

Take Charge Briana

Stewards Summary

Review of race:

Take Charge Briana was racing a length or so behind the leaders and was between horses when she fell and unseated her rider near the three-sixteenths pole. The filly required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians and the horse ambulance.

Trainer:

D. Wayne Lukas stated that he had the filly for several years, since she was a yearling. He described her as “royally bred” and a horse that had no physical issues. He said that the filly raced regularly and never missed any training. Lukas speculated that fall was caused by the horse’s back end slipping out from under her when she changed leads. He declined to comment on the turf condition, explaining that the majority of his horses race on the main track.

Jockey:

Luis Saez stated that he had ridden the filly several times in the fall of 2022. He said that the horse warmed up normally and seemed the same as she had in the past races. He noted that the horse was running right behind the leaders and that the incident occurred without warning when the filly switched leads. Saez said that the turf course was in good shape on the day of the incident.

Veterinary Review

- This 3-year-old filly, owned by Willis Horton Racing LLC and trained by D. Wayne Lukas, ran at Churchill Downs on May 2, 2023 in an Allowance race. This race was run at 1 1/16ths miles over a firm turf course.
- This filly fell and unseated her rider near the 3/16th's pole. She had an open disarticulated injury to her RF fetlock. The KHRC veterinarian and the horse ambulance responded. The filly was sedated and euthanized due to the severity of her injury.
- The body was submitted to the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for necropsy. The horse was insured.

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 persistent 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 very minimal and routine.

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

- Age at first start
Case horse: 890 days
Controls range: 834-1238 days
Controls mean: 1001 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 829 days
Controls range: 720-1456 days
Controls mean: 1023 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 5/2/2023
Case horse: 1172 days
Controls range: 1122-1891 days
Controls mean: 1515 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: Yes
Controls horses: No: 6/7, Yes: 1/7
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/7, Yes: 1/7

- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 344 days
Controls range: 102-663 days
Controls mean: 493 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 194 f
Controls range: 155-312.5 f
Controls mean: 215.5 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- High-speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
Case horse: .546 f/day
Control horses range: .269-.590 f/day
Control mean: .412 f/day
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 32 days
Control horses range: 10-157 days
Control horses mean: 62 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: Yes
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 7/7
- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: Yes: 7/7
- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 6/7, 1: 1/7
- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 0

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

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 2
Control horses: 0: 3/7, 1: 2/7, 2: 2/7
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 8 f
Control horses range: 8-19 f
Control horses mean: 13.9 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 37.5 f
Control horses range: 18-32 f
Control horses mean: 25.86 f
Comments: Above the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 2
Control horses: 1: 2/7, 2: 3/7, 3: 1/7, 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: N/A
Control horses range (n=7) 62-399 days
Control horses mean: 146 days
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: Yes, for eased in a race
Control horses: No: 4/7, Yes: 3/7, one for meds, one for shockwave, one 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: Right forelimb: The RF fetlock was open and disarticulated. There was a lateral condylar fracture, and apical fracture of the medial sesamoid, and an avulsion fracture of the lateral sesamoid.

Left forelimb: Carpus, distal radial and intermediate carpal bones: there is cartilage loss and erosion of the dorsal articular surface.

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

Liver: Mild to moderate, multifocal, subacute, suppurative hepatitis.

Stomach: Severe, focally extensive, subacute, ulceration of the squamous mucosa of the stomach.

No significant lesions: Brain, heart, kidney, spleen, small and large intestines.

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:** This filly was placed on the vets list on November 26 of 2022 after being eased in the race that day. No cause for being eased was noted, and she was removed from the vets list after being examined by the regulatory veterinarian at Oaklawn Park and found to be sound for racing. She raced successfully in 5 races at Oaklawn Park before returning to Churchill Downs. There was no gait abnormality or lameness noted on May 2, 2023.
- **Race specific factors:** None
- **Other factors:** None