

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS REPORT

Clarence River Jockey Club GRAFTON RACECOURSE

Tuesday 17 October 2017

Weather: Fine

Track: Heavy (10)

Rail: +2m 1400m – 800m, +4m 800m – 400m, true remainder

STEWARDS: M. A. Holloway (Chairman), D. R. Smith, N. M. Daniels & W. M. Friend

SUPPLEMENTARY STIPENDIARY STEWARDS REPORTS

Clarence River Jockey Club, GRAFTON RACECOURSE, Thursday 14
September 2017

RACE 5: Benchmark 55 Handicap 1106m:

Spirit of Husson - Licensed jockey Kirk Matheson pleaded guilty to a charge under AR135(b)&(c) in the following terms;

- AR135. (b)** The rider of every horse shall take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that his horse is given full opportunity to win or to obtain the best possible place in the field.*
- (c)** Any person who in the opinion of the Stewards has breached, or was a party to breaching, any portion of this rule may be penalised, and the horse concerned may be disqualified.*

The details of the charge being that when he rode **Spirit of Husson** in Race 5, the Benchmark 55 Handicap 1106m at the Clarence River Jockey Club race meeting conducted at Grafton racecourse on Thursday 14 September 2017, he failed to take all reasonable and permissible measures on that gelding throughout the said race to ensure that **Spirit of Husson** was given full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible place in the field in that by reason of all or part of the following particulars;

- 1) From the entrance to the straight to approaching the 300m he failed to ride with sufficient purpose & vigour in an endeavour to improve into running available between *Mclennan* and *Ready Zaim Fire* where in the opinion of the stewards it was reasonable and permissible for him to do so.
- 2) That over the final 150m he failed to ride with sufficient purpose & vigour in an endeavour to improve into running available between *Mclennan* and *Ready Zaim Fire* where in the opinion of the stewards it was reasonable and permissible for him to do so.

After taking into consideration a number of mitigating and aggravating factors, K. Matheson's license to ride in races was suspended for a period of one month. Stewards ordered that such suspension commence on Saturday 21 October 2017 and expire on Tuesday 21 November 2017, on which day he may ride.

Coffs Harbour Racing Club, COFFS HARBOUR RACECOURSE, Tuesday 13 October 2017

RACE 6: Benchmark 55 Handicap 1600m:

Apocalyptic Fun – Trainer Mr C. Prosser reported in the days subsequent that a blood test on the gelding had revealed it to have an elevated white blood cell count. Mr Prosser advised that he would allow the gelding time to recover and would freshen it up prior to its next race start. Mr Prosser undertook to provide the results of a further blood test on the gelding prior to its next race start.

General: Due to sections of the track being waterlogged and unfit for racing, stewards and club officials elected to move the running rail out to obtain a satisfactory racing surface. The rail was moved from the true position to +2m 1400m – 800m, +4m 800m – 400m and true the remainder. Consequently the race distances were amended as follows –

Original Distance	Amended Distance
1100m	1106m
1200m	1206m
1400m	1410m
1700m	1710m

RACE 1: 4YO+ Maiden Handicap 1106m:

Arcola (NZ) - Hung out during the middle stages and down the straight and ran wide on the track. A post race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed it to have a poor recovery. Trainer Mr W. Lawson was advised that the gelding is required to barrier trial to the satisfaction of stewards prior to its next race start.

Bettigood – A post race veterinary examination of the mare revealed it to have a poor recovery rate.

Jack of Spades – Hung out severely during the event, ran wide on the track and took no competitive part. A post race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed it to have a poor recovery. Trainer Mr D. Schmidt was advised that the gelding is required to barrier trial to the satisfaction of stewards prior to its next race start.

Sea Route – Slow to begin.

Taken In – Slow to begin. Inclined to lay out under pressure down the straight.

RACE 2: Class 3 Handicap 1410m:

Blinkin Artie – Slow to begin. Approaching the 1000m improved onto the heels of *Ponzi*, was eased for a number of strides and bumped *Morning Fare* on a number of occasions whilst trying to shift out.

Malmoosa – Inclined to lay in at the entrance to the straight. Laid in approaching the 100m. Bumped over the concluding stages.

Morning Fare – Raced wide in the early and middle stages. Bumped on a number of occasions approaching the 1000m.

