



THE MAURITIUS TURF CLUB
CHAMP DE MARS – PORT LOUIS

INTERIM REPORT – SATURDAY 11 JUNE 2016

RACE 1 – THE PIERRE HUGNIN CUP

Mighty Lion, which was restless in its gate prior to the start being effected, jumped awkwardly and was slow out. **Absalom** and **Brandewyn** were slow to begin. Shortly after the start **Alberts Day** shifted in, bumping **Brandewyn**. Following this incident **Alberts Day** continued to hang in, crowding **Brandewyn** near the 1700 metres. Leaving the 1700 metres **Leo's Rush** shifted out when close to the running rails, bumping **Dunraven** on its hindquarter, unbalancing the latter. From approaching the 1600 metres **Alberts Day** was taken out and raced wide from then onwards until leaving the 1300 metres. For some distance approaching the 1600 metres **Mighty Lion** raced tight on the inside of **Dunraven**. Jockey Ghunowa (**Absalom**) dropped his whip near the 800 metres.

When questioned with regard to the poor performance of **Mighty Lion**, jockey Rama explained that he expected a good run from this gelding today and was instructed to lead or race close to the lead; however, after jumping awkwardly, he found himself further back than expected and although travelling well in the early stages, after securing a position on the fence behind the leaders, his mount dropped the bit approaching the 800 metres. He added that despite being urged forward approaching the 600 metres, **Mighty Lion** failed to respond and was very disappointing. A subsequent veterinary examination of **Mighty Lion** revealed no abnormality. An inquiry into the handling of **Bright And Blue** was adjourned to Tuesday morning.

RACE 2 – THE HOLIDAY INN MAURITIUS MON TRESOR SOUVENIR CUP

The race was delayed when **Roman Express** had to be re-saddled behind the stalls. **Ted Bassett** jumped outwards brushing the left side of its gate. **In The Trenches** jumped awkwardly and shifted out, bumping **Roman Express**. **Artful Prince** jumped awkwardly and shifted in despite jockey Neisius's attempt to straighten it and carried **Istiqraar** onto **Top Of The Chocs**, at the same time **Navistar** when being urged forward, shifted out onto **Corker Stalker** with the latter bumping its hindquarter and turning it sideways. **Navistar** then shifted out onto **Corker Stalker** with the latter becoming badly cramped for room and having to be checked. Following this incident, **Navistar** continued to shift out slightly, inconveniencing **Top Of The Chocs**. Jockey Ghunowa (**Navistar**) was shown the video replays of the start, reprimanded and told to straighten his mounts when they shift ground. **Istiqraar** raced wide without cover in the early stages. **Artful Prince** raced wide without cover throughout the race. Leaving the 400 metres **Triad Of Fortune** was taken out from behind **Istiqraar**, which had commenced to give ground and raced wide from then onwards. From leaving the 300 metres **Ted Bassett**, which was endeavouring to improve into a tight gap between **Top Of The Chocs** and **Artful Prince**, clipped the heels of **Top Of The Chocs** near the 250 metres and stumbled badly. From leaving the 200 metres **Triad Of Fortune** hung out away from the whip, resulting in jockey Rama stopping to ride with the whip near the 100 metres and straightening his mount.

RACE 3 – THE OMNICANE SUGARS & ETHANOL SOUVENIR CUP

At the start **Hot Rocket**, which was standing awkwardly, threw its head and was slow out. **Phiri E Kwatile** hesitated at the start and raced wide without cover in the early stages. Leaving the 1300 metres **Beacon Flare** became awkward close to the heels of **Mr Leyend** and was taken out and, in doing so, carried **Red Rain** outwards onto the heels of **Phiri E Kwatile**, which was improving on its outside. From leaving the 200 metres **Hot Rocket** commenced to shift in under pressure and, approaching the 100 metres, crowded **Phiri E Kwatile** when insufficiently clear, with the latter having to be checked, and shortly after **Hot Rocket** continued to shift in, crowding **Max Rapax** with the latter having to be steadied. At an inquiry into this incident, jockey Bardottier (**Hot Rocket**) pleaded guilty to a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (e) for careless riding and was suspended from riding in races for two Mauritian race meetings. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Red Rain** was not striding out properly on its hind legs.

