

Annaghmore 3/9/23

Race 1 G1 & G2 Pace 1m

All 5 ran. No driver changes.

Following a report from the Starter, Ivan Swindle, that J Cowden (Long Island Art) wouldn't come on to the gate when requested to do so, Senior Steward P Clarke requested a report from J Cowden as to why he didn't. Driver J Cowden stated that as his horse was a G1 horse against 3 other G graded horses he felt he should have trailed 10yds and felt safer to do so then perhaps start from the wrong draw. P Clarke was happy with his explanation and it went no further.

Race 2 C, D & E Trot 1.5m

5 runners, non runner No3 Best of Burois. The following driver changes took place:-

J Cowden replaced P Kane jr on Boyardo

A Corey replaced J Nixon on Brooklyn Trixie

Boyardo was unplaced for having galloped over the line.

Race 3 G1 & G2 Pace 1m

4 runners, non runner No5 Forever Amour.

The following driver changes took place:-

J Cowden replaced J Nixon on Ballycoan Aron

J Stewart replaced W Stewart on Letsgettoit

Driver J Cowden had his leg down up the home straight which incurs a €25 fine

Race 4 E & F Pace 1m

All 10 ran. No driver changes.

True Matter was added to the race (originally entered but omitted from card) to be driven by Luke Timlin and wore number cloth 10. This resulted in a redraw. True Matter drew 2 on the gate.

Driver L Timlin was deemed by the stewards to have used his whip 10 times in the last quarter mile when the limit is 8 but had no shoulder action so L Timlin was cautioned.

Race 5 E, F & G Trot 1.5m

4 runners. Non runners No1 Hidden Love & No6 Cyclone Decouriere.

Corail de Bellande was unplaced for exceeding his stride allowance.

The stewards held an inquiry into the break of Franchan de Roche, placed second, driven by A Corey when it appeared that Franchan de Roche may have been impeded by the winner Helios de Lara on the final bend. Drivers S Duggan, J Caffrey & A Corey were interviewed. S Duggan stated that he was upsides Franchan de Roche and that to the best of his sight J Caffrey had maintained the same racing line throughout the race and left no gap big enough to be under taken.

J Caffrey was asked was he aware of a horse on his inside and he stated he wasn't until he heard the bang off his wheel. When asked, he did state that he heard a shout to keep out but that he was on top and felt he hadn't left a gap.

A Corey when asked admitted he tried to pass on the inside of Helios de Lara. When asked he admitted that although there may have been room for his horse there was not enough room for his cart if Helios de Lara were to maintain that line. Driver A Corey when pressed could not see the danger that he had put himself & those around him in by attempting that pass. Upon review of the incident it appears that A Corey may have left the track in his attempt at the pass and that incident has been referred on to the review panel for a closer watch...

Having viewed the recording of the race and listened to the evidence the stewards allowed the result to stand on the day, however, due to the repeated infringements from A Corey in a short space of time, Driver A Corey's disciplinary record has been referred on to the integrity committee for a full review to take place sometime before racing commences in Annaghmore on Sept 10th.

Driver S Duggan was deemed to have used his whip 10 times above the limit of 8 times in the last quarter mile with no shoulder action so is fined €75 & 1 days whip ban.

Race 6 A1, A, B, C, D & E Pace 1m

All 8 ran. No driver changes. No issues.

Race 7 A1, A & B Trot 1.5m

All 4 ran, no driver changes.

An inquiry was held into the first quarter of this race where it appeared that Driver M Loughran deliberately slowed the race when on top and allowed himself to be over taken and then sat off the leader. The first quarter was 35seconds. At no point in the race did it appear that M Loughran asked his horse to chase down or go after the leader. Driver M Loughran was asked for his response and when questioned stated that his horse Elysium D'Ostal does not stay the distance of 1.5m. He stated he was flat out the whole way. He also pointed to the fact that he was driving without a whip due to suspension.

Having watched the recording of the race, listened to the evidence, the stewards have fined M Loughran €100 for breaching rule M4 (G) and the stewards have also deemed the run of Elysium D'Ostal not to have fulfilled the standard expected in order to be considered for a grade drop so Elysium D'Ostal's run on the 3-9-23 will count for the purpose of the form book and prizemoney but will not count towards 1 of the 6 needed for a grade drop.