

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS REPORT



MEETING DETAILS:

Club: Wairio Jockey Club at Ascot Park Raceway
Weather: Fine
Track: Heavy 11
Rail: Out 4 metres 1500m – 800m, 2 metres 800m – 400m
Stewards: C Allison, M Davidson & C Boyd
Typist: B Gutsell

Date: Sunday 11th May 2014

GENERAL:

Pre-race blood testing was conducted.

Apprentice Rider A Morgan was excused for her only riding engagement on **STRAWBERRY BLONDE** and replaced by J Morris on Saturday morning.

The Stewards questioned Racecourse Manager Mr. W Broad regarding the change of Track conditions to a Heavy 11 after the track had been a Heavy 10 the day prior to the races and there had been no overnight rain. Mr. Broad explained the penetrometer readings had the track bordering on a Heavy 11 in the days prior and there had been a heavy dew on the morning of the races which had resulted in this morning's reading tipping over into the Heavy 11 category.

Trainer S Bellew was questioned as to why he had elected to start **SUCRE** today after the rider J Bates reported **SUCRE** failed to handle the Heavy 11 track conditions the previous week at Riccarton on the 3rd of May. Mr Bellew advised that **SUCRE** was facing a drop in class today from the previous week and that the Heavy 11 today was of a different nature compared to the previous weeks racing surface at Riccarton. Mr Bellew further added that as **SUCRE** was racing on her familiar home track today and not burdened with having to travel and he was hopeful of a better showing.

Co-Trainer T Prendergast was also questioned regarding **IRISH BAY** starting today after the rider C Barnes advised **IRISH BAY** had failed to handle the Heavy 11 track conditions at its previous start at Riccarton on the 3rd of May. Mr. Prendergast advised the Heavy 11 conditions at Riccarton were of a looser nature than today's Heavy 11 which was more of a holding nature and **IRISH BAY** had previously won on a Heavy track and he was expecting a forward showing. The explanations of both trainers' were duly noted.

SUPPLEMENTARY:

Following the running of Race 8 several riders expressed concerns to the Stewards with the deteriorating state of the track at the 800 metre mark. Footage of the incident at the 800 metres where several runners had blundered during the running was shown to club officials and the track curator Mr W Broad. The club officials and Mr Broad undertook to perform remedial work on this portion of the track prior to racing next.

SUMMARY:

Swabbing:	DOM BENEDICTINE, IMA GEEGEE, WERIO, PROXIMITY, FLIRTATION, REGALO REGAL, IRISH BAY, SAPERAVIOUS.		
Suspensions:			Nil
Protests:			Nil
Fines:			Nil
Warnings:			Nil
Bleeders:			Nil
Horse Actions:	Race	1	PRODIGE – veterinary clearance received
	Race	8	LEGAL AID – veterinary clearance required.
Medical Certificates:			Nil
Rider Changes:			Nil
Late Scratchings	Race	8	LEGAL AID - veterinary advice (3.49pm)

RACE COMMENTS:

Race 1	AB LIME/ADVANCE AGRICULTURE & TRANSPORT SERVICES MAIDEN
<p>The start of this event was delayed two minutes at the request of the TAB due to a delay with the previous event at the Timaru Harness Racing Club.</p> <p>SECRET TAP shifted outwards at the start briefly impeding PRODIGE.</p> <p>SECRET TAP raced keenly through the early stages and lay outwards passing the 600 metres brushing PRODIGE on several occasions.</p> <p>Trainer G Robinson reported PRODIGE would no longer be persevered with as a racing proposition from her stable.</p>	
Race 2	HOMESTEAD VILLA MOTEL & SOUTHERN VET CENTRE SPRINT
<p>MASTER CHIEF was slow to begin and failed to maintain contact with the body of the field for the majority of the event despite the urgings of rider R Black.</p> <p>TUG O' WAR and THYME ZONE made contact at the start resulting in THYME ZONE shifting out abruptly dictating the line of AVECHII which was briefly hampered.</p> <p>AVECHII lay in shortly afterwards dictating THYME ZONE inwards resulting in IMA GEEGEE being placed in restricted room.</p> <p>Near the 300 metres TUG O' WAR and HALO DOLLY both briefly had to be steadied when held up for racing room by the tiring AVECHII.</p> <p>When questioned regarding the performance of MASTER CHIEF apprentice R Black advised the gelding had failed to respond when placed under pressure and in her opinion was less than genuine in its efforts today. The Stewards requested a post-race veterinary examination of MASTER CHIEF which failed to detect any clinical abnormalities.</p> <p>When spoken to regarding the improved performance of IMA GEEGEE trainer K Thompson reported that the mare had raced out of its class in its previous start and found the Heavy 11 track conditions today were more suitable.</p> <p>Following the running of this event AVECHII was examined by the clubs veterinarian after it appeared to be indifferent in its action. The subsequent examination revealed the gelding to be showing signs of tying up.</p>	
Race 3	PGG WRIGHTSON/ SPEIGHTS & COOKE HOWLISON ISUZU HANDICAP
<p>AL ASKAN was slow to begin.</p> <p>WERIO and REEVES HALL both over raced through the early stages.</p> <p>HEZA KOOL KAT also raced keenly over the early stages with the gelding skying its head on several occasions when being restrained.</p> <p>Near the 350 metres BLUE 'N' GOLD had to be steadied and shift ground inwards to obtain clear racing room.</p> <p>Passing the 150 metres REEVES HALL lay in under pressure with BLUE 'N' GOLD momentarily having to be steadied.</p>	
Race 4	BALLANCE/NIND DAIRY & SOUTHERNWIDE REAL ESTATE MAIDEN
<p>JACHIL jumped awkwardly and shifted outwards impeding MOLLY MAREE which lost ground as a result.</p> <p>STRAWBERRY BLONDE shifted outwards at the start making contact with JENUWIN on its outside which was briefly impeded.</p> <p>Rider D Walsh reported favoured runner TOM DOOLEY had hung throughout the running.</p> <p>Apprentice rider C Barnes reported that in her opinion JENUWIN failed to handle the prevailing Heavy 11 track conditions today.</p> <p>Apprentice rider T Direen also advised that in her opinion TULLIBARDINE had not handled today's track conditions.</p>	
Race 5	FARMLANDS & FORDES COMPLETE LIVESTOCK PROCESSING HANDICAP
<p>HOWLONGDOWEWAIT was crowded at the start when DAME LA JANE shifted ground outwards.</p> <p>DAME LA JANE raced keenly when vying for the lead after approximately 200 metres.</p> <p>Near the 1100 metres KEEP IT TIGHT dipped.</p> <p>Approaching the 1000 metres STORM HOME commenced to over race.</p> <p>T Direen the rider of DAME LA JANE reported her mount had hung outwards for the first half of the race.</p> <p>S Muniandy the rider of RUGBY STREET and apprentice D Prastiyu the rider of BUFFYS BOY both reported their respective mounts did not handle today's Heavy 11 track conditions.</p>	
Race 6	PRESTON RUSSELL LAW WAIRIO CUP
<p>KING PRAWN and SHE'Z A PRIMA DONNA were both slow to begin.</p> <p>HONOR AND CHERISH raced keenly near the 1200 metres.</p> <p>Near the 500 metres BELLE D'OR (R Black) had to be steadied when attempting to improve into a marginal gap on the inside of CROYDON (J Bates) which changed strides and shifted inwards on the point of the bend. Shortly afterwards CROYDON commenced to hang outwards and had to be steadied by its rider. J Bates was advised to exercise care when in similar circumstances.</p> <p>BELLE D'OR was further held up passing the 300 metres only gaining clear racing room over the final 200 metres.</p> <p>KING PRAWN and OOR WULLIE brushed after passing the 200 metres.</p>	

S Muniandy the rider of **THE BISHOP** and apprentice T Direen the rider of **OOR WULLIE** both reported their respective mounts had failed to handle today's Heavy 11 track conditions.

Race 7	SOUTHLAND FARM MACHINERY/NIGHTCAPS CONTRACTING WAIRIO PLATE
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The start of this event was delayed approximately two minutes due to the field being late to the start area.

COMANCHE GOLD and **UPPLAND** both commenced to race keenly shortly after the start.

The tiring **COMANCHE GOLD** had to steady momentarily passing the 200 metres when **JEALOUS MUCH** had improved on its inside.

When questioned regarding the performance of **SUCRE** rider D Walsh advised the Stewards the mare had felt uncomfortable in today's track conditions and had dipped on a number of occasions during the running. Mr Walsh further added he believed the mare had struggled to carry the 59kg on the Heavy 11 track. Trainer S Bellew advised **SUCRE** would now be sent for a spell before racing again.

Apprentice rider S Wynne advised the Stewards **PETTY LANE** had been uncomfortable throughout the running and in her opinion had failed to handle the prevailing track conditions. Stewards requested a post-race veterinary examination of **PETTY LANE** which revealed a slightly slow recovery rate.

Stewards also requested a post-race veterinary examination of **JEALOUS MUCH** which was reported by its rider R Bishop to have felt indifferent in its action during the running. The subsequent examination revealed a slow recovery rate. Stewards would follow up with trainers K & I Taplin in the coming days regarding their future racing intentions with **JEALOUS MUCH**.

Race 8	ELDERS PRIMARY WOOL & D T KING TRANSPORT HANDICAP
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LEGAL AID was declared a late scratching at 3.49pm on veterinary advice after it was found to be lame in the near fore leg with the connections advised a veterinary clearance was required prior to **LEGAL AID** racing next.

FOUR GEES was slow to begin and then had to be steadied when **MR NOBODY** shifted outwards shortly after the start.

PHIL WENNECK had to be steadied near the 1300 metres when becoming awkwardly placed on the heels of **MR NOBODY**.

With 800 metres to run several runners blundered most noticeably **STRUCTURE, GOOGLE ME, PHIL WENNECK, GUNNA FLY, HARRY HILL** and **MR NOBODY**.

When questioned regarding the performance of the favourite **GOOGLE ME** apprentice rider R Black reported that **GOOGLE ME** had blundered badly at the 800 metres and had struggled from that point onwards.

Rider T Moseley reported that favoured runner **FOUR GEES** had batted away fairly in today's track conditions.

When questioned regarding the improved performance of **SAPERAVIOUS** which had finished 22 lengths from the winner in its previous start, trainer S Bellew advised the mare was assisted with a change of riding tactics today with the mare being ridden in front throughout which contributed to today's performance. Mr. Bellew also added that today's track conditions were not as testing as last week at Riccarton.