

Sir Winsalot

Stewards Summary

Sir Winsalot was racing near the back of the field when he was pulled up abruptly near the 3/8 pole. It was apparent that horse had suffered an injury to his right foreleg and required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians who attended to the horse and loaded him into the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

Kenny McPeek stated that he purchased the horse as a yearling. The horse raced 5 times as a two-year old, fractured his cannon bone in a workout and had surgery in the fall of 2019. McPeek put the horse back in training after the layoff and determined that he wanted to give him more time off. He began breezing at the track in Florida in August 2020 and on the turf at the farm to prepare for this race. The horse had returned sound from his previous injury and required minimal veterinary care. McPeek commented that the turf course was yielding.

Jockey:

Brian Hernandez, Jr. stated that he had previously ridden the horse several times in the summer of 2019 at Churchill Downs and at Ellis Park. He said that this was the first start back for the horse after a year layoff. He stated that he took the horse away from the pony to warm him up and that he warmed up fine and felt like he had the previous times he had ridden him. He said that the horse was on the fence and just starting his run when the incident occurred suddenly. He stated that the turf course was yielding and uneven that day, but did not speculate on the cause of the injury.

Veterinary Review

- This 3 year-old gelding, owned by Tommie Lewis and Magdalena Racing, raced at Churchill Downs on October 31st, 2020 in the 4th race, a claiming race for \$40,000 run at 1 mile on a yielding turf course.
- The gelding was racing near the back of the pack on the rail when the incident took place near the 3/8 pole. The rider pulled the horse up and dismounted. The on track KHRC vet summoned the ambulance and administered a sedative/analgesic to assist loading onto the ambulance. Radiographs were taken by the private veterinarian and after consultation the decision was made to euthanize the horse due to the severity of the injuries and a poor prognosis.
- The body was submitted to 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 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 gait abnormalities.

Review of the 60-day treatment report

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

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

- Age at first start
Case horse: 785 days
Controls range: 797-947 days
Controls mean: 878 days
Comments: Just below the range of cohorts.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 713 days
Controls range: 740-876 days
Controls mean: 800 days
Comments: Below the range of cohorts.
- Age on 10/31/2020
Case horse: 1290 days
Controls range: 1277-1374 days
Controls mean: 1305 days
Comments: In the range of cohorts.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: No
Controls horses: No: 8/9, Yes: 1/9
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/9, Yes: 1/9
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 567 days
Controls range: 430-579 days
Controls mean: 505 days
Comment: In the range of cohorts.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 125 f
Controls range: 178.5-272 f
Controls mean: 220 f
Comments: Below cohorts. This is due to the year off the trainer informed us about due to injury as a 2 year-old.

- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
Case horse: .220 f/day
Control horses range: .343-.486 f/day
Control mean: .437 f/day
Comments: Below cohorts. See comment above.
- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 371days
Control horses range: 18-57 days
Control horses mean: 30 days
Comment: Below cohorts. See comment above
- First time starter?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 9/9
- Apprentice Jockey?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 9/9
- Drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 3/9, Yes: 5/9
- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 4/9, Yes: 5/9
- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 7/9, Yes: 2/9
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 9/9
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 2/9, 1: 7/9
- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 1: 5/9, 2: 4/9

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 14
Control horses range: 8-16.5
Control horses mean: 12.7
Comments: In the range of cohorts.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 24
Control horses range: 20.5-35.5
Control horses mean: 27.2
Comments: In the range of cohorts
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 2: 5/9, 3: 1/9, 4: 2/9, 5:1/9
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 9/9
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: N/A
Control horses: No: 8/9, Yes: 1/9
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 371
Control horses range (n=6) 71-188 days
Control horses mean: 109
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 7/9, Yes: 2/9, 1 for lameness, 1 for EIPH.

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: R forelimb: Closed comminuted fracture of the first phalanx. There was a large amount of hemorrhage and edema in the fetlock and pastern. There was a healed lateral condylar fracture secured with lag screws.

There was mild, diffuse, hyperkeratosis of the squamous mucosa of the stomach.

No significant lesions of the brain, heart, liver, kidney, spleen, lungs, small and large intestines.

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:**

This horse was coming off a year plus lay-off due to the reported injury. This is a factor which elicits extra scrutiny by the regulatory veterinarians. The horse had a good number of recorded works and showed no lameness in the pre-race exam and warmup.

- **Race specific factors:**

No race specific factors in regards to this fatality.

- **Other factors:**

The turf course was yielding on the day of the incident.