

STEWARDS REPORT

Race Meeting: Shawan Downs

Date: September 25, 2021

Stewards: Gregg Morris

Weather: Clear

Gus Brown

Wet bulb: 19.8 C

Charlie Fleischman

Course:

Norm Fraley, Safety Steward

Average Moisture: 8-9

Average Compaction: 110

Clerk of Scales: Jake Chalfin

Starter: Chris Daney

Official Actions:

- First Race: ELUSIVE lost rider Barry Foley at the 3rd fence. CHARLIE POTATOES was pulled up after the 9th fence (tired).
Foley was cleared by the course physician.
After losing his rider ,ELUSIVE jumped over a coop in the line fence surrounding the racecourse and proceeded down Shawan Road. The horse ambulance was dispatched to retrieve him and 3 outriders went in pursuit. The horse was captured on Falls Road and was returned to the course via the ambulance. After examining him the course veterinarian reported that the horse had no injuries and appeared to be fine. The second race was delayed slightly while awaiting the return of the horse ambulance.
- Second Race: REAL GOOD MAN was found to be lame at the pre-race vet check. He was scratched on the recommendation of the course vet. REAL GOOD MAN is therefore placed on the vet's list and will be required to follow the prescribed procedure in order to run again.
TEAM TIM was pulled up after the 9th fence (tired).
- Third Race: WESTERLAND, DADDY'S COZY, and GEARHEAD all pulled up (tired) before the 10th fence.
- Fifth Race: SCHOODIC, trained by Jack Fisher, was randomly selected for pre-race TCO2 testing.
- Sixth Race: HIGHWAY PRINCE pulled up (tired) after the 13th fence. ACK FEISTY pulled up (tired) before the last fence. BROOKLYN SPEIGHTS lost rider Parker Hendriks at the last fence.
Hendriks was cleared by the course physician.
After the race the Clerk of Scales notified the Stewards that Gerard Galligan, the

rider of ELUCIDATION, who finished second, had weighed in 1.5 pounds lighter than he had weighed out. The Stewards instructed the Clerk of Scales to notify Galligan that a Steward's hearing would be conducted with him after the last race.

Seventh Race CITE first refused, then dwelt at the start before finally leaving the start well behind the field. CITE is therefore on the Steward's List and will not be permitted to start at any race meet with pari-mutuel wagering unless he has started in a race under rules without incident.

Eighth Race: TIEPOLO lost rider Virginia Korrell when he clipped heels on the first turn. Korrell was cleared by the course physician. The Stewards met with Korrell after she was cleared to discuss the incident. Korrell was aware that she had allowed her horse to get too close to the two in front of her and knew that she could have avoided the accident by giving them more space.

After the last race the Stewards met with Clerk of Scales Jake Chalfin to review the circumstances of Galligan's underweight after the sixth race. Chalfin reported that Galligan had weighed out at 167 pounds and weighed back in at 165.5. Chalfin recorded that weight on his scale sheet and because he was under the impression that the current rule allowed for 2 pounds underweight he warned Galligan that he was light but said he was 'within the limit.' Chalfin reported that Galligan got off the scale, picked something up off the ground and got back on the scale. Chalfin stated that at that point he thought Galligan was checking his weight for a later race since he did not ask the Clerk to re-check his weight. Chalfin was not aware what Galligan's weight read the second time he got on the scales. He also stated that he often advised riders when they had dropped a piece of tack to pick it up before getting on the scales and was not aware that Galligan had dropped anything before doing so.

The scales being used were digital and were placed on a firm corrugated heavy plastic sheet. Chalfin reported that none of the other 19 riders he weighed back in during the course of the day had been at all light. This was also true of Galligan in his previous races.

The Stewards then included Galligan in the hearing who stated that he had dropped his breastplate prior to getting on the scales the first time and acknowledged that the scales had read 165.5. He said he then picked up his breastplate and remounted the scales to weigh in at 166.2 pounds. He said that this weight could be confirmed by Barry Foley, who was standing behind him when he got on the scales the second time. Chalfin refuted this by demonstrating where he was sitting, where the scales were situated, and where the read-out screen was positioned. He said that it would have been impossible for anyone standing behind Galligan to have seen what the scales read.

Galligan also offered that he had urinated before the race and that there was no water in the jocks' tent for him to rehydrate.

The Stewards recognized that they were considering a substantial penalty for what could be considered a slight discrepancy in the weights. However, Rule 7.8. D (1) states:

Each rider of a horse which finishes a race shall weigh in with the Clerk of Scales at least at the same weight at which he weighed out, and if under that weight or his assigned weight by more than one (1) pound, his mount shall be disqualified.

In rendering their decision the Stewards considered the following:

- Jake Chalfin is an experienced and competent Clerk of Scales
- The scales being used were appropriately zeroed out and tested per Chalfin's usual protocol. It was confirmed that the scales were leveled and anchored and had rendered consistent readings throughout the day.
- No other rider had weighed in underweight at all during the day.
- By finishing second, Galligan's mount had earned a purse of \$1800.

The Stewards therefore ruled that Galligan had violated Rule 7.8 D (1). By virtue of that finding the Stewards disqualified ELUCIDATION and declared him unplaced. Furthermore, since Galligan's action had cost his owner \$1800., Galligan was fined \$1800.

Official Comments:

Having the scales, jockey's tents, and paddock back in the barn/ van area proved to work well in keeping the races on schedule. Although this does add another level of responsibility to the duties of the Safety Steward we recommend that it be continued.

The course had received an abundant amount of rain prior to race day and was in beautiful shape with excellent going.

Gregg Morris, Presiding
(Electronically signed)