

Portmarnock March 21st Stewards Report

Stewards: P Clarke, D Sheehy, J O'Sullivan, J Levis, M Behan, A Gosson

Race 1; 5 runners; No driving changes.

The stewards interviewed O Quill regarding his driving in the first half of the race setting a slow quarter 34.9 and half 1.09.9, causing horses to pile up behind him -Rule M4(g). The stewards were satisfied with his explanation on this occasion and received a cautioned regarding this and any similar offence by him will result in a penalty.

Race 2; 3 runners; No driving changes.

Diplomatist made a break from stride going to the $\frac{3}{4}$ pole as the driver seemed to have a problem pulling plugs but came back trotting after 6 strides.

Race 3; 6 runners; No driving changes.

Umbratica made a break but came back down trotting within his threshold.

Race 4; 4 runners; No driving changes.

No issues in this race

Race 5; 6 runners; No driving changes

In the last quarter of the race Awesome Dude and Meadowbranch Dynasty running side by side both made a break at the same time, the stewards looked at this on the re-run and there did not appear to be any contact between horse causing either to go off stride no action needed to be taken against any of the drivers.

Notes on Whip Ruling: The stewards were satisfied with the general use of the whip during race day. It must be noted that rein use is permitted but not in surplus amounts as was the case in some incidents.

Clarification on rule L12 (a): Where a horse has drawn a post position in the second line, the driver of such horse may elect to start the race behind any horse in the first line so long as he does not thereby interfere with another trailing horse or deprive another trailing horse of a drawn position.