

## **AINTREE STEWARDS' REPORT**

**Saturday 05 April 2025**

Stewards: Shaun Parker (Chief Steward), Jeremy Barlow (Stewards' Panel Chair), Caroline Tellwright (Stewards' Panel Chair), Adrian Sharpe (Steward), Robert McCarthy (Steward), Beth Dowswell (Assistant Steward), Ali Galliers-Pratt (Raceday Assistant), Nathan Green (Raceday Assistant).

Going: **MILDMAY Course**  
 Chase Race: Good (GSt 5.4)  
 Hurdle Race: Good (GSt 5.3)  
**NATIONAL Course**  
 Chase Race: Good to Soft (GSt 5.3)

### Non-Runners

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
1:20pm	MAXIMILIAN (GER), trained by Donald McCain.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:20pm	NURSE SUSAN (FR), trained by Dan Skelton.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:20pm	BO ZENITH (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:20pm	JERIKO DU REPONET (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:20pm	NAVAJO INDY, trained by Tom Symonds.	Self Cert (Bruised Foot)
1:55pm	MOON PHASES (IRE), trained by Lucinda Russell.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:55pm	LULAMBA (FR), trained by Nicky Henderson.	Going (Changed since declaration)
1:55pm	FINGLE BRIDGE (IRE), trained by Olly Murphy.	Self Cert (Going)
2:30pm	HELTENHAM (FR), trained by Dan Skelton.	Going (Changed since declaration)
2:30pm	PEAKY BOY (IRE), trained by Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
2:30pm	MYRETOWN (IRE), trained by Lucinda Russell.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)
2:30pm	DOCTOR KEN (FR), trained by Olly Murphy.	Self Cert (Going)
3:05pm	DASHEL DRASHER, trained by Jeremy Scott.	Going (Changed since declaration)
3:05pm	TEAHUPOO (FR), trained by Gordon Elliott.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:00pm	ONLY BY NIGHT (IRE), trained by Gavin Cromwell.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:35pm	BLOFELD (IRE), trained by Rebecca Menzies.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:35pm	CAMBERWELL (IRE), trained by John McConnell.	Going (Changed since declaration)

Race	Horse and Trainer	Reason
5:35pm	EDWARD SEXTON (IRE), trained by Gary & Josh Moore.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:35pm	EL CAIROS (FR), trained by Gary & Josh Moore.	Going (Changed since declaration)
5:35pm	OUR BOY STAN, trained by Ben Pauling.	Self Cert (Not Eaten Up)

#### Jockey Changes

Race	Horse	Declared Jockey	Replacement Jockey	Reason
1:20pm	SHANAGH BOB (IRE)	Paul O'Brien	Nico de Boinville	(de Boinville's intended mount a Non-Runner)

#### **Race 1 - 1:20pm .**

##### **THE WILLIAM HILL TOP PRICE GUARANTEE HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (PREMIER HANDICAP) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for both ACT OF AUTHORITY (FR) and JIPCOT (FR) to wear a red hood to the start, for PARK OF KINGS (IRE) to wear a hood in the Parade Ring only and for DOUBLE POWERFUL (IRE) to go early to post.

DARTAN arrived at the start with a small amount of blood in its mouth. Having been checked by the Veterinary Surgeon, the gelding was deemed fit to race.

The winner, DEEP CAVE (IRE), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Sandown on 1 February 2025 where the gelding finished sixth of thirteen runners, beaten by 40¼ lengths. The representative of Christian Williams' explanation that the race at Sandown on Heavy ground may have come too soon for DEEP CAVE (IRE) having only ran 13 days prior was noted. The gelding was routine tested.

Following the race, Kielan Woods reported that JIPCOT (FR), which was pulled up, made a bad mistake at the third-last hurdle.

#### **Race 2 - 1:55pm .**

##### **THE TURNERS MERSEY NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for MIAMI MAGIC (IRE) to wear a hood in the Parade Ring only and for HONESTY POLICY (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start.

After an initial false start, the start was effected successfully on the second attempt from a standing start. However, having reviewed recordings of the false start, the Starters were satisfied that no riders should be reported for contravening the starting procedures.

Following the race, P. Townend reported KAPPA JY PYKE (FR), unplaced, stopped quickly and the

Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report.

**Race 3 - 2:30pm .**

**THE WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (REGISTERED AS THE FREEBOOTER HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE) (PREMIER HANDICAP) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for both RICHMOND LAKE (IRE) and CRUZ CONTROL (FR) to wear a red hood to the start.

