



NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Middleburg Spring

DATE: April 20, 2019

WEATHER: Clear

COURSE CONDITION: Soft

Compaction: 85

Moisture: 7

CLERK OF SCALES: Bill Hair

STARTER: Sterling Young

STEWARDS: Larry Curtis
Cook Edens
Tad Zimmerman (presiding)

Rug Howard (safety)

OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

Race 1:

MENACING DENNIS pulled up 3 from home, and was reported to have found the going too soft.

The winner, *SPECIAL RELATION*, pulled up lame in his left fore. His rider dismounted and led him the short distance to the Steward's Stand where he was untacked and then immediately led back to the stable area. The Steward's called for a horse ambulance. The soft ground necessitated having the horse ambulance positioned just off the course. Before the horse ambulance could be brought into position to pick up the horse, he had already been walked the short distance back to the barn.

The testing vet contacted the Stewards to report that he had drawn blood on the winner but the trainer wanted him to be treated without delay and before the urine sample could be collected. The Stewards approved the immediate treatment of *SPECIAL RELATION* and placed him on the Vet's List.

Race 2:

TWO's COMPANY was selected at random for pre-race testing.

GRAND MANAN was pulled up 3 from home and was reported to have tired.

CANYON ROAD was pulled up before the last and was reported to have tired,

Race 3:

SHOW COURT was pulled up 4 from home and was reported not to have liked the deep going.

WINNER MASSAGOT and *PORTRADE* were pulled up 3 from home and were reported to have tired.

Thomas Garner, the rider of *WINNER MASSAGOT*, dismounted and led his horse the last ¼ mile back to the stable area. The horse was reported to be sound but exhausted.

SCORPIANCER was pulled up before the last and was reported to have tired.

Post race samples were collected from the first and second place finishers.

Race 4:

CUBA LIBRE and *LEOPOLD* were pulled up 3 from home and were reported to have tired.

OTHER CHEEK, *ABATEMENT*, and *GOLD BRAID* were pulled up before the last and were reported to have tired.

Race 5:

JUNONIA was claimed by Neil Morris, acting as agent for Kinross Farm.

LEOPARD CAT, *THAT'S MY BROTHER*, *SUNRISE SUNSET*, *FIVE CARAT CAT*, and *TIEPOLO* were pulled up 3 from home and were reported to have tired.

Race 6:

DAYS OF HEAVEN was given permission by the Stewards to be led though the paddock and mounted on the course before the other riders were put up.

DAPPER DAN fell on landing at the 8th fence. He was reported to have simply not gotten his landing gear down correctly.

SHOW KING was pulled up 4 fences from home and was reported to have tired.

Gerard Galligan, the rider of *DAPPER DAN*, was examined by the Course Physician and cleared to ride.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

The Stewards met with Jack Fisher after the last race to discuss *SPECIAL RELATION* not having been vanned off the course. Jack had already discussed the situation with Dr Reynolds Coles and it was a constructive conversation. It was evident that Jack had weighed a number of relevant considerations in deciding how best to attend to his horse, including the potential damage to the course from bringing the horse ambulance onto the stretch and the time that would be required to do so.

The course had received 1 3/4 inches of rain overnight. The impact of the soft going at the Middleburg Fall meet was evident in a few places on the course despite every effort having been made to repair the damage. The remediation work was hindered by the extremely wet summer and fall which made it impossible to take heavy equipment onto the course. The stretch was smooth but

has some bare spots which will be addressed after the Middleburg Point to Point has run on the course next weekend.

Tad Zimmerman