

STEWARDS REPORT

MEETING DETAILS

Club - Track	Launceston Pacing Club		
Date	27 th September 2026		
Weather	Fine	Track Condition	Good
Chair	B. Scott	Panel	G. Griffin, J. Marsh, C. Shaw
Check In	A. McDermott	Inspections	A. McDermott
Officials	S. King, B. Montgomery		
Starter	D. Bauld		
Veterinarian	Meander Valley Veterinary Clinic		
Medical Provider	Medical Edge		

GENERAL

General: Trainers with multiple runners in any one race advised their intended race tactics.

Due to M. Yole being indisposed, the following driver changes were approved by Stewards:

Race 3 – VANQUISH STRIDE – T. Ford, GO THE RED – D. Ford

Race 4 – TALK IS CHEAP – K. Williams

Race 5 – CALL ME JOSIE – B. Parker

Race 6 – SAPPHIRE GAMBLER – A. Collins

Race 7 – MONTGOMERY BURNS – R. Backhouse

Race 8 – LALIBELA – D. Ford

Race 9 – CHEYS ANGEL – K. Williams

RACE-BY-RACE REPORT

RACE 1 – 1D.H.R.C. Devonport Belmont – 1680m MS

Pl	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
1		1	RAZZMATAZZ	T Ratray	Raced greenly at various stages of the race.
3		2	FARRAHS LEGACY	J Walters	No report.

5		3	BETTYS GIRL	B Davis (C)	No report.
4		4	CHASING THE ACE	K Williams (C)	No report.
2		5	BELLAS ANGEL	G Rattray	No report.

RACE 2 – Bevan Lees Butchery Staes – 2200m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
3		1	OUR WILLOW	T Rattray	No report.
5		2	WEE GEORGIE WOOD	G Rattray	G. Rattray explained the gelding over-raced and shifted in unexpectedly when BEARHUNTA improved around him. He added WEE GEORGIE WOOD also hung in and is more tractable when racing on the marker pegs.
6		3	ITZBUDDHA NZ	R Backhouse (C)	Tightened by WEE GEORGIE WOOD who hung in near the 300 metres resulting in ITZBUDDHA contacting marker pegs and breaking gait. A post-race veterinary examination failed to reveal any abnormalities.
2		4	ROCKY STRIDE	B Davis (C)	No report.
1		5	BEARHUNTA	D Ford	Out of position at the start and will continue to be excluded from the barrier draw for mobile races. Hung in near the 800 metres.
4		6	DENVER MAN	C Salter	Will be re-included in the barrier draw for mobile races.

RACE 3 – Ladbrokes More on Tote Loading – 2200m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
4		1	CUZZY BRO	G Rattray	No report.
6		2	MAEBEE	K Williams (C)	No report.
1		3	BETTABLACK TIGER	T Rattray	No report.
3		4	WATERMELON SUGAR NZ	R Backhouse (C)	R. Backhouse was advised that he must modify his whip action to ensure he fully complies with the whip rules.
5		5	VANQUISH STRIDE NZ	T Ford	No report.
2		6	GO THE RED	D Ford	No report.

RACE 4 – Ladbrokes More from Tote Soon – 1680m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
6		1	JILLSTIGER	J Walters	J. Walters explained when the pace quickened leaving the 800 metres JILLSTIGER hung in and contacted a marker peg.
1		2	SOHO TIGER LILY	D Ford	No report.
2		3	A DRAGON FOR JOE	M Jones (C,5)	Hung in near the 1200 metres and locked wheels momentarily with OUR SWEET TRIXIE.
3		4	OUR SWEET TRIXIE NZ	B Davis (C)	Locked wheels momentarily with A DRAGON FOR JOE near the 1200 metres.
7		5	SOHO TUXEDO	T Ford (C)	No report.
5		6	TALK IS CHEAP	K Williams (C)	No report.
4		7	SOLO SAFARI	G Rattray	No report.
8		8	GOBSMACKED	E Arnott (C)	Underwent a pre-race veterinary examination due to having in excess of 200 races. Passed fit to start.

RACE 5 – Ladbrokes Next Multi in Next Up Pace – 2200m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
12		1	CALL ME JOSIE	B Parker	Raced in a marker peg position and gave ground from the 1000 metres to finish twelfth beaten 176 metres. A post-race veterinary examination failed to reveal any abnormalities. Stood down from racing until the completion of one re-qualifying trial.
3		2	JILLIBY WORPA	P Dornauf	No report.
9		3	TASSIE DAZZLER	G Rattray	Over-raced in the early and middle stages of the race.
8		4	SWEETHEART DIOR	D Ford	No report.
4		5	WINNING BREW	B Davis (C)	No report.
7		6	BRIGHTLY BLAZE	E Arnott (C)	No report.

