

Miss Eau de Vie

Stewards Summary

Miss Eau de Vie broke well and was racing in mid-pack when she was pulled up abruptly near the ¼ pole. It was apparent that she had suffered a serious injury to her right hind leg and that she required the assistance of the KHRC veterinarians.

Trainer:

Mike Maker stated that he received the filly to train in May 2020. He had the horse in training at Churchill Downs Trackside until she was moved to Turfway Park in December. The filly had some issues with her shins early in her training, but did not require surgery. He stated that the filly was built well, but was somewhat on the small side. He also said that she was well mannered and quite easy to train. He noted that on the night of the incident, the weather was very cold and the racing surface was quite hard.

Jockey:

Gerardo Corrales stated that he had been aboard the horse in her previous start in December in which she finished second. He stated that the horse warmed up well in the post parade, similar to her previous start. He said the filly had just picked up the bit and he expected her to win the race when the incident occurred near the ¼ pole. He commented that he thought the racing surface was a little loose that night, but that it improved later in the meet.

Veterinary Review

- This 3 year-old filly, trained by Mike Maker, raced at Turfway Park on January 15, 2021, in the 6th race, an allowance optional claiming for \$50,000, run at 1 mile on the Tapeta All Weather track.
- The filly was racing in mid-pack when she was pulled up abruptly at the ¼ pole. The on-track KHRC veterinarian called for the equine ambulance and administered a sedative/analgesic to assist in loading her onto the ambulance. The filly was euthanized on the ambulance due to the severity of her injury 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 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 routine and very minimal.

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

- Age at first start
Case horse: 918 days
Controls range: 815-941 days
Controls mean: 879 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age at first breeze
Case horse: 841 days
Controls range: 776-862 days
Controls mean: 809 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Age on 1/15/2021
Case horse: 1078 days
Controls range: 1000-1084 days
Controls mean: 1037 days
Comments: Within the range of controls.
- Owner/breeder?
Case horse: Yes
Controls horses: No: 4/6, Yes: 2/6
- Horse acquired through claim?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/6
- Days in training (1st published work to race date)
Case horse: 237 days
Controls range: 169-280 days
Controls mean: 228 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.
- Cumulative high speed furlongs (racing and training)
Case horse: 114.5 f
Controls range: 64-112.5 f
Controls mean: 87.6 f
Comments: Slightly above the range of controls.
- High speed furlongs per day in training (Day 1=date of 1st published work)
Case horse: .483 f/day
Control horses range: .252-.586 f/day
Control mean: .400 f/day
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Interval from previous start
Case horse: 35 days
Control horses range: 29-127 days
Control horses mean: 60 days
Comment: Within the range of controls.

- First time starter?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/6

- Apprentice Jockey?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/6

- Drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/6, Yes: 2/6

- Double drop in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 5/6, Yes: 1/6

- Raise in class from previous start?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/6

- Number of times claimed in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 6/6

- Number of starts in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 0
Control horses: 0: 5/6, 1: 1/6

- Number of starts in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 1
Control horses: 0: 2/6, 1: 4/6

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 30 days
Case horse: 13 f
Control horses range: 8-17 f
Control horses mean: 11.7 f
Comments: Within the range of controls.

- Cumulative high-speed furlongs in preceding 60 days
Case horse: 35 f
Control horses range: 18-30 f
Control horses mean: 24 f
Comments: Above the range of controls.
- Number of layoffs ≥ 30 days in preceding 6 months
Case horse: 3
Control horses: 1: 1/6, 2: 4/6, 3: 1/6
- First start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 4/6, Yes: 2/6
- Second start off ≥ 60 day layoff?
Case horse: Yes
Control horses: No: 2/6, Yes: 2/6, N/A: 2/6
- Length of ≥ 60 day layoff ending in the preceding 6 months
Case horse: 64
Control horses range (n=4) 71-132 days
Control horses mean: 108 days
- History of being vet listed
Case horse: No
Control horses: No: 6/6

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: There was an open, comminuted spiral fracture of the medial third metatarsal bone in the Right hind limb. The suspensory ligament was severely torn, with attached bone fragments.

There was moderate, subacute, squamous ulceration with hyperkeratosis of the stomach.

Moderate, multifocal, subacute, suppurative hepatitis (background lesion)

Moderate, diffuse, acute pulmonary congestion and edema

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

Conclusions (below)

- **Horse specific factors:** No horse specific factors
- **Race specific factors:** No race specific factors
- **Other factors:** There was a report of asphalt pieces being found in the racing surface. The concern was that the asphalt was coming from the base and may have been a factor in this catastrophic injury. The KHRC investigators found that the type of asphalt found was not the same as what was used in the composition of the base. On further investigation, they found an area in the parking lot where the Tapeta surface was piled, and found a small area where some parking lot surface was missing. The thought was that a small amount of asphalt was scooped up when they were replacing some of the Tapeta surface. The track superintendent and his assistants walked the track to make sure that all of the pieces were removed. It is not believed that the pieces found were a factor in this injury, as they were not in the area where the injury occurred.