

INTERIM REPORT
RACE MEETING 3 – SATURDAY 16TH MAY 2026

BOARD OF STIPENDIARY STEWARDS	
Chairman of Stipendiary Stewards	Mr. Stephane De Chalain
Deputy Chief Stipendiary Stewards	Mr. Yahia Nazroo Ms. Julia Keevy
Stipendiary Steward	Mr. Mark Blackman

Weather:	Sunny
Track:	Normal 2.8
Rail Position:	1 metre

GENERAL

The following Trainers and Jockeys appeared before the Stipendiary Stewards to confirm their instructions and discuss their intentions in their respective races:

Race 1: **EXALTED LOVE** (Trainer Awotar and Jockey Van Niekerk)

STEPPING OUT (Trainer Sewdyal and Jockey Da Silva)

Race 3: **SOUND OF THE SEA** (Trainer Awotar and Jockey Van Niekerk)

Race 5: **SECRET OASIS** (Trainer Narang and Jockey Collis)

Race 7: **XAVION** (Trainer Hewitson and Jockey Santana)

CAPTAIN ARROW (Trainer Sewdyal and Jockey Da Silva)

RACE 1: THE DHANKUWAR GUJADHUR CUP – 1365M – [0-25]

After the field was loaded, **Fire Starter** broke through the starting gates. The starter sounded the false start siren and the field was unloaded. **Fire Starter** was restrained shortly thereafter and reined in by Jockey Santana. Acting on veterinary advice that **Fire Starter** had sustained a head injury, the Stipendiary Stewards ordered its withdrawal (a 15% deduction on winning bets was declared). **Stepping Out**, which had forced its gate open, was restrained by Jockey Da Silva. It was examined by the Regulatory Veterinarian and passed fit to race. **Exalted Love**, which had reared in its stall, was also examined by the Regulatory Veterinarian and passed fit to race. The Stipendiary Stewards, being dissatisfied with the performance of **Fire Starter** at the start, informed Trainer Hewitson that this gelding will have to pass a Barrier Trial to their satisfaction prior to being nominated.

Exalted Love – Slow into stride. Came off the crossing at the 450m awkwardly and shifted ground outwards. Leaving the 200m, became slightly inconvenienced and had to be switched outwards to continue going forward.

Spirito Selvaggio – Slow into stride.

Indigenous – Slow into stride and when being urged forward, failed to muster speed. Crowded onto **Spirito Selvaggio** leaving the 450m.

Ashikule – Over-raced in the middle stages and when being settled, got its head up. Leaving the 200m, commenced to shift ground outwards under pressure, resulting in **Exalted Love**, which was racing on its outside, becoming slightly inconvenienced and having to be switched outwards to continue going forward.

Lunar Descent – Raced wide in the early and middle stages, and leaving the 900m, was allowed to stride forward to secure a position closer to the rails. Leaving the 450m, when struck with the whip, shifted ground inwards, momentarily crowding **Indigenous** onto **Spirito Selvaggio**.

Vet Report:

Stepping Out: Coughing post-race

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	4	Ashikule	200	Win
2 nd	1	Exalted Love	300	-0.90L
3 rd	2	Spirito Selvaggio	1200	-5.70L
4 th	6	Lunar Descent	5000	-8.50L
Favourite				
1 st	4	Ashikule	200	

RACE 2: THE BOUNGI & POPS HANDICAP SPRINT – 990M – [BM 36]

Secret Passage – Leaving the 250m, hung outwards under pressure, resulting in **Fencing Captain** which was following, being switched to its outside to continue going forward. Leaving the 200m, when being ridden with the whip in the left hand, commenced to shift ground inwards, resulting in Jockey Mansour switching his whip to his right hand.

Fencing Captain – Shortly after the start, when being urged forward, failed to muster speed. Leaving the 700m, raced tight on the inside of **Secret Passage** and was steadied passing the 600m. Leaving the 250m, was switched to the outside of **Secret Passage** to continue going forward.

Fine One – Hung out from leaving the 600m and had difficulty in negotiating the final turn, racing wide from then onwards.

Unsung Hero – Jumped awkwardly and shifted ground outwards, inconveniencing **Global Warrior**. Leaving the 250m, when trying to switch his whip from his left hand to his right hand, Jockey Santana dropped his whip. On inquiry, Jockey Santana explained that he first lost his whip after it got entangled in his reins and managed to regain it, but instead of catching his whip on its grip he held at the shaft and when attempting to move his hand back to the grip, he opted to open his hands and in so doing dropped it. The Stipendiary Stewards, being of the view that jockey Santana took an unnecessary risk of opening his hands to adjust his grip, concluded that such action could not be said to be accidental and therefore found him guilty as charged. In considering the penalty, the Stewards took into account his clean record and the fact that in their opinion, **Unsung Hero** would not have beaten the winner of the day, fined Jockey Santana the sum of Rs 25,000.

