

Must Be the Money

Stewards Summary

Review of race:

Must Be the Money was racing in mid-pack when he was pulled up abruptly near the 3/8 pole and the rider dismounted. The horse required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians and the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

Paul McGee stated that the horse had been sent to him to train at Churchill Downs by the owners in March 2022. The horse had a steady work pattern at Churchill Downs prior to his first start there in September, which he won. He described the horse as very sound with no physical problems, and that he required minimal vet work. He said that the horse was treated for a quarter crack a month or so prior to the race, and that he had a very good breeze one week before the race. McGee said that he thought the track was in good shape on the day of the incident.

Jockey:

Edgar Morales stated that he had ridden the horse in his first start when he broke his maiden at Churchill Downs in September. He was also aboard the horse in his second start when the field had to be pulled up and the race declared a no contest due to an injured rider on the track. He said that he had been aboard the horse for all of his morning workouts. Morales said that he was a very nice horse and he thought that he was improving with every workout. He said that the horse warmed up fine in the post parade and was traveling good and switching leads fine during the early part of the race. He said that the horse started to ease up without warning approaching the 3/8 pole and that he was trying to hold him together when the incident occurred. Morales stated that the racetrack was in good shape that day.

Veterinary Review

- This 2-year-old colt, owned by Silverton Hill LLC, and trained by Paul McGee, ran at Churchill Downs on November 26, 2022 in an Allowance Optional Claiming race for \$100,000. This race was run at 1 1/16 mile over a fast main course.
- This colt ran in mid-pack until he was abruptly pulled up at the 3/8 pole. The KHRC veterinarian and the horse ambulance responded. The attending KHRC veterinarian sedated and examined the horse. A Kimzey splint was applied and the horse was loaded onto the horse ambulance. After consulting with the private veterinarian, the horse was euthanized due to the extent 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 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: 917 days
Controls range: 734-912 days
Controls mean: 848 days
Comments: Slightly above the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 801 days
Controls range: 693-793 days
Controls mean: 750 days
Comments: Slightly above the range of controls.
- Age on 11/26/2022
Case horse: 983 days
Controls range: 931-1000 days
Controls mean: 955 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: No
Controls horses: No: 7/8, Yes: 1/8
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 182 days

Controls range: 143-273 days
Controls mean: 205.5 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 78 f
Controls range: 75-152.5 f
Controls mean: 98 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
Case horse: .429 f/day
Control horses range: .337-.58 f/day
Control mean: .484 f/day
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 66 days
Control horses range: 22-64 days
Control horses mean: 41.6 days
Comment: Just above the range of controls.
- First time starter?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Apprentice Jockey?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 5/8, Yes: 3/8

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 8/8
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 6/8, 1: 2/8
- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 1/8 1: 5/8 2: 2/8
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 10 f
Control horses range: 9-19 f
Control horses mean: 15.2 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 30 f
Control horses range: 23-39 f
Control horses mean: 33 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 1: 8/8
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 7/8, Yes: 1/8
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 8/8
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 66 days
Control horses range (n=1) 64 days
Control horses mean: 64 days
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 7/8, Yes: 1/8, for medications

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: Right forelimb: There is an open lateral condylar fracture, with comminution at the proximal end. There is an apical fracture of the medial sesamoid and an axial avulsion fracture of the lateral sesamoid. There is severe soft tissue damage, including tearing of the flexor tendons, the suspensory apparatus, the sesamoidian ligaments, including rupture of the intersesamoidian ligament.

Autolysis prevented any further examination.

Conclusions (below)

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