The winner, CRUZ CONTROL (FR), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Wetherby on 26 December 2024 where the gelding was pulled up. It was noted that Tom Lacey could offer no explanation for the gelding's improved form on this occasion. CRUZ CONTROL (FR) was routine tested.

**Race 4 - 3:05pm .**

**THE IVY LIVERPOOL HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for JETARA (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start.

An enquiry was held to consider interference shortly after the first hurdle when entering the home bend involving STRONG LEADER, placed second, ridden by Sean Bowen, and KITZBUHEL (FR), placed fifth, ridden by P. Townend. Bowen was suspended for 6 days for careless riding as he moved STRONG LEADER left-handed from a wide position when not sufficiently clear of KITZBUHEL (FR) causing that gelding to become short of room and subsequently clip heels and stumble. Bryan Carver, the rider of ALTOBELLI (IRE), placed eighth, was also interviewed but found not to be involved.

The winner, HIDDENVALLEY LAKE (IRE), appeared to show improved form compared with its previous run at Gowran Park on 23 January 2025 where the gelding finished seventh of nine runners, beaten by 20¾ lengths. It was noted that the representative of Henry de Bromhead could offer no explanation for HIDDENVALLEY LAKE (IRE)'s improved form on this occasion. The gelding was routine tested.

The performance of HOME BY THE LEE (IRE) which started joint second-favourite and was pulled up, was considered. Joseph Patrick O'Brien's explanation that the gelding was never travelling on this occasion was noted.

**Race 5 - 4:00pm .**

**THE RANDOX GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (PREMIER HANDICAP) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for BRAVEMANSGAME (FR), HORANTZAU D'AIRY (FR), and TWIG to all wear a red hood to the start.

BRAVEMANSGAME (FR) kicked the plastic railing in the chute. Having been checked by the Veterinary Surgeon at the start, the gelding was deemed fit to race.

An enquiry was held to consider whether Micheal Nolan, the rider of CELEBRE D'ALLEN (FR), had continued in the race when the horse appeared to have no more to give and was clearly losing ground after the second-last fence. The rider and the Veterinary Officer were interviewed, and recordings of the incident were viewed. The rider was suspended for 10 days.

The performance of STUMPTOWN (IRE), which was pulled up, was considered. Gavin Cromwell's explanation that the gelding was unsuited by the drying Good to Soft ground on this occasion which in his opinion was riding faster than ideal was noted. The Veterinary Officer examined STUMPTOWN (IRE) post-race during routine testing and found the gelding to be lame on its right-hind and had also sustained a wound to its right-hind.

The performance of INTENSE RAFFLES (FR), which was pulled up, was considered. T. Gibney's explanation that the gelding received a bump at the start and was never travelling thereafter was noted.

**Race 6 - 5:00pm .**

**THE ROSCONN GROUP MAGHULL NOVICES' STEEPLE CHASE (CLASS 1) (Grade 1) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for TOUCH ME NOT (IRE) to wear a red hood to the start.

**Race 7 - 5:35pm .**

**THE WEATHERBYS nhstallions.co.uk STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS 1)(Grade 2) (GBB RACE)**

Permission was given for MOSSY FEN ROAD (IRE), UNJEU ROYAL (FR) and SCOPE TO IMPROVE to all wear a red hood to the start.

On the run to the line, KILWAUGHTER (IRE), placed sixth, switched left-handed for a tight but legitimate gap between KOKTAIL BRUT (FR), placed third, and STORMING GEORGE (IRE), placed fifth, at the same time as KOKTAIL BRUT (FR) edged slightly left-handed resulting in KILWAUGHTER (IRE) bumping and unbalancing STORMING GEORGE (IRE), 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.

Following the race, Sean Bowen reported that FOUNTAINS BLENHEIN, unplaced, ran too free and the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report. Mr J. L. Gleeson reported that LE LABO (IRE), which started second-favourite and finished unplaced, was never travelling and the Veterinary Officer examined the gelding post-race and had nothing to report. Stan Sheppard reported that he felt UNJEU ROYAL (FR) lose its action and as a result pulled the gelding up; the Veterinary Officer examined UNJEU ROYAL (FR) post-race and had nothing to report.

**Suspensions**

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Sean Bowen	Race - 3:05pm	STRONG LEADER (GB)	4	22 Apr 2025 13 Apr 2025 20 Apr 2025 19 Apr 2025

Person	Race	Horse	Days	Suspended Days
Micheal Nolan	Race - 4:00pm	CELEBRE D'ALLEN (FR)	10	19 Apr 2025 20 Apr 2025 21 Apr 2025 22 Apr 2025 23 Apr 2025 24 Apr 2025 25 Apr 2025 26 Apr 2025 3 May 2025 5 May 2025