

# **OFFICE OF RACING INTEGRITY**

# HARNESS RACING STEWARDS REPORT

# CLUB: DEVONPORT HARNESS RACING CLUB

DATE: Sunday 23 January 2022	2 TRACK: GOOD
	<b>WEATHER:</b> FINE
STEWARDS:	STEVEN SHINN (CHAIR)
	B PLUNKETT (PANEL)
	C ELLSON (PANEL)
	D LUTTRELL (BIRD CAGE/INSPECTIONS)
	M ROBINSON (SWABS)
<b>VETERINARY SURGEON:</b>	DR J MCKENNA
STARTER:	AEMERY

- Trainers with multiple runners engaged in any race were questioned as to their intended driving tactics.
- All runners backing up from LPC 21/01/2022 underwent veterinary examinations prior to their races and were passed fit to start.

# RACE 1 - COLLINS HOMES MOBILE - 2297 METRES MS

CODYS LEGACY – Had a tendency to hang in noticeably at various stages of the race. Tired over the concluding stages of the race to be beaten 101 metres. Having considered the filly's race record Stewards ordered CODYS LEGACY be stood down for 14 days until the completion of 2 satisfactory trials. The post-race veterinary examination revealed a small red lump inside its left fore cannon which was sustained during the race. It was also reported that the filly had a slightly sore mouth subsequent to an incisor cap being removed on the morning of the race. Briefly locked wheels with the sulky of another runner mid-race.

MEZEREON – Had a tendency to hang in at various stages of the race. Hung in and briefly locked wheels with a runner to its inside. A post-race veterinary examination of the filly failed to reveal any abnormalities. Gave ground over the concluding stages. Placed on its last chance to truly.

RAGSTORICHES – Out of position when the start was effected – placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races. Gave ground over the concluding stages.

DARK FYRE – Broke free of interference in the early stages of the first turn. Having considered the mare's recent record DARK FYRE is stood down from racing until the completion of a satisfactory trial.

SEVENTHREEOHSEVEN – Out of position when the start was effected – placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races. Raced three wide over the first 300 metres whilst being restrained to the rear of the field.

BOLD CENTURIAN – No action taken regarding the horse being out of position when the start was effected due the driver showing care as a hopple shortener pin had prematurely released in the score up.

GALAXY DANCER – Out of position when the start was effected – placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races. Commenced a three wide run near the 800 metres.

# RACE 2 – COMPLETE CANVAS MOBILE - 2297 METRES MS

BLOSSOM GRANT – Led then surrendered the lead near the 900 metres. Hung in and contacted a marker peg whilst tiring on the final turn. A warning was issued. Tired over the final stages to be beaten in excess of 61 metres. Having considered the mare's recent race record, BLOSSOM GRANT was stood down from racing until the completion of a satisfactory trial.

KERMADEC – Led the one wide line until obtaining a one out one back trail after 300 metres.

IDEN REACTOR – Worked forward three-wide until taking over the position after leading the one wide line after 300 metres. Gave ground over the concluding stages to be beaten in excess of 55 metres – placed on its last chance to race competitively.

MICTON AROHA – Checked shortly after the start was effected when the runner to its outside hung in. The mare had a tendency to race roughly shortly afterwards as a result. Commenced a three-wide run from the rear of the field near the 1400 metres then briefly four-wide circling a runner that was being restrained to the rear of the field. Subsequently restrained to the rear of the field near the 800 metres. Gave ground over the concluding stages to be between by 94 metres. Having considered the early interference to the mare no action was taken.

RAFFAS ACE – Hung in when the start was effected and contacted the runner to its inside – placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races. Raced three-wide for the first 350 metres prior to being restrained to a peg line trailing position.

FLASHY RULER – Held up for clear running round the final turn - Finished strongly once clear.

JO DINA – Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 1600 metres. Unable to obtain a position closer to the marker peg then restrained to the rear of the field. Three-wide one back from the 700 metres.

JOEY GIRL – Commenced a three-wide run near the 1200 metres to take over the lead near the 900 metres.

MY ULTIMATE ROMEO – Commenced a three-wide run from the 750 metres.

## RACE 3 – S & M HORSE TRANSPORT PACE – 2286 METRES SS

The all clear for this race was delayed in order for the Stewards to review the official race videos to determine if all runners had received a clear start. On review of the videos, Stewards determined that all horses did receive a fair start and the all-clear was given on the judge's numbers.