11		7	MY TANYA LEE	A Collins	Gave ground over the concluding stages to finish eleventh, beaten 91 metres. A warning was issued for a poor performance.
5		8	OUTBACK LASS	K Williams (C)	Checked and carried back when caught behind the tiring CALL ME JOSIE from the 1000 metres to the 700 metres.
10		9	CALA SERENA	R Backhouse (C)	Inconvenienced on the home turn when BRIGHTLY BLAZE improving into a tight run to its inside and SNIPER SANZ improved to its outside. This resulted in CALA SERENA being positioned tight between horses.
2		10	OMYBACNKNEES JUDGE	C Castles	No report.
6		11	SNIPER SANZ	J Walters	Broke gait after the start and will now be excluded from the barrier draw for mobile races. Checked leaving the 1000 metres when caught behind the tiring CALL ME JOSIE.
1		12	QUARTEIRA	T Rattray	No report.

General: Trainer A. Duggan was fined \$50 under Rule 238 for failing to advise Stewards prior to the race of the tactics to be adopted by BRIGHTLY BLAZE and CALA SERENA.

RACE 6 – Lees Orchard Stakes – 1680m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
1		1	WEONA EAGLE	K Williams (C)	No report
7		2	INTO THE HARKNESS	T Ford (C)	No report.
9		3	MIGHT AND TEMERITY	R Backhouse (C)	No report.
2		4	MUZZAME MATE	M Jones (C,5)	No report.
6		5	KOSTYUK LEIS	B Davis (C)	No report.
3		6	KEEPERS IDEAL NZ	C Castles	No report.
4		7	IDEN LADY LINCOLN	D Ford	No report.
		8	TOLD YOU TWICE	SCRATCHED	
10		9	JAMES CAGNEY NZ	G Rattray	After racing behind the leader, gave ground from the 300 metres to finish tenth, beaten 34 metres.
8		10	SAPPHIRE GAMBLER	A Collins	No report.

5		11	MISTA EAGLE	E Arnott (C)	Checked near the 300 metres when caught behind the tiring JAMES CAGNEY.
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RACE 7 – Vizpix Broadcast Services Pace – 2200m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
2		1	MERRYWOOD PAUL	E Arnott (C)	Withstood protest.
8		2	HAZEWILLREV	G Rattray	No report.
4		3	CENTURIAN MISS	B Davis (C)	Protest lodged against second placed MERRYWOOD PAUL dismissed. Checked and broke gait in the home straight.
6		4	FLEETWOOD ROCK	A Collins	No report.
7		5	WILL HE PIKE	M Jones (C,5)	No report.
9		6	LYNRYD SKYNRYD NZ	H Van Dongen	No report.
11		7	TABROS TILLY	K Williams (C)	No report.
5		8	JILLIBY MENDOZA	P Dornauf	No report.
3		9	GOODTIME OSCAR	D Ford	No report.
1		10	COLBY SANZ	J Walters	J. Walters suspended from driving in races for two (2) race dates for causing interference to CENTURIAN MISS in the home straight.
10		11	MONTGOMERY BURNS NZ	R Backhouse (C)	Will be re-included in the barrier draw for mobile races.

General: Stewards considered a protest lodged by B. Davis the driver of CENTURIAN MISS which was placed fourth by the judge, against the second placed MERRYWOOD PAUL (E. Arnott) alleging CENTURIAN MISS was entitled to take the run to the inside of MERRYWOOD PAUL on the final turn, however that run was closed. The evidence disclosed MERRYWOOD PAUL while leading shifted out on the home turn and B. Davis directed CENTURIAN MISS into that vacated position, however there was not a full run available. Stewards dismissed the protest as they were comfortably satisfied that a full run had not presented itself to CENTURIAN MISS.

Stewards inquired into the reason for CENTURIAN MISS being checked and breaking gait in the run to the finish. It was established that COLBY SANZ (J. Walters) raced tight to the outside of MERRYWOOD PAUL (E. Arnott) and then shifted into the racing line of MERRYWOOD PAUL obliging E. Arnott to move away from COLBY SANZ to avoid greater interference. As a result of E. Arnott attempting to avoid interference from COLBY SANZ, CENTURIAN MISS which racing near the inside wheel of MERRYWOOD PAUL was checked and broke gait. J. Walters was found guilty of a charge under Rule 163(1)(a)(iii) of causing interference and had his licence to drive in races suspended for two (2) race dates. The suspension will commence on 28 September 2026 and conclude 5 October 2026.

RACE 8 – The Bottle O Hadspen Stakes – 2200m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
5		1	ALL ABOUT SADIE	E Arnott (C)	Shifted out after the start.
6		2	NOELS GIFT	K Williams (C)	No report.
7		3	DANCINWIVJOLENE	C Castles	No report.
10		4	NIKITA JO	R Backhouse (C)	No report.
1		5	BUSLOAD OF FAITH NZ	G Rattray	No report.
2		6	MIKI SANZ	J Walters	No report.
3		7	PUNTARNO STRIDE NZ	T Ford (C)	Underwent a pre-race veterinary examination due to having in excess of 200 races. Passed fit to start
8		8	LALIBELA NZ	D Ford	Obtained an inside run after the start when ALL ABOUT SADIE shifted out.
9		9	CHRIS BE QUICK	B Davis (C)	No report.
4		10	NO NUKES SKIPPER NZ	H Van Dongen	Underwent a pre-race veterinary examination due to having in excess of 200 races. Passed fit to start.

