and fell, unseating William Buick, when entering the track. Having been examined by the Doctor and Veterinary Surgeon at the start, both the rider and filly were deemed fit to race.

Seamie Heffernan, the rider of DELPHINIA (IRE), placed second, was suspended for 2 days for using his whip above the permitted level from just inside the final 2 furlongs.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that ANAPURNA, unplaced, lost its right fore shoe and Pierre-Charles Boudot reported that PINK DOGWOOD (IRE), unplaced, lost its action down the back straight.

Race 4 - 3:20pm

THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES (CLASS 1) (Group 1) (Sponsored by Qipco) (British Champions Mile)

MOVE SWIFTLY and VERACIOUS wore ear plugs which were removed at the post. Permission was given for CENTURY DREAM (IRE), IMAGING and VERACIOUS to wear a hood in the Parade Ring.

The Starter reported that ACCIDENTAL AGENT was the subject of a third criteria failure. Eve Johnson Houghton was informed that the colt could not run until the day after passing a stalls test.

KING OF COMEDY (IRE) unseated Frankie Dettori shortly after entering track. Having been examined by the Doctor at the start, Dettori was deemed fit to race.

On the run to the line, the winner, KING OF CHANGE, ridden by Sean Levey, hung quickly left-handed, despite the best efforts of Levey, carrying THE REVENANT, placed second, off its intended line, 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 KING OF CHANGE.

The performance of MAGNA GRECIA (IRE), which finished unplaced, was considered. Aidan O'Brien could offer no explanation for the colt's performance other than that MAGNA GRECIA (IRE) may have become tired on the Heavy going.

Following the race, Saeed bin Suroor's representative reported that BENBATL, unplaced, was unsuited by the going, which was officially described as Heavy on this occasion, and would prefer a quicker surface.

Race 5 - 4:00pm.

THE QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES (CLASS 1) (BRITISH CHAMPIONS MIDDLE DISTANCE) (Group 1)

Permission was MEHDAAYIH to wear a hood in the Parade Ring.

Race 6 - 4:40pm.

THE BALMORAL HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS 2) (Sponsored by Qipco)

Permission was given for LORD NORTH (IRE) to go early to post and be mounted on the chute and for KICK ON to wear a hood in the Parade Ring.

The Starter reported that LORD NORTH (IRE) was the subject of a third criteria failure. John Gosden was informed that the gelding could not run until the day after passing a stalls test.

Following the race, Oisin Murphy reported that KICK ON, unplaced, boiled over in the preliminaries and the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the colt shortly after the race, which occurred during routine testing, failed to reveal any abnormalities. Rob Hornby reported that MITCHUM SWAGGER, placed third, was denied a clear run and Saeed bin Suroor's representative reported that COMMANDER COLE, unplaced, was unsuited by the going, which was officially described as Heavy on this occasion, and would prefer a quicker surface.

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Seamie Heffernan	Race - 2:45pm	DELPHINIA (IRE)	2	4 Nov 2019 29 Oct 2019