ONEOFTHELADS – Broke shortly after the start was effected - Placed out of the draw in standing start races.

GO IN STYLE – Raced in a one out one back position until being left leading the one wide line after 350 metres. Obtained a one out one back trail near the 1300 metres.

NO NUKES SKIPPER NZ – Stepped and led however, was unable to hold the lead and was crossed after 350 metres.

JUNIPER – Worked forward from outside the leader to take over the lead after 350 metres.

MICTON MOUSE – Badly away - will continue to be placed out of the draw in standing start races. Raced three-wide with a trail from the 1600 metres prior to working forward to take over the position leading the one wide line near the 1200 metres.

MI JU DAN - Tired over the concluding stages to be beaten in excess of 53 metres - Placed on its last chance to race competitively.

CLASSIE AMERICAN NZ – Broke shortly after the start was effected - Placed on its last chance in the draw in standing start races.

ROCKS ROY – Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 1600 metres to work forward leading the one wide line near the 1300 metres. Obtained a one out one back trail near the 1200 metres.

WHERE YA BIN NZ - Badly away - will continue to be placed out of the draw in standing start races.

## RACE 4 – NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS MOBILE - 2297 METRES MS

BETTONBLACK – Led the one wide line until obtaining a one out one back trail after 250 metres. Gave ground over the concluding stages.

TOP HANOVER – Worked forward three-wide to take over the position leading the one wide line midway down the back straight on the first occasion.

ULTIMATE ME NZ – Three-wide one back from the 850 metres.

HOT EMBERS – Worked forward three-wide to take over the positioning leading the one wide line after 250 metres. Obtained a one out one back trail mid-way down the back straight on the first occasion. Gave ground over the concluding stages.

DEVIL OF TYNE – Three-wide two back from the 850 metres.

SHADOW PASS NZ - Gave ground over the concluding stages.

GUYS BETTOR BET – Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 1000 metres.

KARALTA DAZZLER – Out of position when the start was effected despite its driver's best efforts. Placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races.

## RACE 5 – IMPRESSPRINT MOBILE - 1930 METRES MS

GRAPHITE STRIDE – Led then surrendered the lead after 400 metres.

BENJAMIN NIADH – Raced in a one out one back position prior to being left leading the one wide line after 400 metres.

VIVID STRIDE – Sulky contacted near the 400 metres when the runner to its outside shifted slightly.

LORD BAZALUP – Shifted in slightly near the 400 metres simultaneous to the runner to its inside shifting out. As a result, LORD BAZALUP contacted the outside sulky wheel of the inside runner and broke stride.

IM LADY MADELEINE – Worked forward from outside the leader to take over the lead after 400 metres. Driver N Ford reprimanded under the provisions of AHRR 156(2)(a) for applying his left rein with more than a wrist only flicking motion. Driver N Ford fined \$100 under the provisions of AHRR 156(7) in that in the home straight on the final occasion whilst utilising his whip, he allowed his whip to extend outside the confines of the sulky.

STAR ROCKER – Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 800 metres. Reverts to ODM from RODM.

# General

When questioned regarding the performance of BETTORZ BEACH, driver C Crook told the Stewards that the gelding had a tendency to hang in throughout the race. He added that he had an opportunity to shift away from the pegline near the 800 metres however that move would have placed him behind BENJAMIN NIADH which he felt would have disadvantaged BETTORZ BEACH as that runner had been obliged to lead the one wide line so he expected that it would give ground when the pace went on and that it was better option to trail the other two most fancied runners. Mr Crook went on to say that in the back straight on the final occasion BETTORZ BEACH dropped the bit and lost ground requiring him to activate the pull down blinds and earplugs. Further, that although BETTORZ BEACH was flat on straightening it gained ground approaching the finish as the runners ahead commenced to tire. A review of the official race videos confirmed Mr Crook's evidence and on consideration of all the circumstances Stewards determined that his driving tactics were not unreasonable. No further action was deemed necessary other than to note the circumstances.

# RACE 6 – LADBROKES PACE - 2297 METRES MS

MONTANA STORM NZ – Raced roughly for a short distance in the latter stages of the score up – placed on its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races.

BAO NIEN – Resisted a mid-race challenge for the lead. Held back for post-race blood samples to be taken.

MAJOR LESTER – Led the one wide line until dropping into the position behind the leader near the 1600 metres. Worked forward to issue an unsuccessful challenge for the lead, then obliged to lead the one wide line from the 1500 metres.

