



THE MAURITIUS TURF CLUB
CHAMP DE MARS – PORT LOUIS

INTERIM REPORT – SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 2017

RACE 1 – THE MAURICE MARTIN CUP

Birds Eye View and **Captain Rockhopper** were slow to begin. Passing the 1500 metres **Line Of Sight** and **Gstaad** brushed, with **Line Of Sight** then shifting out, bumping **Mexican Sun**. **Birds Eye View** raced wide in the early stages. **Seventh Speed** and **Starsky** raced wide in the early and middle stages. **Gold Medalist** dipped at the 1365 metres and again near the 1150 metres. From leaving the 1300 metres **Captain Rockhopper**, which was over-racing, became awkward close to the heels of **Gold Medalist** and shifted out, momentarily carrying **Rebel Alliance** outwards onto **Seventh Speed**. Leaving the 1200 metres **Line Of Sight**, which was racing in a 3-wide position, was taken back and in to secure a position closer to the rail. **Gold Medalist** dipped at the 1365 metres and again near the 1150 metres. From approaching the 500 metres **Mexican Sun** commenced to give ground, resulting in **Gold Medalist**, which was racing on its inside being taken out to improve its position, with **Gold Medalist** racing wide from then onwards. Passing the 450 metres, **Gstaad** was taken out from behind **Birds Eye View**, at the same time **Starsky** improved on its outside with **Gstaad** contacting its hindquarters and turning it sideways. **Starsky** then shifted in, crowding **Gstaad** onto **Birds Eye View**. Approaching the 400 metres **Gstaad** commenced to give ground, resulting in **Captain Rockhopper**, which was following, becoming inconvenienced and having to be eased to continue going forward. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Mexican Sun** was lame on its off hind leg.

RACE 2 – THE AVIPRO CUP

Swinging Captain stood flat-footed and was slow out. **Bezamod** jumped awkwardly and shifted out, carrying **Emaar** onto **Seeking The Dream**. Passing the 400 metres **Swinging Captain** was taken out to improve its position and raced wide rounding the home turn. Approaching the 200 metres **Suzie's Arrow** was taken to the inside of **Bezamod** to secure clear running. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that an endoscopic examination of **Seeking The Dream**, which was coughing after the race, revealed traces of blood in its trachea.

RACE 3 – THE EASY PACK CUP

The start was delayed when **Midnight Man** was difficult to load and, after being loaded, became fractious, reared and flipped over. It was examined by the Club's Veterinary Surgeon and declared unfit to race. Acting on veterinary advice, the Stewards ordered its withdrawal. In view of this all bets on **Midnight Man** were ordered to be refunded and winning bets with bookmakers were paid less 20 cents per rupee, the average price of **Midnight Man** being 4/1. Shortly after, **Student Grant** became fractious and forced its gate open. It was quickly gathered and the gate was closed.

The Stewards not being satisfied with the performance of **Midnight Man** at the barriers, informed Assistant Trainer Y. Perdrau that **Midnight Man** should pass a barrier test to their satisfaction before being allowed to race again.

The Brass Bell was slow out. From its wide draw **Singita Sweni** was taken across to race behind runners. **Zen Master**, **Dark Force** and **Street Boy** raced wide in the early stages. From leaving the 1200 metres, for some distance, **Jungle Path** commenced to over-race and threw its head when being settled. From leaving the 1200 metres **Apres Ski** commenced to over-race and approaching the 1100 metres had to be eased when awkward close to the heels of **Street Boy** and when being eased, shifted out, bumping **Street Boy** with the latter shifting out and **Zen Master**, which was following, becoming inconvenienced and having to be steadied. Approaching the 900 metres **Dark Force** was taken out from behind **Jungle Path** and was allowed to stride forward to race closer to the lead. **Red China** dipped leaving the 400 metres. Leaving the 200 metres **Dark Force** was taken out from behind **Zen Master** to secure clear running. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Singita Sweni** was not striding out properly and that **Red China** was distressed after the race.

RACE 4 – THE HEAT'N EAT CUP

New Star and **Together Forever** were slow out. **Jolie Roger** and **Jama** contacted on jumping. Shortly after the start **Together Forever** was inconvenienced by **Our Jet**, which had jumped outwards. **No Resistance** dipped shortly after the start. **No Resistance** and **Together Forever** raced wide throughout. Approaching the 600 metres **Prince Lateral** shifted in, bumping the running rail. **New Star**, which was following, was inconvenienced when close to its heels. From leaving the 200 metres **Schachar** shifted in away from the whip, inconveniencing **Jolie Roger**, which had improved on its inside near the 150 metres. **Together Forever** hung in in the home straight. When questioned with regard to the apparent improved performance of **Our Jet**, trainer Narang explained that the gelding had pleased at track work, as such he expected a good run of it and gave it a good outside chance. He also stated that the fact that it was able to lead easily today and the field being a weaker one may have contributed to its improved performance.

