

THOROUGHBRED RACING S.A. LIMITED
STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT

Report on Race Meeting held at Penola Racecourse
by the Penola Racing Club on Friday, 7 December 2018

Stewards: C. Deakin (A/Chairman), S. Callanan & D. Cookson (Stewards), K. Lemay-Robbins (Cadet Steward), J. Foster (Deputy Stewards), Dr D. Goulding (Veterinary Surgeon)

TRACK: Good 4

RAIL: True

WEATHER: Fine

The Penola Racing Club curator inspected the track prior to scratching time (7:30 am) and advised the Trainers' Service Centre that the track was a Good 4.

On arrival on course Stewards inspected the track (approximately 1:00 pm) and became aware of a section of track in the vicinity of the 300 metres, approximately 100 metres in length from the running rail to 1.5 metres wide, that in their opinion was saturated and in the range of a Heavy 8 rating. Stewards considered this area unsafe for racing and informed the Club of the area of concern and sought explanation as to how the area had become saturated. Club officials advised Stewards that they could offer no explanation in relation to the affected area other than that there may have been an irrigation malfunction when the track was watered the previous afternoon. They also advised that the track curator had not become aware of the area when he inspected the track in the morning. Stewards asked the Club to ascertain whether they had sufficient uprights, rail and manpower to shift the rail around the affected area.

Jockeys arrived on course and were directed to inspect the area after which they advised the Stewards that in their opinion it was unsafe for racing.

The Club advised Stewards that they did have sufficient uprights, rail and manpower to shift the rail. Stewards were confident that by shifting the rail out 2 metres from the vicinity of the 400 metres until the 250 metres (entrance to the straight) the meeting would be able to proceed safely. Riders were informed of the Stewards' view in relation to shifting the rail.

All riders on course met and a representative returned to the Stewards' Room and informed Stewards that they felt that the location of where the rail was intended to be shifted would result in it being unsafe for racing and withdrew their services. Acting on this advice Stewards had no option but to postpone the meeting at 2.47 pm.

The meeting was later officially abandoned by TRSA at 4.05 pm. Abandoned meeting subsidies will be paid to all trainers and riders.