Teo Torriate – Bumped over the concluding stages.

RACE 3: Maiden Plate 1410m:

Dramatic Moments (NZ) – Declared a late scratching by order of stewards, acting on veterinary advice, at 12.55pm after the colt was found to be lame in the off fore leg. Trainer Mr D. Kelly was advised that the colt requires a veterinary certificate of fitness prior to its next race start.

Fun For Me – Overraced approaching the first turn.

Lady Casey – Hampered on jumping.

Lord Morpheus – Blundered on jumping and hampered shortly after.

Lucyjon – Slow to begin. A pre race veterinary examination of the mare, which was resuming after an extended period off, passed it fit to race.

Noreena – Slow to begin.

Sapper Tom – Hampered on jumping. Raced wide in the early and middle stages. Passing the 300m was eased when momentarily tightened for room.

Solar Lady – Began awkwardly. Overraced between the 1200m and 800m.

RACE 4: 3YO Maiden Handicap 1206m:

Against the Clock – Slow to begin. Inclined to overrace approaching and passing the 800m. At the entrance to the straight was steadied when carried out onto the heels of *Invincible Tammy* by *Tusker Time*. Apprentice Ms B. Stower (*Tusker Time*) was issued a reprimand (AR137(a)).

Invincible Tammy – Began awkwardly and bumped shortly after. Eased when tightened for room near the 700m. Inclined to lay out rounding the home turn. Ran out abruptly away from another runner approaching the 100m. When questioned regarding the performance of the filly jockey B. Looker stated that his mount was attempting the 1200m journey for the first time and he did not pressure it out of the gates in an effort to ensure it would settle and run out the distance. B. Looker stated that his mount overraced in the early and middle stages however settled once crossed near the 600m. B. Looker stated that he nursed his mount along to the 300m in an effort to sustain a finishing effort however when he asked his mount to sprint it failed to respond strongly and weakened noticeably over the final 100m. B. Looker stated he questions the filly's ability to run out the 1200m journey at this stage of its career, particularly on heavy track conditions. Trainer Mr J. Shelton advised the filly had reached the end of its preparation and would be spelled immediately.

It's Relative – Raced wide without cover in middle stages. Momentarily hampered approaching the 100m. When questioned regarding her riding

approaching and rounding the first turn, in particular directing her mount from a handy position with cover to a position three wide without cover, jockey Ms R. Murray stated that at her mounts only start it was slow to begin and settled back. Ms Murray stated that today she rode it along early to ensure it held a position in the field and when the pace slackened approaching the 1000m her mount commenced to pull fiercely. Ms Murray stated she was unable to hold it in a position with cover and her mount was awkwardly placed on heels for a number of strides. Ms Murray stated she elected to direct her mount outwards into clear running so as to not be at risk of galloping on the runners in advance of it.

Lenny Let Loose – Overraced rounding the first turn.

Tusker Time – Bumped on jumping. Overraced, and raced greenly, in the early stages. When questioned regarding the disappointing performance of the gelding apprentice Ms B. Stower stated that her mount travelled well in the early and middle stages however when placed under pressure rounding the home turn it failed to respond strongly and was disappointing in its run to the line. A post race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed it to be displaying symptoms of the thumps. Mr Lee undertook to provide the results of a blood test on the gelding in the coming days.

Valley Royal – Bumped on jumping. Shifted out abruptly at the entrance to the straight.

RACE 5: F&M Class 1 Handicap 1106m:

Mia Sorella – Inclined to overrace in the early and middle stages. A post race veterinary examination of the mare revealed it had bled from both nostrils for the first time. Trainer Mr M. Butler was advised that the mare will now incur the embargoes listed under AR53A.

Noble Ethics – Inclined to overrace rounding the first turn.

Red Deck – Approaching the first turn blundered when racing in restricted room between *Motivate*, which shifted in slightly, and *Noble Ethics*, which shifted out slightly. Jockeys M. McGuren (*Noble Ethics*) and R. Spokes (*Motivate*) were asked to exercise more care in similar circumstances. Near the 600m was eased after improving onto heels.

