**Triggerman**

**Stewards Summary**

Triggerman raced several lengths behind the leaders, began to lose some ground in the stretch, fell suddenly and unseated his rider approaching the finish. The horse did not attempt to get up and was tended to by the KHRC veterinarians on the turf course.

**Trainer:**

Trainer Joe Sharp stated that he had the horse since he was a yearling and was bought back by his owner at a 2 year-old in training sale. The horse had been in training at Ellis Park throughout the summer, then was moved to Churchill Downs. Sharp stated that he breezed the horse himself at Churchill Downs in the work prior to the race and the horse had no soundness issues.

**Jockey:**

Adam Beschizza suffered a fractured collarbone in the incident. He stated that he had ridden the horse in his first race, that he warmed up fine and he had no concern about him during the post parade. He stated that he worked the horse several times and he was very strong and willing. He did comment that the turf was yielding, although listed as good, and that contrary to horses that train abroad, horses in the U.S. do not have opportunity to train on a yielding course, they only race over them.

**Veterinary Review**

- This 3-year-old colt, trained by Joe Sharp and owned by Brad Grady, sustained an injury to his left forelimb at Keeneland on October 9th in the 5th race, a maiden special weight on a good turf course contested at 1 mile.
- KHRC veterinarians euthanized the horse on the track due to the extensive nature of the injury.
- 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 to moderately campaigned in their racing careers. Pre-race exam findings were consistent with horses at this stage of their careers. All findings were minimal. The nature and extent of the findings were consistent between the Case and Controls. No persistent gait abnormalities were noted in the pre-race exams or during the post parade.

**Review of the 60-day treatment report**

The trainer 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: 1251 days
  - Controls range: 915-1583 days
  - Controls mean: 1079 days
  - Controls median: 1008 days
  
  Comments: Slightly above cohorts

• Age at first breeze
  - Case horse: 941 days
  - Controls range: 771-906 days
  - Controls mean: 807 days
  - Controls median: 787 days
  
  Comments: Slightly above cohorts

• Age on 10/9/2019
  - Case horse: 1277 days
  - Controls range: 1109-1646 days
  - Controls mean: 1339 days
  - Controls median: 1283 days
  
  Comments: No difference from cohorts.

• Owner/breeder?
  - Case horse: No
  - Controls horses: Yes: 3/9  No: 6/9

• Horse acquired through claim?
  - Case horse: No
  - Control horses: No: 7/9  Yes: 2/9

• Days in training (1st published work to race date)
  - Case horse: 339 days
  - Controls range: 236-883 days
  - Controls mean: 527 days
  - Controls median: 466 days
  
  Comment: Slightly below cohorts.

• Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
  - Case horse: 114 furlongs
  - Controls range: 70-197.5 furlongs
  - Controls mean: 131 furlongs
  - Controls median: 118.5 furlongs
  
  Comments: Same as cohorts.
- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
  Case horse: .34f/day
  Control horses range: .09-.43f/day
  Control mean: .27f/day
  Control median: .26f/day
  Comments: In the range of cohorts.

- Interval from previous start
  Case horse: 26 days
  Control horses range: 0-199 days
  Control horses mean: 55 days
  Control horses median: 32 days
  Comment: In the range of cohorts.

- First time starter?
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No 8/9 Yes: 1/9

- Apprentice Jockey?
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No 9/9

- Drop in class from previous start?
  Case horse: no
  Control horses: No 9/9

- Double drop in class from previous start?
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No 9/9

- Raise in class from previous start?
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No 9/9

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
  Case horse: 0
  Control horses: 0: 8/9 1: 1/9

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
  Case horse: 1
  Control horses: 0: 8/9 1: 1/9

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
  Case horse: 1
  Control horses: 0: 3/9 1: 3/9 2: 3/9
- **Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days**
  Case horse: 11
  Control horses range: 0-18
  Control horses mean: 8.7
  Control horses median: 9
  Comments: In the range of cohorts.

- **Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days**
  Case horse: 35
  Control horses range: 4-33.5
  Control horses mean: 21.2
  Control horses median: 23
  Comments: Slightly above cohorts

- **Number of layoffs >30 days in preceding 6 months**
  Case horse: 0

- **First start off >60 day layoff?**
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No: 7/9 Yes: 2/9

- **Second start off >60 day layoff?**
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No: 9/9

- **Length of >60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months**
  Case horse: 0
  Control horses range (n=4) 63-196
  Control horses mean: 126.5
  Control horses median: 174.5

- **History of being vet listed**
  Case horse: No
  Control horses: No: 8/9 Yes: 1/9
  Comments: One horse on Vet List for previous lameness, worked off the list.

**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, biaxial fracture of the sesamoids, with complete disarticulation of the joint. The medial sesamoid fracture was apical, the lateral fracture was a comminuted mid body to basilar fracture. There was severe soft tissue damage associated with these fractures.

There were ulcers found in the stomach.

No abnormalities were present on heart, liver, spleen, kidneys, small and large intestines.

• **Conclusions:**

There were no risk factors apparent which would be thought to have an impact on this breakdown.

The jockey Adam Beschizza noted that he felt that the turf course was yielding but no determination of whether that may have been a factor can be made. There were three turf races that day and this was the only incident.