



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Racing Commission

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STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Virginia Gold Cup

DATE: May 4, 2019

WEATHER: clear

COURSE CONDITION: good
compaction: 105 (estimated)
moisture: 9

CLERK OF SCALES: Bill Hair

STARTER: Graham Alcock

STEWARDS: Gus Brown
Gregg Morris
Tad Zimmerman

OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

First Race:

CONDAW CAMP, a first-time starter, was entered to run on Lasix but this was not reflected in the program. This correction was announced and shown on the video screen.

CUBA LIBRE was pulled up before the last fence. He was reported to have tired.

In addition to the winner, *CLONDAW CAMP*, *JUMP SHIP* was selected for post-race testing.

The Stewards took notice of an incident between the 11th fence and the final turn involving Graham Waters, on *QUALIFY*, who was unplaced, and Sean McDermott on *FOXHALL DRIVE*, who finished third. Mr. Waters was questioned by the Stewards and shown video of the incident. After the last race, the Stewards met with Mr. Waters and explained that under VRC rules he was entitled to written notice of a Steward's Hearing. He chose not to waive his right to written notice. The Stewards then issued a written Hearing Notice to appear at a Stewards' Hearing at the Virginia Racing Commission office in Richmond, Virginia at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 10, 2019.

Second Race:

The Stewards gave permission for *DAYS OF HEAVEN* to have his rider put up first, on the course.

SHOW KING was pulled up before the last fence. He was reported to have tired.

In addition to the winner, *DAYS OF HEAVEN*, *KATNAP* was selected for post-race testing.

Third Race:

MENACING DENNIS was pulled up lame in the right front 3 fences from home and was vanned off. The rider reported that he had struck himself.

CASTLE HILL was pulled up two fences from home and was reported to have tired.

In addition to the winner, *ACK FEISTY*, *BARHANPOUR* was selected for post-race testing.

Fourth Race:

In addition to the winner, *OTHER CHEEK*, *RASHFORD'S DOUBLE* was selected for post-race testing.

Fifth Race:

All horses in the race were pre-race tested for TCO2.

MACNICHOLSON and *PORTRADE* pulled up before the last and were reported to have tired.

In addition to the winner, *OPTIMUS PRIME*, *SEMPRE MEDICI* was selected for post-race testing.

Sixth Race:

All horses in the race were pre-race tested for TCO2.

In addition to the winner, *ANDI' AMU*, *LE CHEVALIER* was selected for post-race testing.

Seventh Race:

In addition to the winner, *DEPOSIT*, *THE HAPPY GIANT* was selected for post-race testing.

Eighth Race:

In addition to the winner, *GOSTISBEHERE*, *TAP THE MOMENT* was selected for post-race testing.

Ninth Race:

A Stewards' Inquiry was announced. Michael Woodson, the rider of *SCENTED UP*, who was unplaced, claimed foul against *ACCOUNTABLE*, the winner, ridden by Ross Geraghty.

The Stewards interviewed Michael Woodson, Ross Geraghty, and the patrol judge in the vicinity of the incident. Michael Woodson acknowledged that he had gone over the beacon, which had fallen to his outside, and was therefore off course. A review of the video and testimony from the riders and patrol judge indicated that *ACCOUNTABLE* had not forced *SCENTED UP* into the beacon. The claim of foul was disallowed and *SCENTED UP* was disqualified for having gone off course.

In addition to the winner, *ACCOUNTABLE*, *BALISTES*, was selected for post-race testing.

The Stewards met again with Michael Woodson to impress upon him the importance of pulling up after having gone off course and warned him that in the future this would result in a fine.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

The total handle was \$124,076.

The turn on the east end of the hurdle course could be further improved with the addition of another beacon at the apex to prevent horses taking a straight line between the widely spaced beacons which resulted in several tight and potentially dangerous situations at the second to last beacon on that turn.

It would be helpful to the Stewards if the solar panel on the second speaker pole north of the Steward's stand could be set at least 10 feet higher. This would allow an unobstructed view of the stretch.

Arthur Zimmerman, Commonwealth Steward