Sky Classic – When questioned regarding the performance of the mare jockey Ms L. Cheshire stated that her mount travelled strongly in the early and middle stages and she was confident of its chances. Ms Cheshire stated that rounding the home turn her mount made an abnormal respiratory noise, consistent with a large exhale after holding its breath, and commenced to weaken. Ms Cheshire added her mount continued to make abnormal respiratory noises down the straight, consistent with it trying to regain its breathing pattern. Ms Cheshire added she did not test her mount down the straight as she was concerned something was amiss. When questioned, trainer Mr T. McCarthy stated the he added a tongue tie to the mares gear today as at its last start its rider was concerned it may have been impeding its breathing with its tongue however after todays event it may be the mare is inclined to hold its breath. A post race veterinary examination of the mare revealed it to have a poor recovery. Mr

McCarthy was advised that the mare is required to undergo an endoscopic examination prior to its next race start.

RACE 6: C,G&E Class 1 Handicap 1106m:

Paco Express – Blundered badly on jumping. Unable to improve for a short distance on straightening when held up on heels. Laid in down the straight and proved difficult to ride with full vigour.

Super Shoes – Inclined to overrace approaching and rounding the first turn. Hampered rounding the home turn. When questioned regarding the performance of the gelding apprentice N. Masuda stated that his mount travelled strongly in the early and middle stages however when asked to sprint at the entrance to the straight it felt reluctant to stretch out in the heavy track conditions and was inclined to dip and blunder. A post race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed it to have a poor recovery rate.

Yabalu Lad – Inclined to lay in under pressure down the straight.

Zioptimus – Trainer Mr A. Kehoe was fined \$100 for failing to declare P. Graham as the rider of the gelding by the prescribed time (LR35). Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

RACE 7: Benchmark 55 Handicap 1206m:

Hidden Rock – Travelled keenly in the early stages. When questioned regarding settling in a forward position today jockey J. Taylor stated that early in its career his mount used to regularly raced forward however in recent starts it has been missing the start and was obliged to settle back. J. Taylor stated he was simply instructed to endeavour to have the gelding begin well. J. Taylor stated his mount did begin well today and it was apparent very early that no other rider was intent on leading the event. J. Taylor stated that, from the wide barrier, rather than be caught wide outside a slow tempo he elected to allow his mount to stride into a forward position.

Punton Bernardini – Inclined to overrace in the early and middle stages.

RACE 8: Benchmark 65 Handicap 1710m:

Backhouse Billy – Bumped heavily rounding the home turn.

Melted Moments – Inclined to overrace in the early stages. Overraced fiercely approaching and rounding the home turn.

Mexican Mountain – Slow to begin.

Prince Albert – Raced wide in the early stages. Bumped rounding the home turn.

Royal Roulette – Trainer Mr D. Kelly was fined \$100 for failing to declare M. Paget as the rider of the gelding by the prescribed time (LR35). Eased when disappointed for a run approaching the 600m.

Stella's Chance – Raced wide in the early and middle stages. Rounding the home turn became unbalanced after shifting out and bumping another runner. Inclined to lay in at the entrance to the straight. Approaching and passing the 200m was obliged to ease out around heels to continue to improve.

WHIP OFFENCES: Stewards noted the following riders exceeded the permitted strikes of the whip prior to the 100m under AR137A(5)(a)(ii).

Race	Rider (Horse)
1	R. Spokes (Bettigood) – 1 additional
2	K. Matheson (Malmoosa) – 2 additional S. Thurlow (Blinkin Artie) – 2 additional

Bearing in mind the totality of whip use, no action was taken.

SWABS: Swab samples were taken from all winners, **Jack of Spades** and **Bettigood**.

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Race 6: A. Kehoe - \$100 (LR35) Race 8: D. Kelly - \$100 (LR35)
Reprimands:	Race 4: B. Stower (AR137(a))
Suspensions:	Supplementary: K. Matheson 21/10/17 – 21/11/17 (AR137(c))
Bleeders:	Race 5: Mia Sorella – bled first time (AR53A)
Certificates:	Race 3: Dramatic Moments (NZ) – lame off fore Race 4: Tusker Time – blood results Race 5: Sky Classic – endoscopic examination
Warnings:	Race 3: Dramatic Moments (NZ) – lame off fore
Trials:	Race 1: Jack of Spades – hung out Race 1: Arcola (NZ) – hung out
Change of Tactics:	Nil
Falls/Injuries:	Nil
Follow-up:	Nil