EARL JUJON – Worked forward to issue an unsuccessful challenge for the lead, then obliged to lead the one wide line from the 1500 metres.

**General 1**– Stewards questioned D Ford, driver of EARL JUJON, regarding his driver tactics in the race – most specifically why he elected to make a mid-race move from the rear of the field to issue a challenge for the lead. Mr Ford explained that approaching the 1700 metres he felt the pace slacken appreciably and felt that it would be in his best interest to make a quick move and attempt 'to the driver of the leader napping.' However, once reaching the position outside the leader BAO NIEN and almost being able to cross that runner it became apparent that, having hit the next turn, it would not be possible to take the lead and at this stage he immediately grabbed hold. A review on the race videos confirmed Mr Ford's evidence and no further action was taken.

**General 2** – Stewards questioned R Hillier, driver of MONTANA STORM, regarding his apparent lack of effort from the start for any attempt to hold the lead. Mr Hillier told the stewards that in the latter stages of the score-up he felt MONTANA STORM become slightly rough in its gear and for that reason

he elected to take care as the MONTANA STORM had a past history of galloping from the mobile barrier. Mr Hillier went on to say that MONTANA STORM had secured a very good run in transit and that it ultimately had every chance to win. Stewards noted Mr Hillier's evidence, however had placed MONTANA STORM in its last chance in the draw in mobile barrier races.

# RACE 7 – AUSTSTAR FREIGHT DISTRIBUTION MOBILE - 2297 METRES MS

CHRIS BE QUICK – Led however was unable to hold the lead and was crossed after 250 metres.

HEZ RAZOR SHARP – Raced in a one out one back position until being left leading the one wide line after 250 metres. Obtained a one out one back trail near the 1700 metres.

WITH REVENGE NZ – Led the one wide line until working forward to the lead after 250 metres. Unable to hold the lead entering the back straight on the first occasion. Underwent a veterinary examination at the barrier subsequent to the mare rearing and contacting the outside fence - passed fit to start.

RADAR STRIDE – Worked forward over the first 250 metres to position outside the leader then worked forward to the lead in the back straight on the first occasion.

TARLETON RILEY – Three-wide from the 800 metres.

JOHN RICHARD – Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 1900 metres to take over the position leading the one wide line near the 1700 metres.

SPORTS CANDY - Three-wide one back from the 800 metres.

AGOUDA RULER – Three-wide from the 900 metres. Four-wide from the 800 metres.

## RACE 8 – HARDINGS HOTMIX PACE - 2286 METRES SS

GOT THE GOODS – Swung sideways at the start then galloped away - placed out of the draw in standing start races. Severely checked leaving the front straight on the first occasion by a galloping runner. Failed to obtain a clear run to the finish – untested.

OZZIE MAJOR – Badly away - placed out of the draw in standing start races. Junior driver R Backhouse was shown the official race videos and was counselled by Stewards and senior driver Conor Crook regarding his obligations when a horse is on a break. Shifted in whilst on a break leaving the front straight on the first occasion severely checking other runners.

GOOD FEELINGS - Failed to obtain a clear run to the finish – untested.

MAJOR DAVVIN – Led the one wide line until obtaining a one out one back trail near the 1300 metres.

JAKES A JOY – Placed back in the draw in standing start races. Failed to obtain a clear run to the finish – untested.

METRO MAN – Slowly away.

DENSTOWN NZ - Galloped out – placed on its last chance in the draw in standing start races. Commenced a three-wide run from one out one back near the 1700 metres to take over the position leading the one wide line near the 1300 metres.

HEZA RUMMAGE NZ – Placed back in the draw in standing start races. Commenced a three-wide run from towards the rear of the field near the 800 metres.

MACH CHARM - Placed back in the draw in standing start races. Three-wide one back from the 800 metres.

LIVE FOR PEACE – Reverts to out of the draw in standing start races – from right out of the draw in standing start races. Three-wide two back from the 700 metres.

## RACE 9 – ULVERSTONE BICYCLES PACE – 2286 METRES SS

HYDE PARK – Galloped out - placed on its last chance in the draw in standing start races. Stewards will open an enquiry into the actions of M Ford in the back straight on the second last occasion.

WINDY HANOVER – Gave ground over the concluding stages. Driver When questioned regarding his trailing closely to the preceding runner in the back straight on the second last occasion Mr Hillier told the Stewards that WINDY HANOVER had little race experience and when the pace slackened the horse tended to race greenly. R Hillier was reminded of his obligations to take sufficient action to prevent his drives from trailing preceding runners too closely.

