

CHELTENHAM STEWARDS' REPORT

Wednesday 13 March 2024

Stewards: Shaun Parker (Chief Steward), Charlie Lane (Stewards' Panel Chair), George Welch (Stewards' Panel Chair), Guy Upton (Steward), Tom Evetts (Steward), Lauren Thomson (Assistant Steward), Milly Bersey (Raceday Assistant), Chris Hill (Raceday Assistant).

Going: **CROSS COUNTRY Course**
(GSt 2.7)

OLD Course

Chase Race: Soft (Heavy in places) (GSt 3.7)

Hurdle Race: Soft (Heavy in places) (GSt 3.7)

Rail: +2 yards

Race Delay: At the request of the BHA Racing Department, the following races have been delayed:

Race 1 - 1:30 +15 minutes (now 1:45)

Race 2 - 2:10 +20 minutes (now 2:30)

Race 3 - 2:50 +25 minutes (now 3:15)

Race 4 - 3:30 +30 minutes (now 4:00)

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
1:30pm	THE GREY MAN, trained by Harriet Dickin.	Going (Changed since declaration)
2:50pm	FIRST STREET, trained by Nicky Henderson.	Self Cert (Other)
2:50pm	MAXXUM (IRE), trained by Gordon Elliott.	Going (Changed since declaration)
2:50pm	SUPREME GIFT (IRE), trained by Henry Daly.	Going (Changed since declaration)
2:50pm	ZANNDABAD (IRE), trained by A. J. Martin.	Going (Changed since declaration)
3:30pm	BOOTHILL (IRE), trained by Harry Fry.	Going (Changed since declaration)
3:30pm	JONBON (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Self Cert (Other)
4:50pm	DANCING ON MY OWN (IRE), trained by Henry de Bromhead.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:30pm	TRIPOLI FLYER (IRE), trained by Fergal O'Brien.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:30pm	KINGSTON PRIDE (IRE), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Self Cert (Other)
5:30pm	CELTIC DINO (FR), trained by Sam Thomas.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:30pm	JUNTA MARVEL (FR), trained by W. P. Mullins.	Self Cert (Lame)

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
5:30pm	FARLAND (IRE), trained by Paul Nicholls.	Self Cert (Going)

Race 1 - 1:30pm.

THE GALLAGHER NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (Registered as The BARING BINGHAM NOVICES' HURDLE RACE) (GBB RACE)

ILE ATLANTIQUE (FR), BALLYBURN (IRE), MERCUREY (FR) and PREDATORS GOLD (FR) all wore earplugs throughout the race.

An enquiry was held to consider interference rounding the bend going onto the final circuit involving HANDSTANDS, placed sixth, ridden by Harry Cobden and PREDATORS GOLD (FR), placed fifth, ridden by Daniel Mullins. Mr P. W. Mullins, the rider of ILE ATLANTIQUE (FR), placed third, was interviewed but was found not to be involved. Cobden was suspended for 3 days for careless riding as having jumped the fourth hurdle he moved his mount left-handed when insufficiently clear of PREDATORS GOLD (FR), who had improved to his inside, which resulted in Mullins having to take a check.

Shortly after jumping the second last hurdle MERCUREY (FR), placed fourth, drifted right-handed which caused ILE ATLANTIQUE (FR), placed third, who was improving its position at the time to be moved right-handed off its intended line resulting in JIMMY DU SEUIL (FR), placed second, to be unbalanced for a short period of time. After viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Race 2 - 2:10pm.

THE BROWN ADVISORY NOVICES' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (Registered as The BROADWAY NOVICES' CHASE) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for GIOVINCO (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start.

Following the race, Harry Cobden reported that STAY AWAY FAY (IRE), which was pulled up, was never travelling; the Veterinary Officer reported that the gelding had lost its left-fore shoe. The representative of Paul Nicholls further reported that STAY AWAY FAY (IRE) scoped dirty post-race.

Race 3 - 2:50pm.

THE CORAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (PREMIER HANDICAP) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for RAMBO T (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start and for DA CAPO GLORY (IRE) to be mounted in the chute.

The winner, LANGER DAN (IRE), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Kempton on 13 January 2024, where the gelding finished fourteenth of nineteen runners beaten 31 lengths. The Stewards noted the explanation given by Dan Skelton that having had a poor start to the winter campaign the gelding had been scoped and was found to have ulcers and had benefitted from

having received treatment for the stomach ulcers on this occasion. Skelton further explained that LANGER DAN (IRE) had bled on his previous outing at Kempton, which had been reported. LANGER DAN (IRE) was routine tested.

An enquiry was held to consider interference on the bend after the second hurdle involving MIGHT I (IRE), unplaced, ridden by Jonathan Burke; BUILT BY BALLYMORE (IRE), unplaced, ridden by J. J. Slevin and SHANBALLY KID (IRE), placed third, ridden by M. J. M. O'Sullivan. O'Sullivan was suspended for 2 days for careless riding as he allowed his mount to drift left-handed when insufficiently clear of BUILT BY BALLYMORE (IRE), carrying that gelding slightly off its intended line which further resulted in MIGHT I (IRE) becoming short of room, causing Burke to have to ease his mount and to lose his position.

Following the race, Brian Hayes reported that FINEST EVERMORE (IRE), unplaced, made a bad mistake at the first hurdle. Jack Kennedy reported that JIGORO (FR), which was pulled up, was never travelling; the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

Race 4 - 3:30pm.

THE BETWAY QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

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

Following the race, P. Townsend reported that EL FABILOLO (FR) had made a bad mistake at the fifth fence, having lost all momentum and considering the manner in which the gelding stumbled, he felt it prudent to pull EL FABILOLO (FR) up. Freddie Gingell reported that ELXIR DE NUTZ (FR), which was pulled up, was never travelling and stopped quickly; the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

Race 6 - 4:50pm.

THE JOHNNY HENDERSON GRAND ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (PREMIER HANDICAP) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for SA FUREUR (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start.

After an initial false start, the start was effected successfully on the second attempt. However, having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

The winner, UNEXPECTED PARTY (FR), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Cheltenham on 27 January 2024, where the gelding finished ninth of twelve runners beaten 51 lengths. The Stewards noted the explanation given by Dan Skelton that the gelding had benefitted from a drop back down in trip to 1mile 7 furlongs from 2miles 4 ½ furlongs on this occasion. UNEXPECTED PARTY (FR) was routine tested.

Following the race, Rachael Blackmore reported that THE FOLKES TIARA (IRE), which was pulled up, had made a bad mistake at the third fence and was never travelling thereafter. Kielan Woods reported that his girth had become undone on HARPER'S BROOK (IRE), unplaced, causing his saddle to slip; the Stewards inspected the girth, being satisfied it was in a serviceable condition prior to the race, they took no

further action.

Race 7 - 5:30pm.

THE WEATHERBYS CHAMPION BUMPER (A STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE) (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for JALON D'OUDAIRIES (FR), ROMEO COOLIO and THE YELLOW CLAY (IRE) to all wear a red hood to the start. JASMIN DE VAUX (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

Rounding the bend at the top of the hill SOUNDS VICTORIUS (IRE), placed fourth, took a false step becoming unbalanced and as a result gave a bump to BILL JOYCE (IRE), unplaced. After viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved and had not improved the placing of SOUNDS VICTORIUS (IRE).

Following the race, P. Townend reported that CANTICO (IRE), unplaced, stopped quickly; the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding during routine testing and had nothing to report.

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
M. J. M. O'Sullivan	Race - 2:50pm	SHANBALLY KID (IRE)	2	26 Mar 2024 27 Mar 2024