

CHELTENHAM STEWARDS' REPORT**Tuesday 12 March 2019**

Stewards: Simon Cowley (Chief Steward), George Welch (Stewards' Panel Chair), Adrian Sharpe (Steward), Greg Pearson (Steward), Sarah Reeves (Assistant Steward), Stephanie Farmer (Assistant Steward), Guy Upton (Raceday Assistant)

Going: **OLD Course**
Chase Race: Soft (GSt 6.0)
Hurdle Race: Soft (GSt 6.0)

Rail: Stud Chase Bend has been dolled out 6 yards, adding 19 yards to the chase distances for races in the shute.

Fixture Note: The horses in all races, except for Race 4, for which there was a parade, went directly to post to preserve the ground.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
1:30pm	ELIXIR DE NUTZ (FR), trained by Colin Tizzard.	Self Cert (Lame)
1:30pm	TOKAY DOKEY (IRE), trained by Dan Skelton.	Self Cert (Stiff)
4:10pm	MIA'S STORM (IRE), trained by Alan King.	Going (changed since declaration)

Race 1 - 1:30pm.**THE SKY BET SUPREME NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1)**

Permission was given for FELIX DESJY (FR) to wear a hood in the parade ring. KLASSICAL DREAM (FR) wore earplugs which were removed at the start and AL DANCER (FR), ARAMON (GER), FELIX DESJY (FR) and FAKIR D'OUDAIRIES (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

Having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

After jumping the final hurdle, FELIX DESJY (FR), placed fifth, landed awkwardly and lugged left making contact with ARAMON (GER), placed sixth, 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 FELIX DESJY (FR).

The performance of AL DANCER (FR), which started equal favourite and finished unplaced, was considered. Nigel Twiston-Davies could offer no explanation, other than the gelding had failed to see its race out on this step up in grade. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of AL DANCER (FR), during routine testing failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Following the race, Neil King reported that BRANDON CASTLE, which was pulled up, was unsuited by the going, which was officially described as Soft on this occasion, and would prefer a quicker surface. The Veterinary Officer reported that ITCHY FEET (FR), placed third, had bled from the nose and that THOMAS DARBY (IRE), placed second, finished lame on its right fore.

Race 2 - 2:10pm.

THE RACING POST ARKLE CHALLENGE TROPHY NOVICES' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1)

Having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

A Veterinary Officer reported that Davy Russell had disobeyed instructions given to him by a Veterinary Surgeon and acted in an improper way towards a Racecourse employee in the pull-up area after the race whilst runners were still being assessed by the Veterinary team. Russell was suspended for 2 days.

Following the race, Davy Russell reported that HARDLINE (IRE), placed seventh, was never travelling and Richard Johnson reported that LALOR (GER), which was pulled up, was never travelling and the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding during routine testing failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Race 3 - 2:50pm.

THE ULTIMA HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 3)

Permission was given for GIVE ME A COPPER (IRE) to go early to post. WILLIE BOY (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

Having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

The performance of MISTER WHITAKER (IRE), which started joint favourite and was pulled up, was considered. The representative of Mick Channon explained that the gelding was never travelling and jumped poorly. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination revealed the gelding had lost its left fore shoe.

Following the race, Richie McLernon reported that MINELLO ROCCO (IRE), which was pulled up, was never travelling after an early jumping error and the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding failed to reveal any abnormalities. Jack Kennedy reported that he pulled up GENERAL PRINCIPLE (IRE) after the final fence due to being hampered by a faller. The Veterinary Officer reported that ACTIVIAL (FR), placed sixth, lost its right hind shoe; CALIPTO (FR), which was pulled up, lost its right hind shoe; WILLIE BOY (IRE), which was pulled up, lost its left hind shoe; OLDGRANGEWOOD, unplaced, lost its right hind shoe and FLYING ANGEL (IRE), placed fifth, sustained a wound to its right fore.

Race 4 - 3:30pm.**THE UNIBET CHAMPION HURDLE CHALLENGE TROPHY (CLASS 1) (Grade 1)**

BUVEUR D'AIR (FR) wore earplugs. BRAIN POWER (IRE) and LAURINA (FR) both wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

The performance of APPLE'S JADE (FR), which started favourite and finished sixth of seven finishers, was considered. Gordon Elliott could offer no explanation for the mare's performance. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of APPLE'S JADE (FR) during routine testing failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Race 5 - 4:10pm.**THE OLBG MARES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Registered as The David Nicholson Mares' Hurdle Race) (Grade 1) (NHMOPS Bonus Race)**

BENIE DES DIEUX (FR) and ELIMAY (FR) wore earplugs.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that LIMINI (IRE), which was pulled up, bled from the nose, LACKANEEN LEADER (IRE), which was also pulled up, was lame on its left fore and that STORMY IRELAND (FR), placed second, had post-race ataxia.

