

## **Night Candy**

### **Stewards Summary**

Night Candy was close to the leaders in the early part of the race, but weakened between horses in upper stretch. He finished seventh and was pulled up abruptly just past the finish line. It was apparent that he had suffered a serious injury to his left foreleg and required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians.

#### **Trainer:**

Thomas Vance stated that the horse was transferred to him from another trainer in early September. He said that the horse had a splint bone injury as a 2 year-old but it was never an issue while in his care. The horse had one previous start and worked consistently during time he had him. The horse had no soundness issues and required only minimal vet work. He stated that he thought the track was in good shape and he thought the rider did a good job of taking care of the horse and getting him pulled up quickly. He stated that throughout his training career he had never had a horse that was seriously injured.

#### **Jockey:**

Jon Court stated that he had ridden the horse in his only previous start. He had also worked the horse several times in the morning. He said that he had no concern about his soundness and that he took the horse away from the pony in the post parade. He said that he thought the horse was set to win the race, but then eased up in the stretch. At the time, Court thought that the horse may have had a breathing or bleeding issue. He pulled him up just past the wire and the KHRC veterinarians were dispatched. He stated that the track was in good shape.

### **Veterinary Review**

- This 3 year-old gelding, owned by Jerry Caroom, raced at Churchill Downs on November 27th, 2020 in the 1st race, a maiden claiming race for \$30,000 run at 7 ½ furlongs on a fast main track.
- The gelding was racing in mid-pack, made a move on the leaders then faded in the stretch. The rider pulled the horse up after the wire and dismounted. The on-track KHRC vet summoned the ambulance and administered a sedative/analgesic to assist loading onto the ambulance. The horse was ambulated back to his barn where radiographs were taken by the private veterinarian. 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: 1345 days  
Controls range: 1007-1383 days  
Controls mean: 1134 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze  
Case horse: 850 days  
Controls range: 763-1215 days  
Controls mean: 914 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 11/27/2020  
Case horse: 1375 days  
Controls range: 1319-1413 days  
Controls mean: 1370days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?  
Case horse: No  
Controls horses: No: 3/7, Yes: 4/7
- Horse acquired through claim?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Days in training (1<sup>st</sup> published work to race date)  
Case horse: 525 days  
Controls range: 184-601 days  
Controls mean: 455 days  
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)  
Case horse: 128 f  
Controls range: 60-225.5 f  
Controls mean: 154.3 f  
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1<sup>st</sup> published work)  
Case horse: .244 f/day  
Control horses range: .231-.441 f/day  
Control mean: .339 f/day  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Interval from previous start  
Case horse: 30 days  
Control horses range: 16-154 days  
Control horses mean: 43.4 days  
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- First time starter?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Apprentice Jockey?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Drop in class from previous start?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 2/7, Yes: 5/7
- Double drop in class from previous start?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Raise in class from previous start?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 0  
Control horses: 0: 7/7
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days  
Case horse: 1  
Control horses: 0: 2/7, 1: 5/7
- Number of starts in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 1  
Control horses: 0: 1/7, 1: 6/7

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days  
Case horse: 14 f  
Control horses range: 10-12 f  
Control horses mean: 11 f  
Comments: Slightly above the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 33 f  
Control horses range: 15-32.5 f  
Control horses mean: 24.9 f  
Comments: Slightly above the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs  $\geq 30$  days in preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 0  
Control horses: 0: 1/7, 1: 2/7, 2: 3/7, 3: 1/7
- First start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 5/7, Yes: 2/7
- Second start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 2/7, N/A: 1/7
- Length of  $\geq 60$  day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months  
Case horse: N/A  
Control horses range (n=5) 154-236 days  
Control horses mean: 178.6 days
- History of being vet listed  
Case horse: Yes, for Shockwave treatment (10 days) in May 2020  
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 3/7, 1 for Shockwave treatment (10 days), 2 for intra-articular corticosteroid injections (14 days)

### 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 forelimb: Closed comminuted fracture of the medial sesamoid bone. Severe disruption of the soft tissue, with subluxation of the fetlock joint.

There was moderate gastric hyperkeratosis with clefting and lymphoplasmacytic gastritis of the stomach.

There was moderate, diffuse, acute pulmonary congestion and edema in the lungs, with multifocal acute hemorrhage.

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

**Conclusions (below)**

- **Horse specific factors:**  
No horse specific factors.
- **Race specific factors**  
No race specific factors.
- **Other factors:**