

HUNTINGDON STEWARDS' REPORT

Thursday 25 April 2024

Stewards: Simon Connaway (Chief Steward), Jenny Swainson (Stewards' Panel Chair), Greg Pearson (Steward), Helen Kinsella (Assistant Steward), Simon Kirk (Raceday Assistant)

Going: **Chase Course**
(GSt 6.8)
Hurdle Course
(GSt 7.1)

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
4:00pm	LADY HOBBS, trained by Paul Collins.	Other
4:00pm	ARENAS DEL TIEMPO, trained by Jim & Suzi Best.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
4:35pm	ECLAIR DE GUYE (FR), trained by Lucy Wadham.	Self Cert (Stiff)
5:45pm	BEGOODTOYOURSELF (IRE), trained by Christopher Kellett.	Self Cert (Rash)
6:15pm	LIFETIME LEGEND (IRE), trained by Neil King.	Self Cert (Stiff)
6:45pm	STAY IF U WANT TO (IRE), trained by Jonjo O'Neill.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
7:45pm	LITTLE DIPPER, trained by Mel Rowley.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)

Withdrawals

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
7:15pm	KADO DE JOIE (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Vet advice (Withdrawn by the Veterinary Officer on course at 6.51pm)

Race 1 - 4:00pm.

THE RACING TV MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

The performance of LADY D'ARBANVILLE, which finished fourth beaten by 14 ¼ lengths, was considered. The representative of Nicky Henderson could offer no explanation for the mares' performance. The Veterinary Officer examined LADY D'ARBANVILLE post-race and had nothing to report.

Race 2 - 4:35pm.**THE EVERY RACE LIVE ON RACING TV HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)**

On the run to the line, EST ILLIC (IRE), placed second, hung left-handed despite the riders' efforts giving a bump to the winner, GETAWAY GLORY, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, Ciaran Gethings reported that CALVIC (IRE), unplaced, stumbled towards the end of the back straight on the penultimate circuit and Harry Bannister reported that AMALFI SKYLINE, which was pulled up, made a bad mistake at the seventh fence.

Race 3 - 5:10pm.**THE RACEHORSE SHARES FROM £45 AT [racingclub.com](https://www.racingclub.com) NOVICES' HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for EYED to wear a red hood to post.

Following the race, Tom Bellamy reported that EYED, placed fourth, jumped left-handed throughout and James Bowen reported that TOUCHY FEELY, which was pulled up, hung left-handed throughout.

Race 4 - 5:45pm.**THE FOLLOW RACING TV ON TWITTER HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5) (DIV I)**

An enquiry was held to consider interference on the bend turning into the home straight involving the winner, FERROBIN (IRE), ridden by Mr Murray Dodd, SPIRIT OF REGULUS (IRE), unplaced, ridden by Peter Kavanagh, GRASSHOPPER TIME (IRE), unplaced, ridden by Harry Bannister, TIMES ARE BLUE (IRE), which was pulled up, ridden by Tom Cannon and FOX'S SOCKS (FR), placed third, ridden by Aaron Anderson. Being a 7lb Claimer, Mr Dodd was offered accompaniment in the enquiry, but declined. Freddie Gordon, the rider of HIGHWAY ONE O FIVE (IRE), placed fifth, was also interviewed, but found not to be involved. The interference was found to be accidental in that Bannister had switched GRASSHOPPER TIME (IRE) left-handed off the heels of a weakening TIMES ARE BLUE (IRE) into a tight but legitimate gap just prior to SPIRIT OF REGULUS (IRE) hanging right-handed despite Kavanagh's best efforts when he had become awkwardly placed inside the heels of FERROBIN (IRE), which resulted in GRASSHOPPER TIME (IRE) being badly tightened for room and in turn severely hampered TIMES ARE BLUE (IRE) which was checked against the rail. FOX'S SOCKS (FR) which was following TIMES ARE BLUE (IRE) was hampered and switched sharply left-handed to avoid the incident.

Following the race, Pater Kavanagh reported that SPIRIT OF REGULUS (IRE), unplaced, hung right-handed and Tom Cannon reported that TIMES ARE BLUE (IRE), which was pulled up, was badly hampered on the bend turning into the home straight.