Race 6 - 4:50pm.**THE CLOSE BROTHERS NOVICES' HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Listed Race)**

Permission was given for SPRINGTOWN LAKE (IRE) to wear a hood in the Parade Ring only. SOLOMN GRUNDY (IRE) wore earplugs and RIDERS ON THE STORM (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed at the start.

Having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

After the third last fence, MOVEWITHTHETIMES (IRE), placed eighth, hung left crowding TOWER BRIDGE (IRE), placed second, onto CUBOMANIA (IRE), which was later pulled up, causing it to be tightened for room but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, P. Townend reported that SOLOMN GRUNDY (IRE), which was pulled up, was never travelling. Joshua Moore reported that DELL ORO (FR), which was pulled up, made jumping mistakes and the Veterinary Officer reported that the gelding lost its right fore shoe. The Veterinary Officer also reported that WALT (IRE), which was pulled up, lost its right hind shoe.

Race 7 - 5:30pm.**THE NATIONAL HUNT CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR RIDERS' NOVICES' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 2)**

BALLYWARD (IRE) wore earplugs. Permission was given for MULCAHYS HILL (IRE) to be mounted in the chute.

It was noted that CLONDAW CIAN (IRE), placed fourth, lost a cheekpiece on the first circuit.

Mr Robert James, the rider of JUST YOUR TYPE (IRE), which fell, was suspended for 7 days for using his whip when his horse was showing no response from approaching the home bend.

An enquiry was held to consider whether Mr N. McParlan, the rider of MULCAHYS HILL (IRE), which fell at the second last fence, had continued in the race when it appeared to be contrary to the horse's welfare. The rider and the Veterinary Officer were interviewed and recordings of the incident were viewed. The Veterinary Officer stated that a post-race examination of the gelding failed to reveal any abnormalities. McParlan was suspended for 8 days.

An enquiry was held to consider whether Mr Robert James, the rider of JUST YOUR TYPE (IRE), which fell at the final fence, had continued in the race when it appeared to be contrary to the horse's welfare. The rider and the Veterinary Officer were interviewed and recordings of the incident were viewed. The Veterinary Officer stated that a post-race examination of the gelding failed to reveal any abnormalities. James was suspended for 12 days.

An enquiry was held to consider whether Mr D. G. Lavery, the rider of JERRYBACK (IRE), which finished third, beaten 47½ lengths, had continued in the race when it appeared to be contrary to the horse's welfare after tired jumping errors at the final two fences. The rider was interviewed and recordings of the incident were viewed. Lavery was suspended for 10 days.

The Stewards wished to hold an enquiry into whether Mr Damien Skehan, the rider of CLONDAW CIAN (IRE), which finished fourth, beaten 48½ lengths, had continued in the race when it appeared contrary to his horse's welfare, but were unable to do so as Skehan had left the course. They adjourned their enquiry to 14 March.

Following the race, Mr Derek O'Connor reported that OK CORRAL (IRE), which was pulled up, was hampered on several occasions by fallers.

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Davy Russell	Race - 2:10pm	HARDLINE (IRE)	2	26 Mar 2019 27 Mar 2019

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Mr N. McParlan	Race - 5:30pm	MULCAHYS HILL (IRE)	8	28 Mar 2019 29 Mar 2019 31 Mar 2019 1 Apr 2019 4 Apr 2019 6 Apr 2019 8 Apr 2019 9 Apr 2019
Mr Robert James	Race - 5:30pm	JUST YOUR TYPE (IRE)	7	28 Mar 2019 29 Mar 2019 31 Mar 2019 1 Apr 2019 4 Apr 2019 6 Apr 2019 8 Aug 2019
Mr Robert James	Race - 5:30pm	JUST YOUR TYPE (IRE)	12	9 Apr 2019 11 Apr 2019 13 Mar 2019 14 Apr 2019 15 Apr 2019 16 Apr 2019 22 Apr 2019 23 Apr 2019 24 Apr 2019 25 Apr 2019 26 Apr 2019 3 May 2019