Into Morocco

Stewards Summary
Into Morocco broke well and ran evenly down the backside, began to fade slightly in mid-stretch and finished fifth. The jockey dismounted the horse upon pulling up near the 7/8 pole and the horse was taken off the track in the horse ambulance and transported to a clinic for evaluation.

Jockey: The stewards reviewed the race replay with jockey Corey Lanerie, who stated that he had no concerns about soundness while warming up in the post parade. He had ridden the horse in his previous start and had not noticed any change since that race. Lanerie said felt something off behind while pulling up and dismounted as a precaution. He was unaware that the horse had been euthanized.

Trainer: Trainer Dallas Stewart readily agreed to have his veterinarian provide the treatment records.

Veterinary Review

- This 3-year-old colt, trained by Dallas Stewart and owned by Donarra Thoroughbreds, LLC, sustained an injury to his right hind limb at Keeneland on April 20, 2019 in the 10th race, a Maiden Special Weight Allowance at 6 ½ furlongs over a muddy dirt track. After crossing the wire the horse was observed to be lame.
- KHRC veterinarians administered a sedative/analgesic to minimize further injury and for safe transport. Blood was collected by KHRC veterinarians for submission to Industrial Laboratories for analysis.
- The colt was transported to a referral equine hospital and was euthanized 48 hours later after a determination was made that blood supply to tissues below the injury was irredeemably damaged.
- The body was transported to the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and submitted 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 from the same race (Controls) was performed. As would be expected for lightly raced horses early in their three-year-old year, exam findings were minimal and to the extent that changes were noted, they were subtle and not clinically significant. The nature and extent of exam findings were consistent between the Case and Controls. No gait abnormalities were noted in any of the horses at the pre-race exam or during the post parade.

- Review of 60-day treatment reports
  Into Morocco was prescribed two courses of oral Clenbuterol. The course of treatments ended on March 4, 2019. This horse was administered furosemide and no other medications on breeze days. There was no record of lameness examination, radiography, or other diagnostic procedures. There is nothing in this horse’s medical record to suggest that there was any cause for concern with respect to his musculoskeletal health. The absence of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) administration on breeze days afforded the horse’s connections (trainer, veterinarian, exercise rider, groom) an unimpeded opportunity to assess the horse’s
response to high-speed exercise. Medication use was conservative, with a focus on oral vitamin and mineral supplements and nutraceuticals. In proximity to the race on April 20, Mandel received ketoprofen and Adequan (polyglycosylated aminoglycan) (4/18); and phenylbutazone, Legend (hyaluronic acid) l-arginine (amino acid) and estrone (4/19).

- Analysis of risk factors and other criteria (Case horse compared to uninjured cohorts in the same race)
  - Age at first start
    - Case horse: 988 days.
    - Controls range: 988-1128 days.
    - Controls Mean: 1071 days
    - Controls Median: 1076
    - Comments: The Case horse and one of the Controls were the same age and were the youngest of the starters in this race. Making a first start at a younger age has been shown to be a protective factor in risk of fatal limb fracture.
  - Age at first breeze
    - Case horse: 899 days.
    - Controls range: 749-828 days.
    - Controls Mean: 788 days
    - Controls Median: 779
    - Comments: Examining the interval from first breeze to first start, the Case horse (89 days) is readily distinguished from the Controls (Range: 232-326 days; Mean: 283 days).
  - Age on 4/20/19
    - Case horse: 1052 days
    - Controls range: 1066-1162 days
    - Controls Mean: 1109 days
    - Controls Median: 1097 days
  - Owner / breeder?
    - Case horse: No.
    - Control horses: No: 5/8 Yes: 3/8
  - Horse acquired through claim?
    - Case horse: No
    - Control horses: No: 8/8
    - Comments: All of the horses having made previous starts did so in Maiden Special Weight Races. There was no opportunity for any horse in this race to have been claimed.
  - Days in training (1st published work to race date)
    - Case horse: 153 days.
    - Controls range: 264-378 days.
    - Controls Mean: 321 days
    - Controls Median: 318 days
  - Cumulative high-speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 79 f.
Controls range: 47-131 f
Controls Mean: 72 f
Controls Median: 62.5
Comments: Despite the shorter interval in training overall and from first breeze to first start, the Case horse’s cumulative high-speed furlongs approximated the Controls’ mean.

