

Aerator

Stewards Summary

Review of race:

Aerator was pulled up abruptly shortly after the start near the 7/8 pole and required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians and the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

Kenneth McPeek said that the horse was sent to him to train in spring of 2022 from another Kentucky trainer. This transfer occurred before the horse had raced. He stated that the horse had not required much vet work, but that he was treated for a foot abscess in the weeks preceding the race on January 27. He said that the horse had never had an intra-articular injection or x-ray while in his care, and that there had been no issue with the horse's ankles. He stated that he had horses in training at Turfway Park during the meet without any other incident and that he had not previously had any other horse injured on any synthetic surface.

Jockey:

Santiago Gonzalez stated that he had never been aboard the horse in a morning workout or race. The rider said that the horse warmed up ok in the post parade and that he had no concern riding him. He noted that the track was in good shape on the day of the incident.

Veterinary Review

- This 3-year-old colt, owned by Patty Tipton and trained by Kenneth McPeek, ran at Turfway Park on January 27, 2023 in a Maiden Special Weight race. This race was run at 1 mile over a fast Tapita track.
- This colt pulled up in the first turn with a catastrophic injury. The KHRC veterinarian and the horse ambulance responded. A Kimzey splint was applied, and the horse loaded onto the ambulance. The colt was euthanized due to the severe nature of his injuries and a poor prognosis.
- The body was submitted to the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for necropsy.

Review of pre-race exam findings and exam history

- A review of pre-race exam findings for the Case horse and unaffected cohorts (Controls) from the same race was performed. These horses were lightly to moderately campaigned in their racing careers. Pre-race exam findings were consistent with horses at this stage of their careers. All horses in this race were deemed sound in the pre-race exams with no persistent gait abnormalities noted. Scrutiny during the warmup on track prior to the race revealed no persistent gait abnormalities.

Review of the 60-day treatment report

The trainer's veterinarian provided veterinary records for the previous 60 days. Veterinary work was minimal and routine.

Analysis of risk factors and other criteria (case horse compared to uninjured cohorts)

- Age at first start
Case horse: 986 days
Controls range: 853-1064 days
Controls mean: 971 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 907 days
Controls range: 679-964 days
Controls mean: 841 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 1/27/2023
Case horse: 1096 days
Controls range: 979-1092 days
Controls mean: 1051 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: No
Controls horses: No: 7/10, Yes: 3/10
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 10/10
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 189 days
Controls range: 80-325 days
Controls mean: 210 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 103.5 f
Controls range: 46-127.5 f
Controls mean: 82 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)

Case horse: .548 f/day
Control horses range: .173-.600 f/day
Control mean: .430 f/day
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 29 days
Control horses range: 22-71 days
Control horses mean: 37 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- First time starter?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/10, Yes: 2/10
- Apprentice Jockey?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 10/10
- Drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 9/10, Yes: 1/10
- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 10/10
- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 10/10
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 10/10
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 0: 4/10, 1: 6/10
- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 0: 3/10 1: 6/10, 2: 1/10
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 16.5 f
Control horses range: 8-18 f
Control horses mean: 14 f

Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 29.5 f
Control horses range: 20-36.5 f
Control horses mean: 26.7 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 0: 4/10, 1: 2/10, 2: 4/10
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 9/10, Yes: 1/10
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 9/10, Yes: 1/10
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: N/A
Control horses range (n=2) 71-133 days
Control horses mean: 102 days
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/10, Yes 2/10 one for meds and one for ECSW.

Review of necropsy and Drug Testing results

- **Drug testing:** No prohibited substances detected. No therapeutic medication detected above regulatory threshold concentrations.

Note: Only blood was submitted for analysis. Urine collection does not usually occur for horses euthanized. The diagnostic laboratory is instructed to collect urine if it is present in the horse's bladder, but it rarely is. While a blood-only sample is subjected to the broadest scope of analysis possible, that scope is reduced compared to what can be applied to a paired blood/urine sample

- **Necropsy report:**

Musculo-skeletal diagnosis: Left forelimb: There was an open comminuted lateral condylar fracture, biaxial sesamoid fractures, and a comminuted fracture of the first phalanx. There was severe soft tissue damage.

Lungs: Moderate, multifocal, acute hemorrhage.

Stomach: Multifocal locally extensive, ulceration of the squamous mucosa.

No significant lesions of the brain or heart.

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:** This horse had been treated for a foot abscess in the two weeks prior to the race. The exam notes show no persistent lameness from the abscess.
- **Race specific factors:** None
- **Other factors:** None