

Fire Marshall Bill

Stewards Summary

Review of race:

Fire Marshall Bill was running mid-pack early in the race, improved his position thereafter and finished second. He took a bad step just past the finish line and the jockey quickly pulled him up and dismounted. It was apparent that he required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians and the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

Trainer Waylon Cundiff stated that he claimed the horse at Churchill Downs in October 2021 for his owner. He said that the horse was somewhat underweight and had foot issues when he acquired him. He treated the horse for ulcers and addressed the problems with his feet before running him back after the claim. He did not have any concerns about soundness issues with the horse. Cundiff stated that he thought the Tapeta racing surface at times “packs down really hard.”

Jockey:

Rafael Mojica, Jr. stated that he had ridden the horse in two previous races and that the horse warmed up to his liking in the post parade. He said that the horse felt sound, was traveling well and tried the entire race to the wire. He said that he thought the horse stumbled just past the finish and then realized he was injured and quickly pulled him up and dismounted. He stated that he held up the injured leg until the KHRC veterinarians arrived and noted that the shoe was missing from that foot. He surmised that the horse, who was not in any traffic after crossing the wire, had caught the back of the shoe when he took the bad step, pulling it off. He did not state any concern about the racing surface.

Veterinary Review

- This 5-year-old gelding, owned by Brittany Vincent, and trained by Waylon Cundiff ran at Turfway Park on December 30, 2021, in an Allowance Optional Claiming \$25,000, run at 1 mile on a fast Tapeta track.
- This gelding finished second in the race and pulled up just past the wire. Upon examination the gelding had subluxated his right front fetlock with apparent bilateral sesamoid fractures. The gelding was sedated and a Kimzey splint was applied. He was loaded onto the ambulance. After consulting with the trainer and private veterinarian, the gelding was euthanized due to the severity of his injuries and a poor prognosis.
- The body was submitted to the 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 horses in this race were deemed sound in the pre-race exams with no 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 minimal and routine.

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

- Age at first start
Case horse: 1156 days
Controls range: 897-1002 days
Controls mean: 952 days
Comments: Above the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 969 days
Controls range: 718-917days
Controls mean: 817 days
Comments: Above the range of controls.
- Age on 12/30/2021
Case horse: 1702 days
Controls range: 1396-2822 days
Controls mean: 1785 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: No
Controls horses: No: 8/9, Yes: 1/9
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 3/7
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 733 days
Controls range: 479-1932 days
Controls mean: 968 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 238.5 f
Controls range: 126-565.5f
Controls mean: 340.6 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)

Case horse: .325 f/day

Control horses range: .263-.475 f/day

Control mean: .359 f/day

Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Interval from previous start

Case horse: 19 days

Control horses range: 11-263 days

Control horses mean: 83 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: 3/7, Yes: 4/7

- Raise in class from previous start?

Case horse: Yes

Control horses: No: 6/7, Yes: 1/7

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months

Case horse: 1

Control horses: 0: 5/7, 1: 1/7, 2: 1/7

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days

Case horse: 1

Control horses: 0: 6/7, 1: 1/7

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days

Case horse: 2

Control horses: 0: 4/7, 1: 2/7, 2: 0/7, 3: 1/7

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 12 f
Control horses range: 0-4-25 f
Control horses mean: 14.6 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 21.5 f
Control horses range: 8.5-41 f
Control horses mean: 22.3 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 3
Control horses: 1: 2/7, 2: 2/7, 3: 2/7, 4: 1/7
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 3/7
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/7, Yes: 1/7
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 115
Control horses range (n=6) 73-271 days
Control horses mean: 146 days
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: Yes, once for illness, twice for medication administration
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 3/7, 2 for illness, 1 for meds, 1 for shockwave treatment.

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: There was a complete luxation of the fetlock joint, with a transverse rupture of the intersesamoidian ligament. There were biaxial basilar sesamoid fractures which were comminuted.

Liver: Mild, multifocal, subacute, suppurative hepatitis (background lesion).

No significant lesions of the brain, heart, lungs, kidney, spleen, stomach, small and large gastrointestinal tract or pancreas.

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:** None
- **Race specific factors:** None
- **Other factors:** None