

CHELTENHAM STEWARDS' REPORT

Friday 13 March 2020

Stewards: Shaun Parker (Chief Steward), George Welch (Stewards' Panel Chair), Roger Bellamy (Stewards' Panel Chair), Simon Cowley (Steward), Colin Vickers (Steward), Chris Hill (Assistant Steward), Guy Upton (Raceday Assistant)

Going: **NEW Course**

Chase Race: Good to Soft (Soft in places) (GSt 6.5)

Hurdle Race: Soft (Good to Soft in places) (GSt 6.3)

OLD Course

Rail: All distances as advertised.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
2:10pm	YOU RAISED ME UP (IRE), trained by Martin Brassil.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
2:10pm	MINELLA CHARMER (IRE), trained by James Moffatt.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
4:10pm	CHOSEN DREAM (IRE), trained by Graham John McKeever.	Vets Cert (Other) (Following assessment by BHA Racecourse Vets)
4:10pm	HAZEL HILL (IRE), trained by Philip Rowley.	Vets Cert (Other) (Following assessment by BHA Racecourse Vets)
4:10pm	DON BERSY (FR), trained by R. D. Potter.	Self Cert (Coughing)
4:50pm	CAID DU LIN (FR), trained by Dr Richard Newland.	Self Cert (Abscess)
4:50pm	ADRRASTOS (IRE), trained by Jamie Snowden.	Self Cert (Bruised Foot)
5:30pm	BRAID BLUE (IRE), trained by Gordon Elliott.	Going (changed since declaration)
5:30pm	ASSEMBLE, trained by Joseph Patrick O'Brien.	Vets Cert (Lame)

Race 1 - 1:30pm.

THE JCB TRIUMPH HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1)(Grade 1)

Permission was given for GOSHEN (FR) and NAVAJO PASS to go early to post; ASPIRE TOWER (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed at the start and BURNING VICTORY (FR) and HOOK UP (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

The performance of SOLO (FR), which finished eighth, beaten by 10¼ lengths, was considered. Paul Nicholls could offer no explanation for the colt's performance other than Harry Cobden reporting that SOLO (FR) was never travelling down the hill on the final circuit; SOLO (FR) was routine tested.

Following the race, Rachael Blackmore reported that ASPIRE TOWER (IRE), placed second, jumped left-handed.

Race 2 - 2:10pm.

THE RANDOX HEALTH COUNTY HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 3)

SAINT ROI (FR) and TIGER VOICE (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

The performance of CIEL DE NEIGE (FR), which started second favourite and finished unplaced, beaten by 20 lengths, was considered. The representative of W. P. Mullins could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance other than Mark Walsh reporting that CIEL DE NEIGE (FR) stopped quickly. CIEL DE NEIGE (FR) was routine tested.

Following the race, Kevin Brouder reported that PAKENS ROCK (IRE), unplaced, lost its action; the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding failed to reveal any abnormalities. The Veterinary Officer further reported that ARAMON (GER), placed second, lost its right-fore shoe.

Race 3 - 2:50pm.

THE ALBERT BARTLETT NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1)(Grade 1) (Registered as THE SPA NOVICES' HURDLE RACE)

FOXY JACKS (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed in the Parade Ring and JANIDIL (FR) and RAMSES DE TEILLEE (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

The performance of RAMSES DE TEILLEE (FR), which finished unplaced, beaten by 51¼ lengths, was considered. David Pipe could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance. RAMSES DE TEILLEE (FR) was routine tested.

An enquiry was held to consider interference approaching the final hurdle when the winner, MONKFISH (IRE), ridden by P. Townend, interfered with THYME HILL, placed fourth, ridden by Richard Johnson. Townend was suspended for 4 days for careless riding as he had allowed his mount to drift right-handed for a considerable period of time, causing THYME HILL to be tightened for room against LATEST EXHIBITION (IRE), placed second, and Johnson having to then take a significant check.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that LATEST EXHIBITION (IRE), placed second, lost its left-hind shoe.