RACE 5 – THE SA KI BON SA CUP

Hililyhililyhilo threw its head on jumping. **Navistar** jumped awkwardly and shifted out, contacting **Down Under**. **Moonlight Runner** raced wide throughout. From approaching the 1150 metres to leaving the 1000 metres, when the pace slowed, **Lee's Star** had to be steadied when awkward close to the heels of **Nottinghamshire**. **Hililyhililyhilo**, which was following, commenced to race fiercely and when being eased to avoid the heels of **Lee's Star**, threw its head and raced ungenerously for some distance. At an inquiry into this incident, apprentice Allyhosain (**Nottinghamshire**) pleaded guilty to a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (b) for excessively reducing the speed of his mount. Apprentice Allyhosain was fined Rs.20,000. Passing the 900 metres **Down Under** was allowed to stride forward to race closer to the lead. From leaving the 900 metres **Nottinghamshire** commenced to over-race and passing the 800 metres shifted in when settled, brushing the running rail. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Moonlight Runner** suffered a bleeding attack. The Stewards, acting on veterinary advice, informed trainer V. Allet that **Moonlight Runner** has been suspended for the remainder of the season.

RACE 6 – THE CHANTECLER CUP

Split The Breeze and **Do Be Happy** were slow into stride. Upon jumping **Do Be Happy** shifted in, bumping **Soldier's Code** with the latter shifting in and at the same time **Elite Class**, when being urged forward, shifted out, crowding **Soldier's Code** onto **Do Be Happy**. From its wide draw, **Memphis Mafia** was taken across to race behind runners. **Elite Class** and **Soldier's Code** raced wide in the early stages. **Soldier's Code** raced wide from the 500 metres. Approaching the 400 metres **Memphis Mafia** was taken out to improve its position and passing the 300 metres was taken out wider by **Do Be Happy**, which had come out from behind **Soldier's Code** to improve its position. Approaching the 200 metres **Argun**, which was hanging in, was taken to the inside of **Unbridled Joy** to continue going forward. From near the 150 metres **Unbridled Joy** hung out away from the whip. Approaching the 100 metres **Do Be Happy** shifted in under pressure despite jockey Bhaugerothee's attempt to straighten it, carrying **Soldier's Code** onto **Elite Class**. Jockey Bhaugerothee (**Do Be Happy**) was shown the video replays of this incident, reprimanded and told that he should straighten his mounts earlier than he did on this occasion.

RACE 7 – THE PANAGORA CUP

Acting on veterinary advice that **Antwerp** was unfit to race, the Stewards ordered its withdrawal at 12.45 p.m. today. In view of this, all bets on **Antwerp** were ordered to be refunded and betting with bookmakers was re-opened.

Wow Holiday was slow to begin. **Forward Drive** and **Rob's Jewel** contacted on jumping with **Forward Drive** shifting out. **Wow Holiday** then bumped **Forward Drive** on its hindquarters, turning it sideways, resulting in it becoming unbalanced. From leaving the 1300 metres **Forward Drive** commenced to over-race, throwing its head when being settled. **Ocean Drive South** and **Marron** raced wide in the early and middle stages. Passing the 600 metres **Le Clos** and **Steal A March** were cramped for room on the inside of **Marron** with **Steal A March** eventually having to be checked and losing its position. At an inquiry into this incident, jockey S. Bhundoo (**Marron**) was severely reprimanded and told that he should have done more to straighten his mount. Near 250 metres, when attempting a run into a tight gap between **Ocean Drive South** and **Marron**, **Valerin** brushed the hindquarters of **Ocean Drive South**, resulting in the latter becoming unbalanced and being turned sideways. **Ocean Drive South** then shifted in, crowding **Valerin**. Near the 150 metres **Steal A March**

had to steady when attempting a run into a tight gap between **Le Clos** and **Wow Holiday**. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Marron** was lame on the off fore leg and that an endoscopic examination of **Rob's Jewel**, which was coughing after the race, revealed traces of blood in its trachea.

RACE 8 – THE PACIFIC OCEAN CUP

Acting on veterinary advice that **Tigre Libre** was unfit to race, the Stewards ordered its withdrawal at 8.00 a.m. on Friday. In view of this, all bets on **Tigre Libre** were ordered to be refunded and betting with bookmakers was re-opened.

Billy Bojangles hung in in the home straight. **A P Strike** and **Kentucky Bluegrass** were slow to begin. **My Man Alex** and **Saracen King** jumped outwards with **My Man Alex** bumping **Power Dive**. Leaving the 1100 metres **My Man Alex** commenced to over-race and had to be eased when awkward close to the heels of **Saracen King**. **A P Strike** raced fiercely in the early and middle stages, throwing its head raced ungenerously when being settled. **A P Strike** raced wide from approaching the 300 metres. Passing the 300 metres **Billy Bojangles** was taken out to improve its position and raced wide rounding the home turn.

When questioned with regard to the alleged improved performance of **Gondwana**, Assistant Trainer S. Gujadhur explained that after its last start this gelding had improved and had pleased in the lead up to the race. He added that as it was racing in a weaker field today he expected a better run from the latter. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **My Man Alex** was not striding out properly after the race.