

Tormenta

Stewards Summary

Tormenta was laying second a few lengths off the leader for most of the race and was pulled up abruptly near the 1/8 pole. It was apparent that she had suffered an injury to her left hind leg and required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians and the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

Larry Jones stated that the filly was purchased as a yearling by the sister of his exercise rider. Jones had her in training since last spring, and she was training at Churchill Downs during the September meet. The filly had not required any time off and raced and worked consistently. She had no physical problems, but she was quite a nervous filly. The track was fast and in good condition that day.

Jockey:

Adam Beschizza stated that he had not previously ridden the filly. He said she warmed up fine in the post parade and had no concern about her soundness. He said that the track was in perfect condition and he thought he had a chance to make the lead when the injury occurred without warning.

Veterinary Review

- This 3 year-old filly, owned by Sandra Nava and trained by J. Larry Jones, raced at Churchill Downs on September 27th, 2020 in the first race, a Maiden claiming race for \$30,000, run at 1 1/16th miles on a fast main track.
- The filly was racing near the lead when she pulled up at the 1/8th pole. The on track KHRC veterinarian summoned the ambulance and administered a sedative/analgesic to assist in loading on the ambulance and minimize further injury. She was taken to her barn where radiographs were taken by the private veterinarian. After consultation the decision was made to euthanize due to the extent of her 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 very minimal and routine.

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

- Age at first start
Case horse: 1105 days
Controls range: 995-1213 days
Controls mean: 1129 days
Comments: In the range of cohorts.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 881 days
Controls range: 780-915days
Controls mean: 837 days
Comments: In the range of cohorts.
- Age on 9/27/2020
Case horse: 1305 days
Controls range: 1243-1333 days
Controls mean: 1295 days
Comments: In the range of cohorts.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: No
Controls horses: No: 3/5, Yes: 2/5
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/5, Yes: 1/5
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 424 days
Controls range: 392-499 days
Controls mean: 458 days
Comment: In the range of cohorts.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 158
Controls range: 65.5-199.5
Controls mean: 131
Comments: In the range of cohorts
- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
Case horse: .373 f/day
Control horses range: .167-.405 f/day
Control mean: .343 f/day
Comments: In the range of cohorts.

- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 10 days
Control horses range: 9-50 days
Control horses mean: 33.8 days
Comment: In the range of cohorts.
- First time starter?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Apprentice Jockey?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 3/5, Yes: 2/5
- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/5, Yes: 1/5
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 4/5, 1: 1/5
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 0: 3/5, 1: 2/5
- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 2
Control horses: 1: 4/5, 2: 1/5
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 13.5
Control horses range: 5-14
Control horses mean: 11.2
Comments: In the range of cohorts.

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 31.5
Control horses range: 17-30.5
Control horses mean: 23.9
Comments: Slightly above cohorts
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 3
Control horses: 2: 4/5, 3: 1/5
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/5, Yes: 1/5
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 66
Control horses range (n=2) 63-169 days
Control horses mean: 116
Control horses median: N/A
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: Yes, for unsound in 2019
Control horses: No: 3/5, Yes: 2/5, 2 for EIPH. Note: The EIPH Vets List notations were prior to going to another state. This allows the horses to race on furosemide. No epistaxis was noted on any of these horses.

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: L hindlimb: Lateral displaced condylar fracture and biaxial sesamoid fractures. Severe soft tissue damage. Moderate hemorrhage and edema of the distal limb.

There was moderate extensive ulceration of the squamous mucosa of the stomach.

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

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:**

There were no horse specific factors in regards to this fatality.

- **Race specific factors:**

No race specific factors in regards to this fatality.

- **Other factors:**

There were several horses in this field which had minor gait abnormalities noted on morning exam which they warmed up out of. This is not an uncommon finding. This is a factor which elicits extra scrutiny by the regulatory veterinarians during the warmups in the post parade. All horses warmed up fine.