

STEWARDS REPORT

Leeton Jockey Club
LEETON RACECOURSE
Tuesday 22 August 2017

Weather: Fine
Track: Soft (7), Upgraded to Soft (5) at 10.30am
Rail: True

STEWARDS: T.J.Davidson (Chairman), J.A.Shultz & D.R.McLean

(9u1b)

General: As S. Metcalfe(a) was ill, Stewards permitted the following rider substitutions:

Race 1	N. Burrells(a) on Little Temptations
Race 4	J. Richards(a) on Whiskey Business
Race 5	N. Burrells(a) on Quirimbas
Race 6	J. Richards(a) on County Limerick
Race 7	C. Frater-Hill(a) on Steve's Choice

RACE 1: Maiden Handicap 1050m:

Nishani Spirit- Trainer A. Fitzgerald, represented by J. Fitzgerald, was fined \$50 under AR59A for failing to present the Thoroughbred Identity Card for the gelding when requested. Hampered and carried wider in the straight. On return to scale N. Souquet (**Nishani Spirit**) placed second, lodged an objection against *Patrika Belle* being declared the winner alleging interference over the final 300m. The evidence found that after straightening *Patrika Belle* hung out on several occasions and hampered **Nishani Spirit** slightly. Stewards dismissed the objection when they could not be comfortably satisfied that had this interference not occurred the **Nashani Spirit** would have finished ahead of *Patrika Belle*.

Patrika Belle- Hung outwards in the straight. Trainer N. Osborne was advised an official warning would be placed on the mare's record.

Pebbles Willdo- Rider B. Loy was reminded of his obligations to ride his mounts right to the line.

Single Red Rose- Slow to begin. Crowded after the start. Hung outwards badly throughout. Rider J. Pracey-Holmes stated the mare, which was having its first race start, jumped on the wrong leg and hung outwards throughout proving difficult to place under pressure. He added the mare was not suited by the tight turning track. A post-race veterinary examination did not detect any abnormalities. Trainer A. McRae was advised an official warning would be placed on the horse's racing manners. Rider J. Pracey-Holmes was fined \$200 under AR137A(4)(a) for using the whip forward of the shoulder on two (2) occasions in the straight.

The Wonderful Cat- Began very awkwardly. Hampered near the 800m.

Currawong- K. Nisbet replaced A. Chau (overweight) as the rider of the gelding. A. Chau was fined \$100 under AR120(b). Slow to begin.

Little Temptations- Taken outwards while racing keenly near the 800m.

RACE 2: Benchmark 65 Handicap 1050m:

Brightly Goes- Rider N. Souquet stated after being slightly slow into stride he elected to take up a position behind the leaders with cover rather than being trapped wide. He added his mount travelled well until straightening but did not respond when placed under pressure. A post-race veterinary examination did not detect any abnormalities.

Wild Irish Boy- Laid inwards in the straight.

Sarona Downs- Trainer A. McRae was fined \$50 under LR35 for the late declaration of J. Pracey-Holmes as the rider of the gelding.

Adolescent- Trainer C. Heywood was fined \$50 under LR35 for the late declaration of R. Bensley as the rider of the gelding.

RACE 3: 3yo & Up Maiden Plate 1150m:

Liberty Boy- Began very awkwardly and shifted outwards abruptly. Raced greenly throughout. Laid inwards in the straight.

The Russian- Steadied near the 1000m when crowded between *Captain Dan* and *Nicotic*. When questioned regarding today's improved performance Trainer N. Loy stated the gelding had suffered from hoof issues in its last preparation necessitating the gelding being sent for a long spell. He added after almost twelve months in the paddock the hoof issues had been resolved and the horse had worked well leading into the event and the stable expected a forward showing. His explanations were noted.

Riohsei- Slightly slow to begin then severely checked and lost ground (2L) when *Liberty Boy* began very awkwardly and shifted outwards abruptly.

Nicotic- Change of tactics- From inside barrier to be ridden forward. Led.

RACE 4: Benchmark 54 Handicap 1150m:

Espirit Warrior- Began very awkwardly and lost ground. Steadied and carried wider on the track approaching the 700m when the pace of the event steadied.

Whiskey Business- Was inclined to lay outwards throughout.

Primal Dreams- Steadied and taken outwards approaching the 700m when the pace of the event steadied.

Patagonia Belle- Slow to begin.

Josie's Cruiser- Steadied approaching the 800m when *Whiskey Business* (J. Richards(a)) shifted in when not quite clear. Apprentice Richards was advised to exercise more care. Steadied approaching the 700m when the pace of the event steadied.

