

STEWARDS REPORT

Club:	Tasmanian Trotting Club
Date:	Sunday 7 th May 2023
Weather:	Fine
Track Condition:	Good
Stewards Panel:	N Finnigan (Chair), R. Brown, J Gleeson, R Simpson and T. Canham
Officials:	Medical Edge (Raceday Medical Providers); Dr M Buckerfield (Veterinarian); Mr. A. Emery (Starter)

General: All runners engaged in tonight's race meeting that raced at Launceston on Friday May 5th, 2023, were subjected to Veterinary inspection and all were declared fit to take their place in their respective events.

RACE 1 – PRYDES EASIFEED PACE – 1609m Mobile

CHENIN BEACH – Having its first registered race start. Tightened for racing room in the middle stages of the score-up when HAZEWILLREV shifted in.

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RACE 2 – MORE CONFIDENCE CONSULTING PACE – 2090m Mobile

SHAUN TO THE MAX – Slow to muster speed at the start. Held up in the early stages of the home straight.

WRITTEN IN SILK – Gave ground over the final 400, beaten in excess of 30 metres.

TURQUOISE STRIDE – Shifted out under pressure over the final 300 metres.

BRIAN WHO – Inconvenienced after the start with SHAUN TO THE MAX being slow out

RACE 3 – CASCADE DRAUGHT PACE – 2090m Mobile

KUYOMI NZ – Held up for clear running at a vital stage in the race in the back straight on the final occasion. Locked wheels with ARDEN ROANOKE NZ when attempting to secure clear running. Stewards in assessing this incident were mindful of diminishing racing room for many runners as runners forward of the incident were under significant pressure. Found clear running near the 150 metres.

SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ – Tightened racing into the first turn and broke gait for a short distance as a result of NO NUKES SKIPPER NZ hanging in. Obligated to race three-wide, working forward to be positioned leading the one-out line.

NO NUKES SKIPPER NZ – Hung in entering the first turn tightening the racing room of SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ. A warning was issued.

ARDEN ROANOKE NZ – Inconvenienced when SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ broke gait.

ROCKNOVERTIME – Checked and broke for a short distance when SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ broke gait.

VINNY CHASE – Checked when SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ broke gait.

PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ – Will be excluded from the barrier draw in future mobile start events after breaking gait in the early stages of the score-up resulting in the gelding being well out of position at the start. Checked and broke for a short distance when SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ broke gait. Momentarily forced to race four-wide leaving the home straight, after the bell, when ROCKNOVERTIME was moved out into the three-wide line.

General: At the request of the Starter, Mr A Emery, Stewards delayed the ‘All-Clear’ to confirm all runners had been given a fair start, in particular PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ, which was well out of position when the start was effected. What had concerned the Starter was the fact Miss O Weidenbach, the driver of PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ, appeared to raise her arm early in the score-up when the gelding was galloping. On review of the official race footage, it was clear that PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ had broken gait free of interference and at the completion of the event Miss Weidenbach had the opportunity to raise her concern, if any, with the ‘Check-In’ Steward, which she did not do. Stewards were satisfied that no runner was denied a fair start and as such declared “All-Clear” on the judge’s numbers 7-8-12-9-11.

General: Driver P Hill (ROCKNOVERTIME) was fined \$100 for hindering the forward progress of PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ through his movement wider on the track approaching the 900 metres. This movement carrier PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ four-wide. Stewards in assessing penalty took into account the fact ROCKNOVERTIME had begun to over-race and that it was not driver Hill’s intention to move wide at the time, and also, the fact PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ was able to be eased and trail ROCKNOVERTIME shortly after the incident [AHR Rule 162(1)(www)(ii)].

RACE 4 – TRAINERS ENCOURAGEMENT HEAT ONE – 2090m Mobile

SOUTHERN LUCK – Having its first registered race start. Will be excluded from the barrier draw in future Mobile Start events after breaking gait free of interference as the start was effected.

BITOSCOTTY – Placed on its last chance to race competitively after tiring badly over the concluding stages, beaten in excess of 70 metres.

ALBERIO – Inconvenienced after the start when SOUTHERN LUCK broke gait.

KERMADEC – Reincluded in the barrier draw for mobile start events after satisfying the necessary requirements. Raced wide in the latter stages of the event which may have contributed to the mare giving ground over the concluding stages.

RACE 5 – LADBROKES RACING CLUB PACE – 2090m Stand

CHECK IN NZ – Placed on its last chance to race truly after shifting ground under pressure in the run to the finish. In assessing, Stewards were mindful that a warning had been placed on CHECK IN NZ at its most recent start for a similar offence.

YOUNG ROOSTER – Leaving the back straight on the final occasion begun to hang in before being tightened by WE SALUTE YOU, which was racing to its outside and also hanging in. This combination resulted in several markers being struck. Under the circumstances driver Weidenbach was given the benefit of the doubt on whether she could or should have done more to avoid the markers. Driver Weidenbach was also reminded of her obligations with regard to driving her horse forward into restricted room.

WOULD YOU MIND NZ – Galloped out when the strands were released and continued to do so for some considerable distance. WOULD YOU MIND NZ will be excluded from the barrier draw in future standing start events. Tired badly over the final stages to be beaten in excess of 110 metres. Subjected to a post-race Veterinary inspection. On inspection WOULD YOU MIND NZ was found to have a slow post-race recovery with a higher than usual heart rate. Stewards, after taking all this into account, and the fact WOULD YOU MIND NZ had not raced since mid-March, stood the gelding down from racing until it satisfactorily completes one requalifying trial.

