

## **Run the Tap**

### **Stewards Summary**

#### Review of race:

Run the Tap broke a step slow and trailed the field throughout. The rider pulled her up shortly past the wire and dismounted. The filly was attended to by the KHRC veterinarians, who transported her from the track in the horse ambulance. It was later reported that she had been taken to a local clinic for evaluation.

#### Trainer:

Kenneth McPeek stated that he purchased the horse as a yearling for the owner and had the filly her entire career. He said that this was her fifth start, and her first turf start. She had not been treated for any past injuries and was sound. He said that the horse was transported to Rood & Riddle for observation, where they initially declared that she would be all right. McPeek made plans to have her picked up from the clinic. He was later contacted and informed that the filly had injured herself getting up and had died from internal bleeding. He said that he had another filly that had not yet started that had fractured her pelvis in the same week at Churchill Downs in the morning on the main track. McPeek, who said that he had never had a horse with this type of injury in his entire career, thought that these incidents were freak accidents.

#### Jockey:

Brian Hernandez, Jr. stated that he had ridden the filly in her first start. He said that the horse warmed up very well in the post parade and he had no concern about her before the race. He said that he had been aboard the filly for her morning workouts and that she was a bit lazy and needed encouragement throughout. He stated that the filly broke slowly and never got into the race. Hernandez thought that she didn't care for the soft turf. As soon as he pulled her up past the wire, he knew there was something wrong as she was reluctant to put weight on her left hind leg. Hernandez did not have any concerns about the racing surface being a contributing factor, and said that the turf course was in really good shape.

### **Veterinary Review**

- This 3-year-old filly, owned by Walking L Thoroughbreds, LLC, and trained by Kenneth McPeek, ran at Keeneland on April 8, 2022 in a Maiden Special Weight race. This race was run at 1 3/16 miles over a good turf course.
- This filly trailed the field the entire race. She was lame after pulling up and the ambulance was summoned. She was loaded onto the ambulance and transported to her barn where the attending veterinarian examined her. Presumptive diagnosis of a possible pelvic fracture was made, and she was transported to a local Equine Hospital. She was given supportive care and stall rest. In the early morning of April 11 she laid down. After after getting to her feet the filly was acutely non-weight bearing and tachycardic. She collapsed and died within a few minutes.
- 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: 1021 days  
Controls range: 778-1107 days  
Controls mean: 1005 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze  
Case horse: 937 days  
Controls range: 799-995 days  
Controls mean: 875 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 4/8/2022  
Case horse: 1160 days  
Controls range: 1064-1162 days  
Controls mean: 1118 days  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?  
Case horse: No  
Controls horses: No: 6/11, Yes: 5/11
- Horse acquired through claim?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 11/11
- Days in training (1<sup>st</sup> published work to race date)  
Case horse: 224 days  
Controls range: 144-322 days  
Controls mean: 233 days  
Comment: Within the range of controls.

- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)  
 Case horse: 117.5 f  
 Controls range: 68.5-171 f  
 Controls mean: 95 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: .525 f/day  
 Control horses range: .255-.628 f/day  
 Control mean: .404 f/day  
 Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Interval from previous start  
 Case horse: 35 days  
 Control horses range: 28-56 days  
 Control horses mean: 36 days  
 Comment: Within the range of controls.
- First time starter?  
 Case horse: No  
 Control horses: No: 11/11
- Apprentice Jockey?  
 Case horse: No  
 Control horses: No: 11/11
- Drop in class from previous start?  
 Case horse: No  
 Control horses: No: 10/11, Yes: 1/11
- Double drop in class from previous start?  
 Case horse: No  
 Control horses: No: 10/11, Yes: 1/11
- Raise in class from previous start?  
 Case horse: Yes  
 Control horses: No: 1/11, Yes:10/11
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months  
 Case horse: 0  
 Control horses: 0: 11/11
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days  
 Case horse: 0  
 Control horses: 0: 8/11, 1: 3/11

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 2  
Control horses: 1: 9/11, 2: 2/11
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days  
Case horse: 12 f  
Control horses range: 8-20 f  
Control horses mean: 14 f  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days  
Case horse: 37 f  
Control horses range: 17-37.5 f  
Control horses mean: 25.5f  
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs  $\geq 30$  days in preceding 6 months  
Case horse: 2  
Control horses: 0: 2/11, 1: 5/11, 2: 2/11, 3: 1/11, 4: 1/11
- First start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 11/11
- Second start off  $\geq 60$  day layoff?  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 11/11
- Length of  $\geq 60$  day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months  
Case horse: N/A  
Control horses range (n=2) 61-120 days  
Control horses mean: 90.5 days
- History of being vet listed  
Case horse: No  
Control horses: No: 11/11

#### **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: Pelvis: There was a complete fracture of the left ilium. There was an area of the periosteum that was thickened red and roughened (callus). There was similar callus on the right ilium.

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

Lungs: Mild, multifocal, acute, pulmonary congestion: mild multifocal, alveolar histiocytosis (previous EIPH)

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

**Conclusions (below)**

- **Horse specific factors:** While this filly hadn't exhibited an overt lameness, the evidence of callus formation on both sides of the ilium indicate that there were some sub-clinical factors in play. This illustrates the necessity of close monitoring of horses in training.
- **Race specific factors:** None
- **Other factors:** None