

## EXETER STEWARDS' REPORT

**Friday 19 April 2024**

Stewards: Guy Upton (Chief Steward), John Pearn (Stewards' Panel Chair), Thomas Evetts (Steward), Philippa Hardy (Assistant Steward), Milly Bersey (Raceday Assistant)

Going: GOOD

Rail: Exeter - Away bend, SHARED. Out by 10 yards for Hurdlers, reduced by 10 yards for Chases from innermost positions. Plymouth - Home bend, DIVIDED. Out by 9 yards for Hurdles and out by 6 yards for Chases from innermost positions.

### Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
4:55pm	LOST IN THE MIST (IRE), trained by Martin Keighley.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
4:55pm	WILD GROUSE (IRE), trained by Donald McCain.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
4:55pm	DUNBULCAN BAY (IRE), trained by Dan Skelton.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
4:55pm	REELY DELIGHTFUL, trained by Venetia Williams.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
6:00pm	TOTOWOLFE, trained by Nigel Hawke.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
6:30pm	OPTIMISTIC JOE (IRE), trained by Philip Hobbs & Johnson White.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
7:00pm	MAWLOOD (IRE), trained by Georgie Howell.	Travel (Flat Tyre on Horsebox, unable to be mended in time)
7:00pm	PLAY BY THE RULES (IRE), trained by Nigel Hawke.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
7:00pm	PENCIL (IRE), trained by Nicky Martin.	Self Cert (Abscess)
7:30pm	LADY NELL, trained by Venetia Williams.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
7:30pm	DIAMOND DRILL (IRE), trained by Tom Weston.	Other (Incorrect horse brought to the racecourse. See notice below.)
7:30pm	KAP OUEST (FR), trained by Harry Fry.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)
7:30pm	DOCTOR MIDAS (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Going (Changed Since Declaration)

**Race 1 - 4:25pm.****THE CLIFTON INN NEWTOWN EXETER 'NATIONAL HUNT' MAIDEN HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (DIV I) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for VISION DE MAINE (FR) to wear a red hood to post.

**Race 2 - 4:55pm.****THE CLIFTON INN NEWTOWN EXETER 'NATIONAL HUNT' MAIDEN HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (DIV II) (GBB RACE)**

An enquiry was held to consider interference on the run to the line, involving JOHNNY BLUE (IRE), placed second, ridden by James Bowen and the winner, SAINT CYR DE PAIL (FR), ridden by David Noonan. Bowen was suspended for 2 days for careless riding as he allowed his mount to drift left-handed away from the whip, whilst continuing to use his whip in the left-hand, causing intimidation to SAINT CYR DE PAIL (FR) who became tightened for room against the rail.

**Race 3 - 5:30pm.****THE BELL INN BOVEY TRACEY NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5) (DIV I)**

Permission was given for PADDY IN THE CADDY (IRE) to wear a red hood to post.

The apparent improvement in form of the winner, CAPTAIN WALLACE (IRE), which had never previously been placed, was considered. The representative of Sam Thomas' comments that the gelding may have appreciated the better ground on this occasion, officially described as Good was noted and CAPTAIN WALLACE (IRE) was routine tested.

Following the race, the representative of Paul Nicholls reported that the race came too soon for SOIR DE GALA (FR), placed third, with the gelding having run 8 days prior.

**Race 4 - 6:00pm.****THE BELL INN BOVEY TRACEY NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5) (DIV II)**

Permission was given for THURLEY (IRE) to go early to post wearing a red hood and to be mounted in the chute.

The sponsorship in relation to MISS HUNKY DORY, trained by Ben Clarke, did not comply with the Sponsorship Code of Conduct. Clarke was warned as to his responsibility to ensure that the correct sponsorship is carried.

Rounding the bend, prior to entering the home straight, GROOM DE COTTE (FR), placed fifth, was steadied and switched left-handed after running onto the heels of a weakening BUCK OF MAINE (FR),

which was pulled up, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was found that no riding offence was involved.

Following the race, Ben Poste reported that KINGOFTHESWINGERZ (IRE), unplaced, stopped quickly and the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

**Race 5 - 6:30pm.**

**THE HENRYS BAR MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD EXETER HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5)**

Permission was given for TOUGH APPROACH to wear a red hood to post.

The performance of MY GIRL KATIE (IRE), which finished unplaced, was considered. Grace Harris could offer no explanation for the mare's performance. The Veterinary Officer examined MY GIRL KATIE (IRE) post-race and had nothing to report.

The performance of MOONLIGHT ARTIST, which finished unplaced, was considered. The representative of Joe Tizzard could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance, other than confirming the rider, Freddie Gingell's explanation that MOONLIGHT ARTIST never travelled. The Veterinary Officer examined MOONLIGHT ARTIST post-race and had nothing to report.

The winner, KICK UP A STORM (IRE), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Taunton on 16 November 2023 where the gelding finished seventh of eleven runners, beaten by 58 ½ lengths. The representative of Paul Nicholls' explanation that the gelding had benefitted from the step up in trip from 2 miles 3 furlongs to 2 miles 7 furlongs and the application of first-time cheekpieces was noted and KICK UP A STORM (IRE) was routine tested.

Following the race, Joe Anderson reported that REBEL INTENTIONS (IRE), unplaced, stopped quickly and the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

**Race 6 - 7:00pm.**

**THE HEAVITREE BREWERY NOVICES' HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)**

Nothing to report

**Race 7 - 7:30pm.**

**THE HEART OF OAK PINHOE EXETER OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS 5) (Category 1 Elimination) (GBB RACE)**

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

The Veterinary Officer reported that Tom Weston had presented the incorrect horse at the racecourse stables for identification in place of DIAMOND DRILL (IRE) which was declared to run in the 7:30pm. The representative of Tom Weston and the Veterinary Officer were interviewed. Having heard their evidence, the Stewards referred the matter to the Head Office of the British Horseracing Authority and ordered that DIAMOND DRILL (IRE) be withdrawn.

**Race 8 - 8:00pm.**

**THE SWAN INN D&C INTERMEDIATE SERIES FINAL HUNTERS' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)**

Permission was given for GRENADINE SAVE (FR) to wear a hood in the parade ring only.

**Suspensions**

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
James Bowen	Race - 4:55pm	JOHNNY BLUE (IRE)	2	4 May 2024 6 May 2024