WE SALUTE YOU – Hung in on the final turn. Contributed to YOUNG ROOSTER striking markers.

SUNNY SANZ – Held up for clear running until able to utilize the sprint lane.

RACE 6 – TRAINERS ENCOURAGEMENT HEAT ONE – 2090m Mobile

GYPSYS CLOWN – Declared a late scratching at 5:30pm when connections informed Stewards that due to transportation issues they would not be able to fulfill their racing engagement.

RACE 7 – RACING CONNECT PACE – 2090m Mobile

HALIS BOY – Raced ungenerously after the start shifting out, and in, before losing momentum when steadied by its driver. Raced rough on the final turn when striking its knee, obliging driver J Duggan to once again steady the gelding. Connections were instructed to take the necessary action, in an attempt, to prevent a reoccurrence of this issue.

SOLO SYNC – Checked after the start when HALIS BOY, which it was trailing, momentum stalled. Over-raced and pulled hard in the early stages of the event.

GAMEOFCHANCE – Reincluded in the barrier draw for mobile start events after satisfying the necessary requirements.

RACE 8 – CAVALOR EQUICARE PACE – 2090m Mobile

VALOUR STRIDE – Tired badly over the final stages to be beaten in excess of 120 metres. Subjected to a post-race Veterinary inspection. On inspection, no obvious abnormalities were found. When questioned, trainer B Yole informed Stewards it is the intention of connections to retire the gelding. Stewards accepted the undertakings, however, did stand VALOUR STRIDE down from racing until it satisfactorily completes two (2) consecutive requalifying trials.

SOMEDAN – Pulled up out of the event with 900 metres remaining. Subjected to a post-race Veterinary inspection. On inspection, SOMEDAN was found to have suffered an atrial fibrillation. Stewards acting under the provisions of AHR Rule 101C(2) stood SOMEDAN down for 14 days, after which connections must forward on a Veterinary clearance, which includes a favorable ECG report. In addition, after satisfying these requirements, SOMEDAN will be required to satisfactorily complete one (1) requalifying trial before returning to racing.

General: Driver N Brockman was reminded of his obligations regarding whip use.

RACE 9 – NUTRIEN SPRINTLANE PACE – 2090m Mobile

MONTANA LAD NZ – Subjected to a pre-race Veterinary inspection as the gelding raced on Friday last at Launceston. On inspection MONTANA LAD NZ was passed fit to take its part in the event.

WHERE YA BIN NZ – Subjected to a pre-race Veterinary inspection as the gelding raced on Friday last at Launceston. On inspection WHERE YA BIN NZ was passed fit to take its part in the event.

General: Driver N Ford pleaded guilty to a charge under AHR Rule 156(2)(a) for the unapproved manner he used his whip over the final 200 metres. Stewards after referring to driver Ford's record, fined him the sum of \$200 and in addition suspended his license to drive for six (6) race dates. Stewards directed that the suspension is to commence after he completes his suspension that commences at the completion of tonight's meeting. Driver Ford will be eligible to resume driving on Saturday June 17th, 2023.

RACE MEETING SUMMARY

Suspensions:	R9 – N Ford – 6 Meetings – AHR Rule 156(2)(a)
Fines:	R3 – P Hill \$100 – Hindering – AHR Rule 162(1)(www)(ii) R9 – N Ford – \$200 – AHR Rule 156(2)(a)
Reprimands:	NIL
Horse Action:	R3 – PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ – ODM R4 – SOUTHERN LUCK – ODM R4 – KERMADEC – BMD R5 – WOULD YOU MIND NZ – ODS R5 – WOULD YOU MIND NZ – SD 1 Trial (PP) R7 – GAMEOFCHANCE – BMD R8 – VALOUR STRIDE – SD 2 Trials (PP) R8 – SOMEDAN – SD14Days SDECG SD 1 Trial (AF)
Pre-race Swabs	R3 – KUYOMI NZ R4 – SPORTS ILLUSTRATOR R5 – CHECK IN NZ R6 – STREETSIDE CLASIC R7 – MISSUS DISASTER

	R9 – MONTANA LAD NZ
Post-race Swabs:	ALL WINNERS R7 – SHARKATTACK
Adjourned/Pending Inquiries:	NIL

Supplementary: Stewards concluded their inquiries into the driving tactics adopted by N Ford on PRIDDY SUBLIME in Race 9 at Launceston Pacing Club's meeting on Sunday February 26th, 2023, of concern to Stewards was his decision to move wider near the 500 metres when at the time he was trailing the leader. On questioning regarding the tactics, driver Ford stated that he had made the decision passing the 600 metres that his best option was to, if possible, move wider to trail TURQUOISE STRIDE, (T Ford), which had gone into the race with sound form, winning two of its last three starts, rather than follow QUEENOFDANCE NZ, (T Madden) which was having its second start after a spell, and had raced wide early in the event before working to lead the one-out line and then work forward again to cross to the lead. Driver Ford added that this move would require him easing KERMADEC, (C Castles) wider and needed to be done before other runners raced up outside that mare. Finally, driver Ford stated that on moving wider, PRIDDY SUBLIME lost its momentum and dropped the bit, for which he could not explain, but hypothesised that his mare resented the jostle with KERMADEC when easing wider. Stewards also took the opportunity to review betting on the race which revealed no abnormalities or concerns. Stewards, after considering all presented, although believing that driver Ford had erred in his decision to move wider at the time, it was however reasonable for him to do so under the circumstances, with acceptable reasoning. Stewards after considering all presented, took no further action other than to note the circumstances.

**N FINNIGAN
CHAIRMAN**

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