



## NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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### STEWARDS' REPORT

**RACE MEETING:** PA Hunt Cup

**DATE:** 11/04/18

**WEATHER:** Sunny, 58°

**COURSE CONDITION:**

Compaction: soft

Moisture: wet

**CLERK OF SCALES:** Mary Guessford

**STARTER:** Christopher Daney

**STEWARDS:** Gus Brown  
Charles Flesichmann  
Gregg Morris  
Doris Paxson, Safety Steward

**OFFICIAL ACTIONS:** Due to record rain fall in 2018, the outer course for the feature race, which had been waterlogged for several weeks prior to the race meet, was inspected by both the Stewards and Race Chairmen one week in advance of the race meet. All parties agreed that the ground was unsafe for racing and a modified course of 4 miles and 18 fences was created by the Race Committee. Both the Officials Meeting and Jockeys Meeting took place at the prescribed times. Monstaleur, a runner in the day's third race, was chosen at random by the Stewards for pre-race testing. The Stewards were informed by members of the Race Committee of abusive behavior towards a volunteer of the race meeting by Owner/Trainer Blythe Miller-Davies. Mrs. Davies met with the Stewards between races and was warned that such behavior would not be tolerated by any licensee towards volunteers, sponsors or race committee members. She was cautioned that future behavior would result in a fine. Mrs. Davies was apologetic for her behavior and issued an apology to both the Race Chairmen and the volunteer.

**Race 1:** APPOGGIATURA pulled up before the 12<sup>th</sup> fence. COASTAL MOON pulled up before the 12<sup>th</sup> fence. DR. K'EOGH pulled up before the 12<sup>th</sup> fence. SWEET TALKING GUY pulled up before the 12<sup>th</sup> fence. ENUFF ALEX fell at the 13<sup>th</sup> fence. Jockey Kieran Norris was cleared by the Course Physician. RAY DE LIGHT lost rider Mark Beecher at the 14<sup>th</sup> fence. Mark Beecher was cleared by the Course Physician. ROLLFORWARD pulled up after the 14<sup>th</sup> fence. RAY DE LIGHT was attended to on the race course by the Course Veterinarian Dr. Kathleen Anderson, D.V.M., for a "de-gloving" injury of his left front leg. The horse was stabilized on the course, transported by the horse ambulance to the stable area and then shipped to New Bolton Center for further treatment.

**Race 2:** TAKEPOINTSANDRUN pulled up after the 13<sup>th</sup> fence. There was a steward's inquiry posted, as well as a claim of foul lodged with the Quick Official by jockey Mark Beecher who rode 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher BIEDERMEIER, into two incidents of interference taking place from the last fence and the finish involving the first place finisher PURED IT, ridden by Gerard Galligan. After interviewing both jockeys, the Patrol Judge that was stationed at the last fence, and reviewing all available video, the Stewards determined that multiple occurrences of interference caused by PURED IT against BIEDERMEIER from the last fence and the finish, combined with the final margin (1/2 length) between the two runners, was significant

enough to reverse the order of finish. Based on NSA rules **7.7.B.1 & 2**, **7.7.C.2**, PURED IT was disqualified and placed second behind BEIDERMEIER. A stewards hearing was held after the 3<sup>rd</sup> race for jockey Gerard Galligan. After reviewing all available video and taking testimony from Mr. Galligan, the Stewards determined that the first occurrence of interference at the last fence was accidental, and no penalty would be assessed. The Stewards felt that in regard to the second occurrence of interference, more effort could have been made to avoid interference by Mr. Galligan through the stretch. In consideration of the financial impact to the owner of PURED IT, and based on all available evidence and testimony, under NSA rule **7.7.B. 2**, Gerard Galligan was fined \$250.00 for careless riding.

**Race 3:** AQUIES fell at the 12<sup>th</sup> fence. Jockey Sean McDermott was cleared by the Course Physician. GRAND MANAN pulled up before the 16<sup>th</sup> fence.

**OFFICIAL COMMENTS:** The Race Committee did an excellent job given the wet conditions leading up to this year's race meeting. The Stewards and Course Physician appreciate and commend the Committee for the medical tent that was added this year. The addition of a video center adjacent to the tower to review video and conduct hearings in a private setting is an invaluable tool to the Stewards. The Stewards would also like to commend both Dr. Anderson and Jimmy Riggins of New Bolton Center for their prompt response after the first race. The Stewards note that it would be beneficial to have the addition of a head on camera for the finish stretch and/or drone camera.

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Signature