

HEXHAM STEWARDS' REPORT

Thursday 18 March 2021

Stewards: Adie Smith (Chief Steward), James Vestey (Stewards' Panel Chair), Alan Dempsey (Steward), Laura Hulme (Social Distancing Officer), Stephanie Farmer (Assistant Steward), Lyndsay Allan (Raceday Assistant)

Going: SOFT, HEAVY (IN PLACES)

Rail: Rail movements will be confirmed nearer time

Non-Runners

| Race | Horse and Trainer | Reason |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1:10pm | IMPERIAL PRINCE (IRE), trained by Ian Duncan. | Self Cert (Burst Blood Vessel) |
| 1:10pm | COSTLY DREAM (IRE), trained by William Young Jnr. | Self Cert (Cast in Box) |
| 2:55pm | ONE FINE MAN (IRE), trained by James Moffatt. | Self Cert (Temperature) |
| 4:05pm | DUBH DES CHAMPS (IRE), trained by Philip Kirby. | Going (Changed since declaration) |
| 4:05pm | BETTERLATETHANNEVA (IRE), trained by Georgie Howell. | Travel (Horsebox driver unwell) |

Race 1 - 12:40pm.

THE WELCOME TO HEXHAM 2021 CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4)
(Qualifier for The Northern Lights Mares' Hurdle Series Final)

The performance of LADY VILLANELLE (IRE), which started favourite and was pulled up, was considered. Donald Whillans could offer no explanation for the mare's performance and the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination during routine testing of LADY VILLANELLE (IRE) failed to reveal any abnormalities.

Race 2 - 1:10pm.

THE VISIT atttheraces.com NOVICES' HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)

Permission was given for REAL ARMANI to go early to post.

The performance of DON HERBAGER (FR), which started favourite and finished last of the five finishers, was considered. Venetia Williams' representative could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that MARVELLOUS JOE (IRE), which was pulled up, lost its left fore shoe.

Race 3 - 1:45pm.**THE FOLLOW HEXHAM RACECOURSE ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4)
(Novices' Championship Hurdle Series Qualifier) (GBB RACE)**

Nothing to report

Race 4 - 2:20pm.**THE BK RACING GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 4)**

The performance of BUDDHA SCHEME (IRE), which started favourite and was pulled up, was considered. Lucinda Russell's representative could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance other than the jockey reporting that BUDDHA SCHEME (IRE) was never travelling. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of the gelding during routine testing failed to reveal any abnormalities.

The winner, GANGSTER (FR), appeared to show an improvement in form compared with its previous run at Doncaster on 5 March 2021, where the gelding finished sixth of seven, beaten 47¼ lengths. Warren Greatrex's representative explained that GANGSTER (FR) appreciated the step up in trip from 3 miles to 4 miles and benefitted from the reapplication of a tongue strap on this occasion, was noted.

Following the race, the Veterinary Officer reported that SHANROE SANTOS (IRE), placed second, lost its left fore shoe.

Race 5 - 2:55pm.**THE DOWNLOAD THE N-E BET APP TODAY MAIDEN HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)**

An enquiry was held to consider interference after the second hurdle involving CAMP BELAN (IRE), placed third, ridden by Stephen Mulqueen and ST BASIL, which was pulled up, ridden by Sam Coltherd. Mulqueen was suspended for 2 days for careless riding as he maneuvered left towards the rail when insufficiently clear causing ST BASIL to be checked.

Race 6 - 3:30pm.**THE RESERVE YOUR STATIC CARAVAN PITCH TODAY HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5) (Northern Lights Middle Distance Chase Series Qualifier)**

The performance of ARQALINA (IRE), which started second favourite and was pulled up, was considered. Venetia Williams' representative explained that the mare was unsuited by the drying ground on this occasion, which was officially described as Soft, Heavy in Places. The Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination during routine testing revealed that ARQALINA (IRE) had lost its right hind shoe.

Following the race, Johnny Farrelly reported that KRUIERS GIRL (IRE), placed seventh, was unsuited by the undulating track at Hexham on this occasion and Maurice Barnes' representative reported that OH NO, placed fifth, had a breathing problem.

Race 7 - 4:05pm.**THE HEXHAM RACECOURSE HOLIDAY HOME & CARAVAN PARK HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5)**
(Northern Lights Stayers Hurdle Series Qualifier)

After the third last hurdle when entering the dip, COURT BALOO (IRE), placed fifth, edged slightly left onto ACHILL ROAD BOY (IRE), placed fourth, which in turn crowded A LADIES MILAN (IRE), 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 any horse.

After the second last hurdle on the bend entering the home straight, COURT BALOO (IRE), placed fifth, edged slightly left onto ACHILL ROAD BOY (IRE), placed fourth, which in turn crowded ORLAS' ABBEY, placed seventh, onto 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 any horse.

The performance of LITTLE SAINT (IRE), which started second favourite and finished last of eight runners, was considered. Sean Conway's representative could offer no explanation for the gelding's performance and the Veterinary Officer reported that a post-race examination of LITTLE SAINT (IRE) failed to reveal any abnormalities. Following the race, Sean Conway reported that a post-race endoscopic examination revealed the gelding had scoped dirty.

Suspensions

| Person | Race | Horse | Days | Suspended Days |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|------|---------------------------|
| Stephen Mulqueen | Race - 2:55pm | CAMP BELAN (IRE) | 2 | 25 Mar 2021 1 Apr 2021 |