



## NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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### STEWARDS' REPORT

**RACE MEETING:** Foxfield Fall Races

**DATE:** 09/24/2017

**WEATHER:** Cloudy

**COURSE CONDITION:** Firm  
**Compaction:** Ave 13  
**Moisture:** 2 to 3

**CLERK OF SCALES:** Bill Gallo

**STARTER:** Graham Alcock

**STEWARDS:** Larry F. Curits  
Beale Payne.  
J. Cook Edens  
Woody Maloney (Safety)

#### OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Stewards Larry F. Curtis and Beale Payne started the course inspection at 10 AM the morning of the races. It was immediately noticed that a one-foot strip of dead grass was present on the take off side of the three fences in the stretch approximately 4 feet in front of the fence creating something of a false ground line. This was a concern as the horses could possibly take off too soon and hit the top of the fence. The stewards then contacted Dr. Reynolds Coles to look at the fences and he too had concerns. Jockey representative Ross Geraghty was called on the phone by the stewards to inspect the ground and he thought it would be ok to race over, that the horses would not pay any attention to it. The stewards asked the Clerk of the Course Thomas Shifflett to rake the affected areas with an iron rake which he did and that seemed to help greatly. Finally, after Mr. Shifflett finished raking the stewards asked all the jockeys to inspect the ground to see if anyone had any concerns about racing over it and everyone agreed that there was little cause for concern.

Trainer Liam McVicar was 35 minutes late for the vet check with his horse HEDONMEWRONGSONG which was not on Lasix. The stewards excused him because he was caught in traffic at the turnaround by the airport.

**Race 3:** FRONT ROW CENTER broke slow and lost contact with the field.

UNION ET FORCE was unruly at the start and required three tries to start.

Jockey Sean McDermott was given a warning by the stewards that it was not acceptable to pony another horse away from the start. He grabbed the reins of his entry mate UNION ET FORCE and ponied him

away from the start. He was told that he was to ride his own horse and not touch another horse or another horses tack.

**Race 4:** JUMP SHIP, trainer Lilith Boucher asked and received permission from the stewards to put her rider up in the chute leading to the course for safety reasons.

**Race 5:** SLUG AND JOCKEY pulled up before the last fence, tired.

**Race 6:** LORD JUSTICE was randomly selected by the stewards for pre-race testing.

EL MONSTRO refused to break and is on the Stewards list.

MUTIN fell at the 10<sup>th</sup> fence, a rotational fall that he appeared never to leave the ground. Horse and rider were examined and reported to be ok.

ORCHESTRA LEADER was claimed by Small Giants Stable.

**Larry F. Curtis**  
**Signature**