RACE 4 – THE OMNICANE LOGISTICS CUP

Red Hot Poker and **Zambezi Torrent** were slow to begin. Approaching the 900 metres **Zhan Hu** was taken out to avoid the heels of **Papa Joe**. Passing the 600 metres **Forward Drive** had difficulty in negotiating the turn, shifted out and became awkward close to the heels of **Papa Joe**. **Kimberly Al** raced wide from leaving the 400 metres. **Chosen Dash** hung in in the home straight. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Zambezi Torrent** suffered a bleeding attack and an endoscopic examination of **Chosen Dash**, which was coughing after the race, revealed blood in its trachea.

RACE 5 – THE ALBIOMA SOUVENIR CUP

Leaving the 1300 metres **League Of Legends** was taken out when awkward close to the heels of **Freedom**. **League Of Legends** was then taken back in, resulting in **Melson**, which was following, becoming cramped for galloping room, clipping its heels, stumbling and nearly dislodging jockey David. At an inquiry into this incident, jockey Naiko (**League Of Legends**) pleaded guilty to a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (e) for careless riding and was suspended from riding in races for two Mauritian race meetings but taking into consideration his clean record under this rule, his suspension was reduced to one Mauritian race meeting. Following this incident, **League Of Legends** was taken back outwards and raced wide from then onwards. From leaving the 450 metres **Freedom** commenced to give ground, inconveniencing **League Of Legends** which was following. **League Of Legends** hung in in the home straight. The Club's Veterinary Surgeon reported that **Canadian Club** was lame on the off fore leg.

RACE 6 – THE Omnicane MAURITIUS GUINEAS CUP

Following the running of the race, the Stewards sounded the inquiry sign and viewed the video replays of the start. It was established that prior to the start being effected **Cherish The Charm** had moved forward in its gate, pushing its nose against the left side gate with its muzzle being caught in between the bars on top of the gate, resulting in the left gate not opening when the start was effected, **Cherish The Charm** then jumped awkwardly, losing considerable ground at the start. The Stewards, being of the opinion that there was no human or mechanical error, decided not to proceed further and correct weight was declared on the Judges' semaphored numbers.

M L Jet jumped awkwardly and shifted in, inconveniencing **Cherish The Charm**. Passing the 1500 metres **M L Jet** was taken out from behind **Night In Seattle** and, in doing so, inconvenienced **Mucajai**. Leaving the 1300 metres **Rampant Ice** became awkward close to the heels of **Chester's Wish**, shifted out, bumping **Night In Seattle**, which was racing on its outside. **M L Jet**, which was following, became inconvenienced and had to be steadied and taken out to avoid the heels of **Night In Seattle**. Leaving the 1000 metres **M L Jet** was taken out and allowed to stride forward to race closer to the lead. Passing the 600 metres **M L Jet** changed legs and shifted in, inconveniencing **Night In Seattle**. **Rampant Ice** was taken out from approaching the 300 metres and raced wide rounding the home turn. **Night In Seattle** hung in in the home straight and proved very difficult to be properly assisted.

RACE 7 – THE MON TRESOR SMART CITY SOUVENIR CUP

The race was delayed when **Straight Jab** forced its gate and broke through. It was quickly reigned back in and re-loaded. The Stewards, being of the opinion that the performance of **Straight Jab** at the start was unsatisfactory, informed Assistant Trainer N. Dupavillon that this gelding will need to pass several barrier trials to their satisfaction before being allowed to race again.

Following the running of the race, the Stewards sounded the inquiry sign and viewed the video replays of the start. It was established that when the start was effected **Jiggery Pokery** froze and refused to jump. The Stewards, being of the opinion that **Jiggery Pokery** was in a position to jump with the field, declared it a runner. The Stewards, being of the opinion that the performance of **Jiggery Pokery** at the start was unsatisfactory, informed Trainer S. Narang that this gelding will need to pass a barrier trial to their satisfaction before being allowed to race again.

Jiggery Pokery was slow out. **The Deacon**, which was laying on the right side of its gate, was slow out, losing considerable ground. **Barnstable** raced wide without cover in the early and middle stages. From leaving the 800 metres **The Deacon** was taken out and allowed to improve on the outside of runners to race closer to the pace.