Race 4 - 3:30pm.**THE MAGNERS CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1)**

MONALEE (IRE) wore earplugs which were removed at the start and AL BOUM PHOTO (FR) and KEMBOY (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

An enquiry was held to consider interference at the top of the hill on the final circuit when SANTINI, placed second, ridden by Nico de Boinville, interfered with MONALEE (IRE), placed fourth, ridden by Rachael Blackmore. de Boinville was suspended for 2 days for careless riding as he had drifted left-handed towards the rail when insufficiently clear of MONALEE (IRE), resulting in Blackmore having to take a check.

Shortly after jumping the final fence, Nico de Boinville, the rider of SANTINI, placed second, struck MONALEE (IRE), placed fourth, once over the nose with his whip, but after viewing a recording of the race it was considered to be accidental.

Race 5 - 4:10pm.**THE ST. JAMES'S PLACE FOXHUNTER CHALLENGE CUP OPEN HUNTERS' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 2)**

TOP WOOD (FR) wore earplugs which were removed at the start and BILLAWAY (IRE) wore earplugs throughout the race.

Following the race, Alexandra Dunn reported that SAUSALITO SUNRISE (IRE), unplaced, was unsuited by the ground, which was officially described as Good to Soft, Soft in places on this occasion and would prefer a slower surface. Mr Zac Baker reported that BISHOPS ROAD (IRE), which was pulled up, was never travelling.

Race 6 - 4:50pm.**THE JOHNNY HENDERSON GRAND ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 3)**

Permission was given for MARRACUDJA (FR) to go early to post and CHOSEN MATE (IRE) to wear a hood to the start; MARRACUDJA (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

Race 7 - 5:30pm.**THE MARTIN PIPE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 2)**

GREAT WHITE SHARK (FR) wore earplugs throughout the race.

The Starter reported that Conor McNamara, the rider of FIVE O'CLOCK (FR); Eoin Walsh, the rider of COLUMN OF FIRE (IRE); Chester Williams, the rider of ESPOIR DE ROMAY (FR); Kevin Brouder, the rider of DOCTOR DUFFY (IRE); A. W. Short, the rider of MY SISTER SARAH (IRE); Darragh O'Keeffe, the rider of ILIKEDWAYURTHINKIN (IRE); Sean O'Keeffe, the rider of THE BOSSES OSCAR (IRE); Oakley Brown, the rider of ANYTHING WILL DO (IRE); William Marshall, the rider of FLASH THE STEEL (IRE); Gavin Brouder, the rider of EVERYBREATHYOUTAKE (IRE); Donal McNerney, the rider of GREAT

WHITE SHARK (FR) and Fergus Gregory, the rider of ESCARIA TEN (FR), failed to walk or jig-jog into the start, despite having been briefed about the procedure for the start of this race. The riders and the Starter were interviewed and recordings of the incident were shown. All the riders listed above were suspended for 1 day for misconduct at the start, with the exception of Williams whose explanation was accepted.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of FRONT VIEW (FR), which started favourite and finished unplaced, during routine testing shortly after the race, revealed the gelding lost its right-fore shoe.

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
P. Townend	Race - 2:50pm	MONKFISH (IRE)	4	30 Mar 2020 29 Mar 2020 28 Mar 2020 27 Mar 2020
Nico de Boinville	Race - 3:30pm	SANTINI (GB)	2	17 Mar 2020 27 Mar 2020
William Marshall	Race - 5:30pm	FLASH THE STEEL (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Kevin Brouder	Race - 5:30pm	DOCTOR DUFFY (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Darragh O'Keeffe	Race - 5:30pm	ILIKEDWAYURTHINKIN (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
A. W. Short	Race - 5:30pm	MY SISTER SARAH (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Gavin Brouder	Race - 5:30pm	EVERYBREATHYOUTAKE (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
E. Walsh	Race - 5:30pm	COLUMN OF FIRE (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Fergus Gregory	Race - 5:30pm	ESCARIA TEN (FR)	1	27 Mar 2020
Sean O'Keeffe	Race - 5:30pm	THE BOSSES OSCAR (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Donal McNerney	Race - 5:30pm	GREAT WHITE SHARK (FR)	1	27 Mar 2020
Oakley Brown	Race - 5:30pm	ANYTHING WILL DO (IRE)	1	27 Mar 2020
Conor McNamara	Race - 5:30pm	FIVE O'CLOCK (FR)	1	27 Mar 2020