



NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION

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STEWARDS' REPORT

RACE MEETING: Virginia Gold Cup

DATE: May 29, 2021

WEATHER: overcast and cool

COURSE CONDITION: good
compaction: 105
moisture: 10

CLERK OF SCALES: Bill Hair

STARTER: Graham Alcock

STEWARDS: Larry Curtis
Sterling Young
Tad Zimmerman

Wayne VanSant (safety)

OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

First Race:

TURBO DRIVE slipped and fell on the first turn. It was reported that he clipped heels.

LOOKFORTHELIGHT was puled up three fences from home, and was reported to have twisted over the fourth fence from home.

FASHION LINE was puled up one fence from home and was reported to have tired.

Second Race:

There was a Steward's Inquiry into the running of the race. The Patrol Judge on the southwest corner of the course reported that the entire field had gone off the prescribed course, passing the yellow beacon on their right approaching the fourth fence. The Stewards reviewed the video, consulted the course map, and confirmed that the Patrol Judge was correct. The field had ridden a correct line, and to have followed the prescribed course would have been awkward and unnatural. As the entire field had followed the same route the Stewards concluded that the map was in error and declared the race official. The map will be corrected.

Fourth Race:

PADDY'S CROWN bobbed at the first fence causing Chloe Hannum to lose her iron and pull up.

BOSS MAN landed short at the water jump and skidded but stayed upright. McLane Hendricks parted company while also remaining upright and held onto his horse.

ELMUTAHID was pulled up four fences from home and it was reported that he had lost his action and started to hang.

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

Sixth Race:

ROAD TO OZ, *FLAMMING SWORD*, *JALEO*, and *SCHOODIC* were selected at random for pre-race Cobalt testing.

MYSTIC STRIKE stumbled at the beacon coming out of the first turn and lost his rider.

JALEO was pulled up three fences from home and was reported to have tired.

Seventh Race:

LAP OF THE GODS was claimed by Sanna Neilson, agent for Stewart Strawbridge. An extra post race test was requested for *LAP OF THE GODS*.

Eighth Race:

Courtney Dankanich, on *PONY UP* was in the lead leaving the dowing poles. She went off course, missing the fourth fence, and took *LOST STORY* off course and out of the race. She continued with an increased lead and jumped the fifth fence and the water jump where she parted company with *PONY UP*.

A Steward's Hearing was held following the race. The Stewards had met with Ms. Dankanich before the first race as she had missed the riders meeting due to being caught in traffic with the horses. At the time, she indicated that she was planning to walk the course.

In the hearing, Ms. Dankanich testified that she had indeed walked one circuit of the course unaccompanied. She acknowledged that, in hindsight, it was a mistake to have walked the course by herself.

The Stewards ruled that Ms. Dankanich was guilty of careless riding in having interfered with *LOST STORY*, under rule 7.7.B.1 of the *Rules of Racing* and assessed a fine of \$250.

The Stewards further ruled that Ms. Dankanich had gone off course and, once off course, had continued in the race in violation of rule 7.7.F.2 of the *Rules of Racing*. The Stewards assessed a fine of \$250 for having gone off course, and another \$250 for having continued in the race.

Ninth Race:

TRICKED UP, lost his rider, Skylar McKenna at the fourth fence from home. The Stewards spoke with her regarding her decision to continue in the race having pretty well lost touch with the field.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

All riders examined by the Course Physician were cleared to ride.

The course was in excellent condition and the day ran smoothly.

Tad Zimmerman, Presiding