

## Portmarnock April 25<sup>th</sup> Stewards Report

Stewards: P Clarke, J O Sullivan, M. Behan, A. Gosson, J Levis

**Race 1;** 3 runners; No driving changes

No.2 hallow way road broke at start causing false start. Moved to the outside for rerun.  
No other issues reported in this race.

**Race 2;** 3 runners; No driving changes

No issues reported in this race.; This race had randomly being selected for a post race integrity sample. Winner tested.

**Race 3;** 8 runners; Non-runner, No.1 Flatteur;

1 Driver Change: N Ryan replaces J Richardson on No.3 Biniou De Beuvron

E Murphy collided with N Ryan at the first bend after the start ,when stewards asked for an explanation he replied that he thought he was clear and moved in. He was accompanied by Mr D Murphy (as an observer). He received a caution regarding his driving.

**Race 4;** 6 runners; Non-runner one No.6 European; No driving changes

C Broughan misuse of whip; Under new ruling he was fined €100 and received 1 day's suspension  
No other issues reported in this race.

**Race 5;** 6 runners; No driving changes

An incident on the back straight involving D Murphy and L Kelleher. D Murphy tried to pass on the inside on the back straight after viewing the race on video (head on footage), it would appear there was insufficient room for this manoeuvre. No other issues reported in this race.

**Race 6;** 7 runners; Non-Runners; No.1 Meadowbranch Dynasty & No. 6 Beat The Clock; No driving changes

Paddock Stewards reported J Cowden kicking horse in the home straight after viewing race on video it was clear that he had difficulty pulling plugs and there was no need to take it any further. No other issues reported in this race.

**Race 7;** 6 runners; No driving changes

No issues reported in this race

**Race 8;** 4 runners; No driving changes

Driver D Timlin driving with one leg down throughout race and cautioned on this.

**Additional Matters Discussed:**

Following issues raised by stakeholders relating to the delays around the starting of the race, the following was agreed: The starting car will leave the paddock and make its way to the finish line 5 minutes before each race and will leave for the pick-up point 2 minutes before post time. There is an equal responsibility on all drivers to move to the pick-up point on time and should any driver not be at this point, the starter will not wait.

The stewards will be requesting a meeting with the stakeholders soon to discuss drivers driving horses into spaces where insufficient room exists (passing on the inside) as there has been several occasions that this has occurred already in 2021 season. The officials are extremely worried that should this practice continue, a serious and dangerous accident is awaiting.