Global Warrior – Slow into stride and was inconvenienced shortly thereafter.

Vet Report:

Fencing Captain: Coughing post-race

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	1	Secret Passage	270	Win
2 nd	4	Unsung Hero	370	-1.85L
3 rd	2	Fencing Captain	250	-4.95L
4 th	5	Global Warrior	2000	-7.60L
Favourite				
3 rd	2	Fencing Captain	250	

RACE 3: THE MAJESTIC SPRINGS WATER HANDICAP – 1500M – [BM 41]

Courtly – Was hanging outwards in the early stages of the home straight.

Happy Days – Raced fiercely in the early and middle stages. Leaving the 800m, shifted ground inwards abruptly and had to be straightened. Came off the crossing at the 450m awkwardly. When questioned regarding this gelding’s apparent poor performance, Jockey Santana explained that **Happy Days** had pleased in the lead up to this race and was expecting a good showing. After jumping reasonably well, **Happy Days** raced fiercely and had a tendency to hang inwards in the early and middle stages, and that approaching the 800m, shifted in sharply. He also stated that when asked for an effort leaving the 450m, **Happy Days** failed to quicken and was disappointing.

Sound Of The Sea – Hesitated at the start.

All About Love – Jumped awkwardly and was slow to begin. Leaving the 400m, for some distance, was held up when unable to improve into a tight gap between **Balouchi** and **Backpacker**, which were not making up ground. Leaving the 250m, was switched to the outside of **Balouchi** to secure clear running. Hung inwards in the home straight.

Backpacker – Slow into stride.

Vet Report:

Balouchi: stirrup injury right side

Happy Days: small injury right stifle

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	1	Courtly	370	Win
2 nd	5	Sound Of The Sea	820	-2.00L
3 rd	7	Master Of Mystery	370	-2.10L
4 th	4	Iditarod Trail	2200	-2.35L
Favourite				
5 th	3	Happy Days	220	

RACE 4: THE ANGLO MAURITIUS INVESTMENT PRESTIGE HANDICAP – 1365M – [BM 46]

After being loaded, **Palermo** became fractious and reared on numerous occasions. The Stipendiary Stewards, being dissatisfied with the performance of **Palermo** at the start, informed Trainer Hewitson that this gelding's starting stalls certificate has been suspended, and will need to pass a Barrier Trial to their satisfaction prior to being nominated again.

Alpine Challenge – Raced wide throughout. An inquiry into the handling of this gelding will take place on Tuesday morning.

Palermo – When the start was effected, fly-jumped and was slow to begin.

Bounceback – Slow into stride.

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	5	Bounceback	320	Win
2 nd	1	Rich Folks Hoax	190	-0.70L
3 rd	4	Comedy Club	3000	-7.10L
4 th	3	Palermo	1200	-8.55L
Favourite				
2 nd	1	Rich Folks Hoax	190	

RACE 5: THE NOORESH JUGLALL AQUA ROYAL MIDDLE STAKES – 1500M

Magnum P I – Raced wide throughout. When entering the straight, shifted ground inwards onto **Solomons Seal**, making contact with the latter.

Solomons Seal – Raced fiercely in the middle stages. When entering the home straight, made contact with **Magnum P I**, when the latter shifted ground inwards.

Quantifier – Slow into stride. Entering the home straight, was switched to the outside of runners to secure clear running.

Vet Report:

Magnum P I: not striding out

Trasonic: small injury right hind

Cool Cat: abnormal respiratory noise

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	6	Secret Oasis	420	Win
2 nd	4	Bugalugs	220	-1.85L
3 rd	2	Solomons Seal	420	-6.35L
4 th	1	Magnum P I	1200	-6.40L
Favourite				
2 nd	4	Bugalugs	220	

RACE 6: THE AQUA SPRINGS DERBY TRIAL – GROUP 3 – 1400M

Daring Dash – Raced fiercely in the early and middle stages, and approaching the 1000m, when being settled, got its head up and raced ungenerously for some distance.

Bacchus – Leaving the 1300m, raced tight onto **Cumbre Vieja** for some distance when **Cumbre Vieja** was angled in to secure a position closer to the rails.

Cumbre Vieja – Leaving the 1300m, raced tight onto **Bacchus** when it was angled in to secure a position closer to the rails. Jockey Santana was shown video footage of this incident, given a severe warning, and advised he is to allow sufficient room for horses on his inside in future. Approaching the 300m, was switched to the outside of **Daring Dash** to improve its position and in doing so, carried **Havana Moon** wider on the track. Leaving the 150m, when being ridden with the whip in the right hand, commenced to shift ground away from the whip, with Jockey Santana putting his whip away and straightening his mount.

Havana Moon – Jumped awkwardly and was slow into stride. Carried wide approaching the 300m.

