

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

STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Montpelier

DATE: November 4, 2017

WEATHER: Overcast with Rain

COURSE CONDITION: Good

CLERK OF SCALES: Bill Hair

STARTER: Graham Alcock

STEWARDS: Jack Sanford
Larry Curtis
Cook Edens
Beale Payne- Safety Steward

OFFICIAL ACTIONS: The mandatory jockeys meeting took place at the advertised time. After the jockey's meeting a lengthy discussion was held with the Jockey's Medical Representative and the medical personnel in charge for the day in an effort to satisfy the response times requested by the jockey's representative. Adjustments were made both to the location of the response teams and the day's protocol in order to satisfy all involved. The day ran smoothly.

On race day morning the moisture average was 6.2 and the compaction readings were 100. Before the start of the second race a steady rain began and continued throughout the day.

Race 2: BALISTES pulled up prior to the second last. The jockey reported the horse was not moving well so he pulled up. The horse was examined back at the barn and reported ok.

Race 3: KRISTINA'S LEO arrived on the grounds one hour late. The trainer spoke with the Stewards and he explained he had been caught up in traffic on Rt. 95 coming from Maryland due to an accident and that he had left the barn at 7:30 am with adequate time. The Stewards granted him permission to run his horse given the circumstances but reminded him of his responsibility to call the Stewards secretary in the future.

Race 4: AWESOME ADRIAN pulled up. The jockey reported the horse was not traveling well in the soft going.

MOGAZ pulled up. The jockey reported the horse tired and just stopped going.

Race 5: WILLIE'S MOJO and OVERAWE pulled up, tired.

Race 6: SWEETEST SAVANNAH pulled up. The jockey reported the horse tiring in the deep going.

STALLED was pulled up. The jockey reported the horse tired.

SO FAR AWAY was randomly selected for pre-race testing.

Race 7: THREE KINGDOMS lost his rider Gus Dahl at the third fence. Gus was examined and cleared by the doctors.

The course was in good shape and the weed program instituted after last year is having a very positive effect on the turf and should be continued. The length of the turf was longer and thicker this year and was also an improvement.

Due to the growth of the attendance at these races and the success of the sales of tented spaces, the view of the racecourse for the officials is all but obscured even from the Stewards stand. This makes the importance of the video system a major priority. It is possible to capture video around the entire race course if the current aerial lifts are strategically placed about the perimeter. Some of the current locations need to be adjusted and the camera teams need to be aware of the critical importance of their shots during the running of the races. Some of the lifts may need to be exchanged for a taller unit as well in a couple of locations. Additionally the video team complained that the frequency of their broadcast channel was very close in range to that of the security teams for the day. This interference caused the video feed to be erratic and blurred. The importance of complete video coverage is now a major priority in order to properly officiate the races.

The race committee needs to review the protocol and duties of its Outriders for the day to be sure they are acutely aware of why they are on the grounds and their responsibilities while participating.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jack Sanford