- High-speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1 = date of first published work)
  - Case horse: 0.52 f / day.
  - Controls range: 0.18-0.35 f / day
  - Controls Mean: 0.22 f / d
  - Controls Median: 0.19 f / d

- Interval from previous start
  - Case horse: 64 days
  - Controls range (n=4): 34-117 days
  - Controls mean (n=4): 71 days

- First time starter?
  - Case horse: No
  - Controls: No: 4/8 Yes: 4/8

- Apprentice jockey?
  - Case horse: No
  - Controls: No: 8/8

- Drop in class from previous start?
  - Case horse: No
  - Controls (n=4): No: 4/8
  
  Comments: All horses having previously started did so in Maiden Special Weight races. The fact that they remained at the MSW level indicates their connections continued to have confidence in their health and ability.

- Double drop in class from previous start?
  - Case horse: No
  - Controls (n=4): No: 4/4

- Raise in class from previous start?
  - Case horse: No.
  - Controls (n=4): No: 4/4

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
  - Case horse: 0
  - Controls (n=4): 0: 4/4
  
  Comments: None of these horses was ever entered into a Claiming race.

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
  - Case horse: 0
  - Controls: 0: 7/8 1: 1/8

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
  - Case horse: 0
Controls: 0: 6/8  1: 2/8
Comments: Four of the eight Controls were first time starters. Of the four horses that had previously raced, 2/4 had not made a start within the preceding 60 days while 2/4 had.

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs preceding 30 days
  - Case horse: 14 f
  - Controls range: 11-17 f
  - Controls mean: 15 f
  - Controls median: 16.5 f

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs preceding 60 days
  - Case horse: 26 f
  - Controls range: 19-32 f
  - Controls mean: 26 f
  - Controls median: 26 f
  Comments: The Case horse is within the range of Controls during this interval. To the extent that the Case horse accumulated increased high-speed furlongs / day training when compared to the Controls, this occurred > 60 days prior to the race in which he was injured.

- Number of layoffs 30 ≥ days in preceding 6 months
  - Case horse: 1
  - Control horses (n=4): 1: 4/4

- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
  - Case horse: Yes
  - Control horses (n=4): No: 2/4 Yes: 2/4

- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
  - Case horse: No

- Control horses (n=4): No: 4/4

- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in preceding 6 months
  - Case horse: 64 days
  - Controls range (n=2): 78-117 days

- History of being Vet Listed?
  - Case horse: 0
  - Control horses: 0: 6/8  1: 1/8  2: 1/8

- Review of necropsy report and drug testing results
  - Drug testing: No prohibited substances detected. No therapeutic medications detected above regulatory threshold concentrations.

  Note: Only blood was submitted for analysis. Urine collection typically does not 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. So 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 and urine) sample.

  - Necropsy report:
    Musculoskeletal:
Right hind: Apical-abaxial fracture of the medial sesamoid. Medial extensor branch of the suspensory ligament is torn. Mild changes were noted on distal MCIII—cartilage loss (1/5) and parasagittal groove scoring (1/5). Mild cartilage loss (1/5) and marginal remodeling (1/5) was observed on the sesamoids. Left hind: Lesions observed were consistent with those noted in the right hind, although on MCIII medial parasagittal scoring was slightly more pronounced (2/5).

Stomach: Moderate ulceration and hyperkeratosis of the squamous mucosa of the stomach (Grade 2 ulcer disease).

Lungs: mild, multifocal, alveolar histiocytosis with hemosiderin-laden macrophages (previous EIPH).

NO significant lesions: Heart, liver, brain, kidney, small and large intestine.