

National Steeplechase Association
400 Fair Hill Drive Elkton, Maryland 21921
(410) 392-0700

Stewards Report

Race Meeting: Aiken Fall

Date: October 28, 2017

Weather: Sunny, 74

Course Condition: Good

Moisture: 6.6

Compaction: 90

Clerk of Scales: Cathie Jackson

Starter: Vince Paschal

Stewards: Beale Payne
Reese Howard, Jr.
Bruce Rodman

Safety Steward: Anne Pezzano

Official Actions:

Race 1: GUNLOCK and CHANGE OF VIEW were eased at the last fence. Both were out of contention.

Race 2: MIDDLE ROAD was scratched on advice of the course veterinarian. ROGUERY fell at the last with rider Bernard Dalton reporting that the horse ran greenly throughout the race and approaching the final fence the horse added a stride thus hitting the fence. Bernard Dalton was cleared by the course physician. PERKUP was pulled up at the last fence.

Race 3: LUTE AND SWEET was randomly selected for pre-race TCO2 testing. JOYFUL JOYFUL was pulled up before the second to last fence. PROUD MUSIC lost rider Bethany Baumgardner at the second to last fence. After being cleared by the course physician, Baumgardner said that she was shaken loose but should have stayed on.

Race 4: BORDERLINEDECISION fell at the sixth fence. The jockey, Gerard Galligan, was transported to trauma center.

Official Comments:

No course maps were posted or available. During the running of the fourth race, there was a down rider which was attended to immediately by EMTS. The stewards radioed for the final fence be closed, beacon taken down, and wave around at the final fence. The patrol judge could not be reached. No action was taking place at the fence and Catherine French seized imitative, found a flag, and started a wave around. All riders but one cut the final beacon as there was no safe way for the field to negotiate the beacon that was not removed. The chief patrol judge and patrol judge were interviewed by the stewards. The patrol judge stated that he could not fold the wing on the fence and 'traditionally' did not take out beacons. He also felt that he could not get to the fence from his position. No comment was made on the lack of radio response but the chief patrol judge said that he heard all radio transmissions. Further after the horse fell and got up, spectators came under the inside and outside rails to try to catch the horse which turned the horse against the field. The loose horse was caught before the field returned. The Association needs to seriously review its patrol judge placement and protocol as well as crowd control factors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beale Payne