LITTLE CESSNA – Commenced a three-wide run near the 1250 metres to take over the position leading the one wide line near the 900 metres. Tired over the concluding stages to be beaten in excess of 64 metres – placed on its last chance to race competitively.

SZABOLSKI LEIS – Raced in a peg-line trailing position until shifting out leading the one wide line near the 1500 metres. Obtained a one out one back trail near the 900 metres.

IMPULSIVE GEORGE – Tired over the concluding stages to be beaten in excess of 96 metres. A postrace veterinary examination of the gelding failed to reveal any abnormalities. Stewards ordered that IMPULSIVE GEORGE be stood down from racing until the completion of a satisfactory requalifying trial.

PRINCESS LUNA – Tired over the concluding stages to be beaten in excess of 67 metres. Having considered the mare's recent record Stewards ordered that PRINCESS LUNA be stood down from racing until the completion of a satisfactory requalifying trial.

SUMMARY	
REPRIMANDS	R5 N Ford 156(2)(a)
FINES	R5 N Ford 156 (7) - \$100
SUSPENSIONS	TTC-H 16/01/22 - R6 - Z Slater 163(i)(a)(iii) - 23/01/22 to 04/02/22 (3 race dates)
HORSE ACTIONS	R1 DARK FYRE SDIT
	R1 CODYS LEGACY SD14D SD2T
	R2 BLOSSOM GRANT SD1T
	R3 ONE OF THE LADS ODS.
	R8 GOT THE GOODS ODS
	R8 OZZIE MAJOR ODS
	R8 JAKES A JOY BSD
	R8 HEZA RUMMAGE NZ BDS
	R8 MACH CHARM BDS
	R8 LIVE FOR PEACE ODS from RODS
	R9 IMPULSIVE GEORGE SDIT
	R9 PRINCESS LUNA SD1T
LICENSED PERSONS ACTIONS	NIL

PRE-RACE SWAB SUMMARY		
Race 1	MAEBEE	
Race 2	JOEY GIRL	
Race 3	MICTON MOUSE	
Race 4	TOP HANOVER	
Race 5	IM LADY MADELEINE	
Race 6	MONTANA STORM NZ	
Race 7	AGOUDA RULER	
Race 8	GOOD FEELINGS	
Race 9	SZABOLSKI LEIS	

POST-RACE SWAB SUMMARY	
Race 1	NINEFORTWENTYTHREE
Race 2	JOEY GIRL
Race 3	YOUNG ROOSTER
Race 4	MY CELEBRITY
Race 5	IM LADY MADELEINE
Race 6	BAO NIEN
Race 7	JOHN RICHARD
Race 8	MACH CHARM
Race 9	INCOGNITO

**STEVE SHINN** CHAIR

#### SUPPLEMENTARY

#### Tasmanian Trotting Club 16 January 2022, Race 6.

Stewards resumed an inquiry adjourned from the Tasmanian Trotting Club race meeting 16 January 2022 race 6 regarding an incident which took place entering the home straight on the final occasion. Stewards had taken evidence from Z Slater, driver of LITTLE CESSNA, Ms B Miller driver of YELLOW TAXI and M Yole, driver of MY ULTIMATE MAJOR, on that night. Stewards resumed the enquiry in the presence of driver Z Slater and after once again reviewing the official race videos and considering all the evidence tendered Stewards issued Mr Slater a charge under the provisions of AHRR 163(1)(a)(iii). Details of the charge were that entering the home straight on the final occasion Mr Slater has shifted wider on the track when not clear of YELLOW TAXI NZ which was racing to his outside, resulting in interference to that runner with further interference to a number of other runners to the outside of YELLOW TAXI NZ. Mr Slater pleaded guilty to the charge and after considering his submission on penalty including his good record regarding this rule, the Stewards suspended his licence to drive for a period of three race meetings. The suspension was deemed to commence midnight 23 January 2022 to expire midnight Friday 4 February 2022. Mr Slater was advised of his right to appeal.

#### \*\*Please note that this report may be subject to review and may not be the final version\*\*

ORI has recently reviewed its Harness policies. To view the updated policies go to: <u>http://www.racing.tas.gov.au/harness\_racing/policies\_and\_rules</u> - ORI Integrity Policy Manual