Verduzzo- Clipped heels and blundered near the 1100m when *Whiskey Business* (J. Richards(a)) rolled out slightly. Apprentice Richards was reprimanded for careless riding under AR137(a). Steadied approaching the 700m when the pace of the event steadied.

RACE 5: Class 1 & Maiden Plate 1600m:

Kappy Cino- Slow to begin. Crowded approaching the 800m.

Real Bonafide- A pre-race veterinary examination of the gelding, which raced at Narrandera on Saturday 19 August 2017, found it suitable to race. Eased near the 800m when crowded to the inside of *Cipher* (J. Richards(a)) which shifted in when not quite clear. Apprentice Richards was reprimanded for careless riding under AR137(a).

Spare Ticket- Raced keenly in the early and middle stages.

Quirimbas- Slow to begin.

RACE 6: Benchmark 60 Handicap 1900m:

Al Gerard- Bumped on several occasions near the 800m. Shifted out under pressure in the straight.

County Limerick- Rider J. Richards(a) stated his mount travelled fairly in the lead but commenced to give ground from the 600m and in his opinion had not run out the 1900m of the event. A post-race veterinary examination did not detect any abnormalities.

Pay the Ones- A pre-race veterinary examination of the gelding, which raced at Narrandera on Saturday 19 August 2017, found it suitable to race. Bumped on several occasions near the 800m.

Wilston- Slow to begin.

RACE 7: Class 2 Handicap 1050m:

Smart Al- Steadied when crowded near the 1000m.

Flying Cyril- Bumped on jumping.

Sheoak- Checked near the 1000m. At a subsequent inquiry, J. Pracey-Holmes was found guilty of a charge of careless riding under AR137(a) in that near the 1000m he did permit *Valorhesse* to shift in when insufficiently clear of *Flying Cyril*, which after initially laying in, was then carried inwards onto *Steve's Choice*, which in turn was carried in onto *Smart Al*, which was steadied and carried inwards onto *Dash of the Dart*, which was checked and carried in across the running of **Sheoak** which was checked. J. Pracey-Holmes's license to ride in races was suspended for a period to commence on Wednesday 30 August 2017 and to expire on Monday 11 September 2017, on which day he may ride.

Steve's Choice- Bumped on jumping. Crowded near the 1000m. Continually restrained in the middle stages when awkwardly placed on the heels of *Valorhesse*. Held up on home turn.

Zen Mistress- Was very fractious in the mounting yard, dislodging its rider and making heavy contact with the fencing before momentarily escaping from its handler. It was quickly captured and examined by the Club's veterinarian behind the barriers who found it suitable to race. Began very awkwardly and lost ground. Trainer R. Mutimer advised Stewards the mare would now be retired. Notwithstanding this advice, Mr Mutimer was told that should plans for **Zen Mistress** change it would be required to barrier trial to the satisfaction of Stewards before racing again.

Dash of the Dart- Checked when crowded near the 1000m.

Stewards noted the following riders exceeded the permissible strikes with the whip prior to the 100m under AR137A(5)(a)(ii)

Race 1	N. Burrells(a) (Little Temptations)	6 strikes
Race 2	J. Pracey-Holmes (Sarona Downs)	6 strikes
Race 6	B. Vale (Al Gerard)	6 strikes

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

General: Swab samples were taken from the following runners:

Race 1: Nishani Spirit, Patrika Belle

Race 2: Sarona Downs

Race 3: Rihsei, The Russian

Race 4: Yawkey Way

Race 5: Butler Butler

Race 6: Willy White Socks (2)

Race 7: Delivered

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Race 1: A. Chau- \$100- Unable to make weight on Currawong . AR120(b). Race 1: A. Fitzgerald- \$50- No TIC for Nishani Spirit . AR59A. Race 1: J. Pracey-Holmes- \$200- Use whip forward of shoulder on Single Red Rose . AR137A(4)(a). Race 2: C. Heywood- \$50- Late declaration of rider on Adolescent . LR35. Race 2: A. McRae- \$50- Late declaration of rider on Sarona Downs . LR35.
Reprimands:	Race 4: J. Richards(a)- Careless riding on Whiskey Business . AR137(a). Race 5: J. Richards(a)- Careless riding on Cipher . AR137(a).
Suspensions:	Race 7: J. Pracey-Homes- Suspended 30/8/17- 11/9/17. Careless riding on Valorhesse . AR137(a).
Warnings:	Race 1: Single Red Rose - Hung out. Race 1: Patrika Belle - Hung out.
Bleeders:	Nil.
Trials:	Race 7: Zen Mistress - To trial- Pre-race manners.
Certificates:	Nil.
Falls/Injuries:	Nil.
Change of Tactics:	Race 3- Nicotic - To be ridden forward from inside barrier. Led.