

## RACING STEWARDS' 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 to improve its position and raced wide until leaving the 1300 metres. For some distance approaching the 1600 metres **Mighty Lion** raced tight on the inside of **Dunraven**. From leaving the 1000 metres **Brandewyn** was taken out and urged forward to race closer to the lead. 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 was held into the handling of **Bright And Blue**. Trainer J. M. Henry explained that he instructed apprentice Roy from his wide draw to endeavour to jump and, if possible, place his mount in front of **Absalom** in case that gelding was slow, otherwise settle at the back of the field and wait until the 400 metres for his best effort. Apprentice Roy confirmed these instructions and explained that he could not improve on the inside of **Absalom** leaving the 1500 metres as he was apprehensive that the latter would come in towards the running rails and crowd him. He also explained that from leaving the 1000 metres, he decided against improving his position and he was mindful of instructions given by Mr. Henry to settle his mount at the back of the field. He also said that had he improved his position from the 400 metres, he would have run wide. Mr. Henry disagreed with apprentice Roy's explanations and expressed concerns as to the way he had ridden **Bright And Blue**. After consideration, apprentice Roy was found guilty of a breach of MTC Rule 160 A (a) for failing to take all reasonable and permissible measures to ensure that, throughout the race, his mount was given full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible place in the field, the particulars being: (a) that from passing the 1500 metres until approaching the 1300 metres, when it was reasonable and permissible to improve on the inside of **Absalom** and bridge the gap with the field, he failed to do so and instead kept restraining his mount; b) when it was reasonable and permissible to bridge the gap with the field from leaving the 1000 metres and improve his position, he failed to do so and instead over-restrained his mount finding himself at least 12 lengths from the leader in the back straight; c) when it was reasonable and permissible to urge his mount forward from passing the 400 metres, he failed to do so, only asking it for an effort passing the 300 metres. Apprentice Roy was suspended from riding in 8 races reserved for Mauritian riders.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Alberts Day** and **Mighty Lion** after the race.

## **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.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Navistar** after the race.

## **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, shifted in, crowding **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.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Mr Leyend** after the race.

## **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 and leaving the 200 metres was taken out from behind **Zhan Hu** to secure clear running. 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.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Streetbouncer** after the race.

## **RACE 5 – THE ALBIOMA SOUVENIR CUP**

**Canadian Club** jumped awkwardly, shifted in, brushing the right side of its gate. **Obligation** was slow out and, from its wide draw, was taken across to race behind runners. 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. **Canadian Club**, which was following, was inconvenienced and taken out to avoid the heels of **Melson**. 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. An inquiry was held into the handling of **Freedom**. Trainer Allet explained that he instructed jockey Boutanive to endeavour to jump and insist for the lead over the first 75 metres and, if unable to lead, to settle his mount on the outside of the leader and let the gelding run in its pace and decide where to move from. Jockey Boutanive confirmed these instructions and explained that after jumping well he insisted for the lead with **Tornado Man**, on his inside, also insisting for the lead. He added that from approaching the 1400 metres he realised that jockey Mansour (**Tornado Man**) had stopped urging his mount, seeing that he was marginally in front of **Tornado Man** he decided to ask **Freedom** a little more of an effort to secure the lead and did so until passing the 1300 metres where he realised that he would not be able to do so. When questioned, jockey Boutanive acknowledged that he might have overdone his instructions. Trainer Allet concurred. When further questioned, jockey Boutanive explained that from leaving the 700 metres **Freedom** commenced to tire and had a tendency to shift in, resulting in him having to pull on his left rein in view to keep his mount on a straight course.

After consideration, jockey Boutanive:

(1) pleaded guilty to a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (i) for failing to ride **Freedom** to the satisfaction of the Racing Stewards in that after having insisted for the lead over the first 75 metres as instructed, approaching the 1500 metres he failed to settle his mount but kept niggling the latter until past the 1300 metres. He was suspended from riding in races for two Mauritian race meetings;

(2) was found guilty of a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (f) for altering the course of his mount so as to favour another runner, the particulars being that passing the 600 metres he took his mount out, with **Cinchona**, his stable companion which was racing on his inside behind **Tornado Man**, being able to come out and improve its position. He was suspended from riding in races for three Mauritian race meetings, this suspension to run consecutively.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Cinchona** after the race.

## **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** to improve its position and, in doing so, inconvenienced **Mucajai**. Approaching the winning post **Night In Seattle** shifted in despite jockey Joorawon's attempt to straighten it and inconvenienced **M L Jet**. Passing 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. An inquiry was held into the handling of **M L Jet**. Jockey Mansour explained that he was instructed to endeavour to lead but if **Cherish The Charm**, which was drawn on his inside, insisted for the lead, to settle his mount behind the latter. He added that after being sluggish at the start and seeing that **Cherish The Charm** had missed the start and that **Rampant Ice**, which was already in front of him, was insisting for the lead, he then decided to keep his mount in the one off position to give himself the option of improving around runners so as not to get boxed in. He added that from leaving the 1000 metres, seeing that the pace had slackened, he took his mount out and improved around **Night In Seattle** to race closer to the lead. When questioned, he explained that he did not bring his mount back approaching the 800 metres but when he improved on the outside of **Cherish The Charm**, jockey David improved the tempo of the race, which created a gap between **M L Jet** and **Cherish The Charm**, he thus decided to let his mount run in its pace. He added that when asked for an effort leaving the 450 metres, **M L Jet** felt sluggish and stayed one pace to the finish. After consideration, the Stewards decided not to proceed with their inquiry other than to note his explanations.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from **Cherish The Charm** after the race.

## **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. When questioned, both the Starter and jockey Ghunowa stated that **Jiggery Pokery** 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. Approaching the 600 metres **Barnstable** shied away and shifted in, crowding **Agincourt** when **The Deacon** improved on its outside. An inquiry was held into the handling of **The Deacon**. Trainer Rousset explained that this gelding had pleased in the lead up to the race, as such he was expecting a good run of the latter. He added that this gelding had shown some pace in South Africa, as such he instructed jockey David to endeavour to jump and get the gelding into the race and secure a position just behind the leaders. Jockey David explained that being sluggish at the start he found himself racing further back in the field than expected. He added that after studying the form of **The Deacon** and seeing that it is a one-paced horse in South Africa, from leaving the 700 metres he elected to pull out and let his mount improve on the outside of runners to race closer to the lead. He further added that when asked for an effort leaving the 400 metres **The Deacon** quickened for some distance but stayed one pace from half way down the home straight, finishing second. After consideration, the Stewards decided not to proceed with their inquiry other than to note their explanations.

Routine urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from Smitten after the race.

## **GENERAL**

Blood specimens were taken from all runners prior to the race.

Stéphane de Chalais  
Chief Stipendiary Steward