

## **Rousan**

### **Stewards Summary**

#### Review of race:

Rousan had a bit of a slow start and was beginning to make up some ground in the stretch when he bobbed and unseated his rider near the 1/16 pole. It was apparent that he had suffered a serious injury and was attended to by the KHRC veterinarians.

#### Trainer:

Michael Shane Warpool stated that he had claimed the horse at Ellis Park in July for his wife. He said that the horse was sound but did not look very good, internally was not in the best shape and suffered from ulcers. He said that he took his time with the horse, treated his ulcers, and eventually got him looking really good. He said that the horse trained almost every day and was improving and doing well. He pointed out that he raised him up in claiming price for this race and liked his chances. He made the comment that the track was sloppy that day but thought it was safe and well maintained.

#### Jockey:

Rafael Bejarano stated that the horse warmed up very well in the post parade. He said that he had not ever been aboard the horse but had watched his previous races after being assigned the mount. He noted that the horse had had a good workout leading up to this race. He said that the horse was making a run and had just switched leads when the incident occurred without warning. He said that he really couldn't blame the track condition as the cause of the accident.

### **Veterinary Review**

- This 3-year-old gelding, owned by Julie Warpool, and trained by Michael Shane Warpool, raced at Churchill Downs on October 10, 2021, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> race, a claiming \$50,000 run at 6 furlongs on a sloppy main track.
- The gelding was making up ground in the stretch when he unseated his rider near the 1/16 pole. The horse ran loose until he was caught near the finish line. The on-track KHRC veterinarian called for the equine ambulance and administered a sedative/analgesic to assist in placing the Kimzey splint and loading onto the ambulance. After consulting with the trainer, 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: 1162 days  
Controls range: 902-1307 days  
Controls mean: 1162 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze  
Case horse: 768 days  
Controls range: 743-1197 days  
Controls mean: 898 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 10/3/2021  
Case horse: 1255 days  
Controls range: 1282-1714 days  
Controls mean: 1381 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?  
Case horse: No  
Controls horses: No: 4/5, Yes: 1/5
- Horse acquired through claim?  
Case horse: Yes  
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Days in training (1<sup>st</sup> published work to race date)  
Case horse: 487 days  
Controls range: 100-775 days  
Controls mean: 483 days  
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)  
Case horse: 57.5 f  
Controls range: 41-222 f  
Controls mean: 121 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: .236 f/day

Control horses range: .158-.446 f/day

Control mean: .282 f/day

Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Interval from previous start

Case horse: 77 days

Control horses range: 0-609 days (There were three first time starters)

Control horses mean: 131 days

Comment: Within the range of controls.

- First time starter?

Case horse: No

Control horses: No: 2/5, Yes: 3/5

- Apprentice Jockey?

Case horse: No

Control horses: No: 5/5

- Drop in class from previous start?

Case horse: No

Control horses: No: 3/5, Yes: 2/5

- Double drop in class from previous start?

Case horse: No

Control horses: No: 5/5

- Raise in class from previous start?

Case horse: Yes

Control horses: No: 5/5

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months

Case horse: 1

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

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days

Case horse: 0

Control horses: 0: 5/5

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days

Case horse: 0

Control horses: 0: 4/5, 1: 1/5

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days  
Case horse: 3 f  
Control horses range: 12-17 f  
Control horses mean: 13.6 f  
Comments: Below the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 3 f  
Control horses range: 20-41 f  
Control horses mean: 26.9 f  
Comments: Below the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs  $\geq 30$  days in preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 1  
Control horses: 0: 3/5, 1: 1/5, 2: 0/5, 3: 1/5
- First start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: Yes  
Control horses: No: 1/5, Yes: 1/5 (Three first time starters)
- Second start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 5/5
- Length of  $\geq 60$  day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 77  
Control horses range (n=2) 84-609 days  
Control horses mean: 346.5 days
- History of being vet listed  
Case horse: Yes: for medications  
Control horses: No: 4/5, Yes: 1/5, for lameness.

#### **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 were biaxial, comminuted, proximal sesamoid fractures with tearing of the superficial and deep flexors, rupture of the suspensory ligament, and rupture of the intersesamoidian ligament. The fetlock was open and disarticulated.

Stomach: There was moderate, focally extensive, subacute hyperkeratosis and ulceration.

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

**Conclusions (below)**

- **Horse specific factors:** The small number of high speed furlongs in the past 60 days put this horse on the list for increased scrutiny. He exhibited no signs of unsoundness in the morning exam or the pre-race warmup. The trainer explained that the horse showed signs of ulcers and unthriftiness. Therefore, the horse trained almost every day, but didn't work at speed as much as normal.
- **Race specific factors:** None
- **Other factors:** None