

STEWARDS' REPORT

DARWIN TURF CLUB SATURDAY, 22nd OCTOBER 2016

Weather: Fine

Track: Wet Fast

Rail: True Position

Stewards: D Hensler (Chairman), R Hamilton, L Jackson, S Copelin
(Deputy), L Ross (Clerk of Scales)
Veterinary: Howard Springs Veterinary Clinic
Number of Races: 5
Number of Runners: 38
Stakes Paid: \$68,250

Race 1: TROBIS Maiden Plate 1300m

IWAUNA (S Altieri) – Bumped at the start.

MOUSSAMBANI (K Brooks) – Bumped at the start. Lay inwards approaching the 700m turn.

Race 2 – 0 - 64 Handicap 1200m

SET FOR A BUNDLE (K Brooks) – Knuckled at the start.

BRIMARVI CUGAT (M Tyndall) – Dwelt at the start.

EDIT (Carl Spry) – Bounded at the start. Raced wide throughout.

WOOGIE (B Davis) – Commenced awkwardly.

Race 3 – Average Benchmark Handicap 1200m

GOLD BUNDLE (M Tyndall) – Cast both front plates in running.

ORION (K Brooks) – Lay inwards under pressure over the final 100m.

ZOCALOS (S Ridler) – Slow into stride.

WAVING (B Huppatz) – Commenced awkwardly.

Plating change: GOLD BUNDLE – heart bars in front

Race 4 – 0 – 58 Handicap 1100m

KISS THE CONDOR (B Davis) – Bumped at the start.

MAGIC GREG (R Oakford) – Bumped at the start. Rider advised that the gelding commenced to lay inwards shortly after the start and as a result his saddle shifted near the 900m and placed him at a disadvantage in running.

THE SOOTHSAYER (K Brooks) – Steadied when racing keenly leaving the 700m. Lay inwards inside the final 100m with the rider having to stop riding and straighten her mount on two occasions.

SUPER SWIFT (M Tyndall) – Commenced awkwardly and lost ground.

Race 5 – Benchmark 54 Handicap 1600m

General: Prior to the race Stewards interviewed trainers P Cole and T Halter in relation to the riding instructions they intended to give each jockey bearing in mind both respective stables had 3 runners in the event.

SUNSET STRIP (Carl Spry) – Trainer C Spry advised that following the unplaced performance the gelding would now be sent for a spell.

EFRON (V Arnott) – Rider reported that her mount failed to stretch out at any stage in running and consequently tailed the field throughout. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities. Trainer S Clarke was advised due to the uncompetitive performance the gelding must barrier trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards prior to racing again.

MIRKA (F Bergstrand) – Commenced awkwardly.

BLACK BURBERRY (S Ridler) – Returned with a laceration to the off hind pastern.

Summary

Swab samples were taken from all winners. Pre race samples were taken from IWAUNA, I'M A SOLDIER, WOOGIE, ZOCALAS, BRIDGEY FLYER and BROWN COAL.

Reprimands/Warnings

Nil

Suspensions

Nil

Embargoes

Race 5 – EFRON must barrier trial (uncompetitive)

Fines

Nil

General from Monday 24 October, 2016

Stewards today interviewed trainer Mr D Leech in relation to comments he was purported to have made which were published in a newspaper article that appeared in the Sunday Territorian on 23 October, 2016. The article related to the win by CASINO JAKE in race 1 at the Darwin Turf Club meeting conducted on Saturday 22 October, 2016 and in particular his quote that “it was a boat race” when commenting on the manner in which the race had been run.

As Stewards expressed concern that these comments portray the connotation that the race had not been run on fair terms, Mr Leech was therefore given the opportunity to explain his position when making them. He agreed that he did make the comment “it was a boat race” to a reporter following the race and further referenced the race being “pretty ordinary”. He clarified that he was referring to the fact that all five runners in the race had mediocre form and after leading all the way the favourite in MIGHTY TAX (K Gladwin) had been run down over the concluding stages by his gelding CASINO JAKE, which in his opinion made the race look an ordinary spectacle.

Stewards accepted Mr Leech's explanation which was accompanied with an apology for his poor choice of words post race. Mr Leech was cautioned and reminded of his obligations under AR175A, in particular to ensure that his future conduct is not prejudicial to the image of racing.

D Hensler
NT Chairman of Stewards