

HEXHAM STEWARDS' REPORT

Monday 14 April 2025

Stewards: Adrian Sharpe (Chief Steward), Peter Forster (Stewards' Panel Chair), Robert McCarthy (Steward), Beth Dowswell (Assistant Steward), Sarah Russell (Raceday Assistant).

Going: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT (IN PLACES)

Fixture Note: An enquiry was held, adjourned from Doncaster on 29 March 2025 into the fall of MONTERIA (IRE), ridden by Sam Feilden on the bend approximately 7 furlongs out. Ethan Jones, the rider of BULLDOG SPIRIT (IRE), unplaced, was interviewed and shown recordings of the incident. The interference was found to be accidental in that MONTERIA (IRE), when being momentarily crowded for room by BULLDOG SPIRIT (IRE), had hit the rails becoming unbalanced and subsequently unseated Feilden.

An enquiry was held, adjourned from Aintree on 04 April 2025 to consider the circumstances which led to the falls of both MOON CHIME, ridden by Mr Tommie M. O'Brien, and COUNTRY PARK (IRE), ridden by Benjamin Macey, on the bend turning into the home straight on the first circuit. Having already gathered evidence on the day of the incident from Conner McCann, the rider of OLD GREGORIAN, unplaced, Freddie Gingell, the rider of AFADIL (FR), unplaced, Danny Gilligan, the rider of GRIMAUD (FR), placed eighth, Patrick Wadge, the rider of MANUELITO, unplaced, Dylan Johnston, the rider of CELTIC DINO (FR), placed third, and Miss Maxine O'Sullivan, the rider of HAMISIYANN (IRE), unplaced, both Mr Tommie M. O'Brien and Benjamin Macey were interviewed and shown recordings of the incident having been unable to be interviewed on the day of the incident owing to their injuries. Having heard all of the evidence from all of the riders involved, the interference was found to be accidental in that in a large tightly packed field on approaching the first tight bend, both AFADIL (FR), and OLD GREGORIAN, when aligning themselves for the first bend, shifted marginally left-handed resulting in COUNTRY PARK (IRE) being awkwardly placed on the heels of GRIMAUD (FR) resulting in COUNTRY PARK (IRE) clipping heels and falling which in turn brought down MOON CHIME.

Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
2:18pm	BENMORE (IRE), trained by L J Morgan.	Self Cert (Rash)
2:18pm	DROP KICK (IRE), trained by Mark Walford.	Self Cert (Coughing)

Race 1 - 2:18pm.

THE DOWNLOAD THE AT THE RACES APP 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

Permission was given for BLACKWATER LILLY to wear a red hood to the start.

An enquiry was held to consider the placings in this race after three incidents of interference approaching the final hurdle, on landing after the final hurdle and on the run to the line involving the winner, THAT ONE, ridden by Conor O'Farrell, YOUNG GETAWAY (IRE), placed second, ridden by Sean Quinlan, BLACKWATER LILLY, placed third, ridden by Craig Nichol, and JUST OOT (IRE), placed fourth, ridden by Nathan Moscrop. The Stewards considered that the interference had not improved THAT ONE's placing as the ground and momentum lost by YOUNG GETAWAY (IRE) was less than the $\frac{3}{4}$ length margin in which it was beaten by at the line. Given where the incident occurred, approximately 1 furlong from the line and together with the incident approaching the line being minimal and having no significant effect on the finishing margin, the Stewards ordered the placings to remain unaltered. In the first incident, O'Farrell was suspended for 2 days for careless riding as he failed to take sufficient steps to prevent THAT ONE from shifting right-handed when not sufficiently clear of YOUNG GETAWAY (IRE) causing that gelding to become short of room approaching the final hurdle and again on landing. In the second incident, the interference was found to be accidental in that Quinlan switched YOUNG GETAWAY (IRE) off heels when short of room at the same time as BLACKWATER LILLY edged right-handed causing JUST OOT (IRE) to become crowded for room and Moscrop having to take the gelding back. In the third incident, the interference was also found to be accidental in that THAT ONE shifted slightly left-handed off the rail moving both YOUNG GETAWAY (IRE) and BLACKWATER LILLY (IRE) off their intended lines.

Race 2 - 2:48pm.

THE HORSLYX - FOR HORSE'S HEALTH & WELFARE HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

Following the race, Joe Williamson reported that FOXEY having made a bad mistake at the first fence, he felt something amiss and therefore felt it prudent to pull the gelding up.

Race 3 - 3:18pm.

THE EBF JUNIOR 'NATIONAL HUNT' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4) (GBB RACE)

JUST AN ARTIST, trained by N. W. Alexander spread a plate on the way to the start. As the trainer had not indicated at declaration stage that the filly should be withdrawn in the event of losing a shoe on the way to post, JUST AN ARTIST ran without its left-hind shoe.

Race 4 - 3:48pm.

THE VIEW OUR SHOW STATIC CARAVAN TODAY HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)

DR SHIROCCO (IRE) was kicked by another run at the start. Having been checked by the Veterinary Surgeon at the start, the gelding was deemed fit to race.

On the run to the line, Charlie Price, the rider of HALFWAY HOUSE LAD, placed second, struck the winner, KICKSAFTERSIX (IRE), once across the nose with his whip, but after viewing a recording of the incident, it was considered to be accidental.

Following the race, the representative of George Bewley reported that RACEVIEW ROAD (IRE), which

was pulled up, made a respiratory noise and the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report. Conner McCann reported that TOROSAY (IRE), which started second-favourite and finished unplaced, hung left-handed and jumped poorly; the Veterinary Officer examined the mare post-race during routine testing and had nothing to report other than TOROSAY (IRE) had lost its left-fore shoe.

Race 5 - 4:18pm.

THE BROCKSBUSHES FARM SHOP HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5)

LARKFIELD LUSIVE (IRE), trained by L J Morgan had failed to enter the Parade Ring. The representative of Morgan's explanation that this was due to LARKFIELD LUSIVE (IRE)'s jockey riding in the previous race combined with the gelding being difficult to saddle, was noted.

The apparent improvement in form of the winner, BLAKEY BOY (IRE), compared with its previous run at Hexham on 25 March 2025 where the gelding finished eighth of ten runners, beaten by 36 lengths, was considered. Ewan Whillans' explanation that BLAKEY BOY (IRE) benefited from the application of first time cheekpieces and jumped better on this occasion was noted.

Race 6 - 4:48pm.

THE POINTING POINTERS OPEN HUNTERS' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 5)

Following the race, Miss Becca Shepherd reported that CASH AGAIN (FR), which was pulled up, was never travelling.

Race 7 - 5:20pm.

THE ANGEL OF CORBRIDGE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS 4) (Category 1 Elimination) (GBB RACE)

Nothing to report

Suspensions

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Conor O'Farrell	Race - 2:18pm	THAT ONE (GB)	2	24 Apr 2025 3 May 2025