Race 5 - 6:15pm.**THE FOLLOW RACING TV ON TWITTER HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5) (DIV II)**

Permission was given for SIR CILIA to wear a red hood to post.

Race 6 - 6:45pm.

THE RACING TV HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (DIV I)

Permission was given for BANNISTER (FR) to go early to post.

An enquiry was held into the running and riding of PARC D'AMOUR (IRE), ridden by Ciaran Gethings and trained by Kim Bailey, which was ridden in rear throughout and travelled into the race stylishly before suffering significant interference approaching the home bend and thereafter appeared to be confidently ridden until jumping the last hurdle to be beaten into second place by 1½ lengths. The rider and the trainer's representative were interviewed and shown recordings of the race and the Veterinary Officer reported that the gelding was 1/5 lame on its left-hind. The rider stated that his instructions were to drop PARC D'AMOUR (IRE) out and ride the gelding cold, as he is a buzzy type which needs to be kept on the bridle for as long as possible with a view to mounting his challenge late, which were similar tactics to those employed when PARC D'AMOUR (IRE) had won over course and distance at Huntingdon on 25 November 2023. Gethings explained that the early pace was very strong, and he was content with his position throughout and was making nice headway into the race down the inner approaching the home bend until he was checked in his run and lost several lengths. Gethings added that this resulted in him being further off the leaders than was ideal rounding the home bend and he was mindful that it would be detrimental to the chances of PARC D'AMOUR (IRE) if he placed the gelding under maximum pressure too soon and for this reason had nudged and squeezed the horse forward between the second last and last hurdles before asking for his finishing effort from the back of the last, where PARC D'AMOUR (IRE) had stayed on well after the winner, OSLO, had got first run on him. The trainer's representative confirmed the instructions and that he had spoken with the trainer after the race, stating that he was satisfied with the ride given and was of the opinion that considering the interference suffered by PARC D'AMOUR (IRE), Gethings had achieved the best possible placing under a ride that had accorded with their instructions. Their explanations were noted.

The performance of QUARESOME (IRE), which finished unplaced, was considered. The representative of Donald McCain could offer no explanation for the geldings' performance, other than they considered him to have a handicap mark which was too high. The Veterinary Officer examined QUARESOME (IRE) post-race, during routine testing, and had nothing to report.

An enquiry was held to consider interference rounding the bend turning into the home straight, involving LES LOYAUTES (FR), unplaced, ridden by Finn Lambert, LUCKY LOVER BOY (IRE), placed third, ridden by Henry Brooke, PARC D'AMOUR (IRE), placed second, ridden by Ciaran Gethings. The interference was found to be accidental as LES LOYAUTES (FR) shifted right-handed away from the whip before being quickly corrected by its rider, briefly crowding LUCKY LOVER BOY (IRE) for room resulting in the rider of PARC D'AMOUR (IRE) taking a significant check on the rail.

Following the race, Charlie Hammond reported that BANNISTER (FR), unplaced, ran too freely.

Race 7 - 7:15pm

THE RACING TV HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (DIV II)

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

HAREL DU MARAIS (FR), trained by Mark Walford, did not enter the Parade Ring due to difficulties fitting the geldings' noseband. They were given permission to go straight to post to avoid any further delay to the race.

After jumping the final hurdle in the back straight BALHAMBAR (FR), placed second, improved through along the inside of the winner, PICKANUMBER (IRE), which had made a mistake and then edged slightly right-handed which left BALHAMBAR (FR) in restricted room to its inside, before BALHAMBAR (FR) then lugged right-handed carrying FLIGHT OF FREEDOM (IRE), placed fourth, onto DANCING IN BRAZIL, unplaced, which lost its position when tightened for room on the rail, 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 PICKANUMBER (IRE).

Following the race, Lorcan Williams reported that BALHAMBAR (FR), placed second, hung right-handed and Theo Gillard reported that MASTER MALACHY (IRE), unplaced, hung left-handed. J. R. Jenkins reported that CHARLIE MY BOY (IRE), unplaced, made a respiratory noise.

Race 8 - 7:45pm.

THE WATCH REPLAYS ON RACING TV OPEN MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS 5) (Category 3 Elimination) (GBB RACE)

Nothing to report