Brave Bomber – Slow into stride. Passing the 450m, was switched to the outside of runners to improve its position and raced wide from then onwards.

Vet Report:

Daring Dash: coughing post-race

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	3	Cumbre Vieja	160	Win
2 nd	4	Havana Moon	420	-1.10L

3 rd	5	Brave Bomber	1200	-2.45L
4 th	2	Bacchus	650	-3.20L
		Favourite		
1 st	3	Cumbre Vieja	160	

RACE 7: THE 'L'EAU C'EST LA VIE' PINNACLE STAKES – 1400M

After considering a request from Trainer Narang, the Stipendiary Stewards agreed that **Formagear** is to race equipped with alumite shoes, as he has done in his previous two races. Accordingly, **Formagear** was equipped with alumite shoes. This was communicated to the public on Thursday 14th May at 15h38.

Following the running of the race, the Stipendiary Stewards reviewed footage of the start, and took evidence from Jockey Mansour (**Captain Lannister**) and the starter. It was established that prior to the start being effected, **Captain Lannister** got its head turned to the left of the gate, with the handler trying to straighten it when the start was effected, with **Captain Lannister** being slow into stride. Applying Rule 405 of the Rules Of Racing and considering that **Captain Lannister** finished 3rd, the Stipendiary Stewards took no further action and the correct weight was declared on the Judges' Semaphored numbers.

Formagear – Inconvenienced passing the 800m.

Captain Lannister – In the early stages of the home straight, when being ridden with the whip in the right hand, shifted ground outwards.

Xavion – Threw its head on jumping. Raced wide in the early stages and leaving the 1000m, was allowed to stride forward to secure a position closer to the lead.

Zil Moris – Leaving the 450m, was switched to the outside of runners to improve its position and raced very wide into the home turn.

Gimmeanotherchance – Over-raced in the middle stages. Passing the 800m, commenced to race fiercely and had to be taken out when awkwardly placed close to the heels of **Captain Arrow**. In doing so, inconvenienced **Formagear**.

Vet Report:

Captain Arrow: coughing post-race

General:

Trainer Narang (**Formagear**) signed an admission of guilt for a contravention of Rule 218, in that he failed to declare alumite shoes at the time of declarations. Trainer Narang was fined Rs 7,500.

Results	Closing Odds	Distance
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1 st	4	Zil Moris	190	Win
2 nd	3	Xavion	600	-0.05L
3 rd	2	Captain Lannister	370	-0.60L
4 th	1	Formagear	750	-3.55L
Favourite				
1 st	4	Zil Moris	190	

RACE 8: THE LIQUID MOTION PLATE – 1450M – [BM 31]

Canford Club – Half-reared and was bumped by **Royal Port Louis**, which had jumped inwards.

Iko Iko – Leaving the 1300m, was inconvenienced and carried wide by **Royal Port Louis**.

Aeneas – Jumped inwards.

Royal Port Louis – Jumped inwards and bumped **Canford Club**. Leaving the 1300m, shifted ground inwards, inconveniencing **Iko Iko** and carrying the latter wide. When questioned, Jockey Santos explained that this gelding hung outwards throughout and had difficulty in negotiating the turns, and that he found it difficult to handle on both turns.

Cosmic Captain – Jumped awkwardly and shortly thereafter, shied away and shifted ground inwards when **Aeneas** jumped inwards.

Lava County – Slow to begin.

Vet Report:

Royal Port Louis: Injury right nostril

Results			Closing Odds	Distance
1 st	6	High Key	1700	Win
2 nd	8	Master Point	2000	-0.65L
3 rd	10	Lava County	800	-0.70L
4 th	2	Iko Iko	270	-3.70L
Favourite				
4 th	2	Iko Iko	270	

GENERAL

- Pre-race blood specimens were taken from all runners.
- Routine post-race urine and blood specimens were taken for analysis from all winners, **Unsung Hero** and **Transonic**
- All Jockeys passed a breathalyser test and urine specimens were taken from Jockeys Collis, Joorawon and Matsunyane for analysis.

SUMMARY		
Suspension		
Fine	2	Jockey Santana (Unsung Hero) – Rs 25,000
	7	Trainer Narang (Formagear) – Rs 7,500
Reprimand	6	I.Santana (Cumbre Vieja)
Horse Suspension	4	Palermo
OVE	1	Fire Starter – Sustained a head injury Stepping Out – Coughing post-race
	2	Fencing Captain – Coughing post-race
	3	Balouchi – Stirrup injury right side Happy Days – Small injury right stifle
	5	Magnum P I – Not striding out Transonic – Small injury right hind Cool Cat – Abnormal respiratory noise
	6	Daring Dash – Coughing post-race
	7	Captain Arrow – Coughing post-race
	8	Royal Port Louis – Injury right nostril
	Barrier Trial	1
4		Palermo