RACE 9 – Impress Print Pace – 1680m MS

Pla	Col	No	Horse	Driver	Incident
4		1	IMA LITTLE NEEDY	B Parker	No report.
1		2	CHEYS ANGEL	K Williams (C)	No report.
8		3	OUR BETTER BRO	T Ford (C)	No report.
2		4	JUST LIKA DREAM	G Rattray	No report.
9		5	IFYOULOVEMELETMEGO	B Davis (C)	Improved three wide near the 1200 metres but were unable to muster sufficient speed to cross in front of OUR BETTOR BRO and therefore remained three wide until giving ground near the 600 metres to finish

					ninth, beaten 59 metres.
3		6	REPETIVE NZ	H Van Dongen	No report.
5		7	COOLANDCOLLECT	D Ford	Failed to secure clear running until near the 100 metres and was not fully tested.
6		8	ROSE NOIRE NZ	B Miller (C)	No report.
7		9	CHAMONIX	R Backhouse (C)	No report.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Launceston 13 September 2026 – Race 4

Stewards inquired into the reason for LIFE ONA HIGHWAY being checked and breaking gait upon straightening for the run to the finish. The evidence disclosed D. Ford moved ARRIVAL TIME wider to gain clear running, obliging L. Hooper on SPORTY GRANT to ease wider to avoid interference and as a result LIFE ONA HIGHWAY which had improved to the outside of SPORTY GRANT was checked and broke gait. D. Ford pleaded guilty to a charge under Rule 163(1)(a)(iii) of causing interference and had his licence to drive in races suspended for two (2) race dates. The suspension will commence on 4 October 2026 and conclude on 12 October 2026.

Stewards finalised an inquiry that was opened and adjourned on 13 September 2026 in relation to D. Ford calling out in the race while driving ARRIVAL TIME who was positioned three back on the marker pegs. D. Ford acknowledged he had called out when G. Rattray was improving quickly three wide on SHIBASAKI as he wanted R. Backhouse who was leading on DIAMONONTEROCKS to be aware and D. Ford did not want to be positioned four back on the marker pegs. D. Ford was found guilty of a charge under Rule 240(c) of calling out in the race which in the opinion of the stewards was improper. In determining penalty stewards took into account D. Ford's forthright evidence, his record and also that giving a verbal warning attempted to provide R. Backhouse with a tactical advantage he would not otherwise have had through his own situational awareness and it also attempted to disadvantage G. Rattray (SHIBASAKI) by affecting his tactical manoeuvre. D. Ford had his licence to drive in races suspended for four (4) race dates. Stewards ordered this suspension to commence at the conclusion of the interference suspension he received in the same race. The suspension will commence 13 October 2026 and conclude 26 October 2026.

RACE MEETING SUMMARY

CATEGORY	RACE	DETAILS	AHR RULE
SUSPENSIONS:	7	J. Walters – Caused interference. Two (2) race dates	163(1)(a)(iii)
		D. Ford – Caused interference. Two (2) race dates (Launceston 13/9/2026 meeting)	163(1)(a)(iii)
		D. Ford – Improper. Four (4) race dates (Launceston 13/9/2026 meeting)	240(c)
FINES:	5	A. Duggan. Fail to advise tactics - \$50	238

REPRIMANDS:		Nil	
HORSE ACTIONS:	2	DENVER MAN – Re-include in mobile barrier draw	
	5	CALL ME JOSIE – Stood down one re-qualifying trial	
	5	SNIPER SANZ – Exclude from mobile barrier draw	
	7	MONTGOMERY BURNS – Re-include in mobile barrier draw.	
PRE-RACE SWABS:	BEARHUNTA, WATERMELON SUGAR, SOLO SAFARI, TASSIE DAZZLER, IDEN LADY LINCOLN, JILLIBY MENDOZA, CHRIS BE QUICK, IMA LITTLE NEEDY.		
POST-RACE SWABS:	BEARHUNTA, BETTABLACK TIGER, SOHO TIGERLILY, QUARTEIRA, WEONA EAGLE, COLBY SANZ, BUSLOAD OF FAITH, CHEYS ANGEL.		
POST-RACE TCO2:	Nil		
FOLLOW UPS:	Nil		
ADJOURNED/PENDING INQUIRIES:	Nil		

Steward's report as posted is provisional and subject to further review and amendment.

Date	Changes / Version
28/9/2026	Version 1