

## **Peacebethejourney**

### **Stewards Summary**

Review of race:

Peacebethejourney was between horses in the stretch and appeared to be ready to overtake the leaders when she fell abruptly and unseated her rider near the 1/8 pole. It was apparent that the filly had suffered a serious injury and that she required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians.

Trainer:

Michael Evans II stated that he bought the filly in mid-December at the Fasig-Tipton Mid Atlantic Sale of Racing Age Horses. The horse had previously raced in New York. After being purchased she was put in training at The Thoroughbred Center. She raced soon thereafter for her new connections. Evans said that she came with clean x-rays from the sale, was in good physical condition, and needed no vet work. He stated that he made 2 starts with her before this race, winning both times. Evans said that the filly had a huge heart and was the nicest horse he had ever trained. He did say that the filly stumbled slightly leaving the starting gate but did not know if that factored into the incident. He said that he had started many horses during the meet, with no other injuries, and had no issue with the racing surface.

Jockey:

Rolando Aragon, who is also an employee of Michael Evans II, had regularly been aboard the filly in her morning workouts and also in her two previous races, which she won. He described the filly as being quite big, very tough, aggressive and very competitive. Aragon stated that he and the trainer had high hopes for the filly. He said the horse warmed up great as usual in the post parade. Aragon said that during the race the filly was running well and changing leads fine. He thought he had a chance to win when the filly suddenly fell in the stretch. Aragon said that the track may have been a little uneven due to heavy rains the day before the race, but that in general thought that the racing surface is good.

### **Veterinary Review**

- This 4-year-old filly, owned by Sheltopee Farm, and trained by Michael Evans II, ran at Turfway Park on February 24, 2022 in an Allowance race, run at 1 mile on a fast Tapeta track.
- This filly finished racing in mid-pack when she fell near the 1/8<sup>th</sup> pole. Upon examination the filly had a RF condylar fracture which was open and disarticulated. The filly was sedated and subsequently euthanized. She was loaded onto the ambulance and transported to the holding area.
- 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: 1131 days  
Controls range: 826-1197 days  
Controls mean: 954.6 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze  
Case horse: 1078 days  
Controls range: 766-894 days  
Controls mean: 842.6 days  
Comments: Above the range of controls.
- Age on 2/24/2022  
Case horse: 1394 days  
Controls range: 1432-2539 days  
Controls mean: 1815 days  
Comments: Below 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: 7/8, Yes: 1/8
- Days in training (1<sup>st</sup> published work to race date)  
Case horse: 316 days  
Controls range: 567-1673 days  
Controls mean: 972 days  
Comment: Below the range of controls.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)  
Case horse: 138.5 f  
Controls range: 188.5-617.5 f  
Controls mean: 302.9 f  
Comments: Below the range of controls.

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

Case horse: .438 f/day

Control horses range: .226-.393 f/day

Control mean: .306 f/day

Comments: Above the range of controls.

- Interval from previous start

Case horse: 43 days

Control horses range: 41-250 days

Control horses mean: 69.6 days

Comment: Within 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: 8/8

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months

Case horse: 1

Control horses: 0: 7/8, 1: 1/8

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days

Case horse: 0

Control horses: 0: 7/8, 1: 1/8

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days

Case horse: 2

Control horses: 0: 2/8, 1: 5/8, 2: 1/8

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days  
Case horse: 8 f  
Control horses range: 0-12 f  
Control horses mean: 7.13 f  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 24.5 f  
Control horses range: 12-24 f  
Control horses mean: 18.8 f  
Comments: Just above the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs  $\geq 30$  days in preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 4  
Control horses: 1: 1/8, 2: 2/8, 3: 1/8, 4: 4/8
- First start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 6/8, Yes: 2/8
- Second start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 7/8, Yes: 1/8
- Length of  $\geq 60$  day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months  
Case horse: N/A  
Control horses range (n=5) 120-250 days  
Control horses mean: 200.2 days
- History of being vet listed  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 5/8, Yes: 3/8, 2 for meds, 1 for injury.

#### **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. There was a lateral condylar fracture and an avulsion fracture of the medial sesamoid. There was severe tearing of the suspensory ligament.

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

Lungs: Moderate, multifocal, acute, pulmonary congestion and hemorrhage.

Stomach: Moderate, multifocal, subacute, gastric ulceration and lymphocytic gastritis with hyperkeratosis.

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

**Conclusions (below)**

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