

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS REPORT

Canberra Racing Club Incorporated

THOROUGHBRED PARK

Friday 5 December 2025

Weather: Fine.

Track: Soft (5)

Rail: Out 8m

J D Walshe (Chairman), M F Vilo & J Whitney (Stewards), P Selmes (Starter), J Turner (Assistant Starter), Ms K Tanner (Swab), Ms C Louttit (Scales), Dr J Laing (Veterinarian).

Supplementary Report

Soar Above - An inquiry was conducted today into the reasons why *Soar Above* collapsed and died whilst being exercised at Thoroughbred Park on 14 October 2025. The evidence revealed that the gelding had been cantered three laps of the smaller bottom sand track when the gelding collapsed and died. Trainer Mr L Pepper provided his stable's treatment records which detailed one treatment of no consequence and the evidence showed that the gelding had not required any veterinary treatments whilst in the care of Mr Pepper. A preliminary necropsy report provided by Dr L Lee – Canberra Racetrack & Equestrian Services provided no clear conclusion as to the cause of the gelding's death however samples of lung tissue collected during the autopsy were sent for histopathology. A subsequent pathology report prepared by Dr L Woolford indicated that a cardiomyopathy/adverse cardiac event was favoured over exercise induced pulmonary haemorrhage as the more likely cause of death. As there was no evidence of any pre-existing condition that may have caused or contributed to the death of *Soar Above*, the matter was formally concluded.

RACE 1: Custom Plumbing Handicap 2000m

Xcited – Was contacted on the hindquarter by Devil Rider which shifted out.

Devil Rider – Was unsettled in the barriers, began awkwardly and shifted out and made contact with Xcited.

RACE 2: Geocon Standout Performers Of The Year Plate 1600m

Miss Defy – Rider N Heywood was permitted to ride his mount 1kg overweight in accordance with the policy.

Dezignation – Rider P Boudvillain did not require the 1/2kg overweight initially sought in accordance with the policy. A subsequent notification to this effect was made.

De Louviere – Laid in inside the final 250m.

Twisted Love – When questioned regarding the performance of the mare which was resuming today, rider A Farragher advised that despite being obliged to race three-wide throughout, his mount was under pressure from the 600m and proved very plain in the straight. He added that when he rode the mare in its barrier trial at Warwick Farm on 25 November 2025, the mare was also very plain on that occasion. A post-race veterinary examination of the mare did not reveal any abnormality. Stable representative Ms S Murray-Leslie was nevertheless told that the mare, which started favourite and was beaten 14L, would be required to barrier trial to the Steward's satisfaction prior to being permitted to race again.

RACE 3: Mikolo Bricklaying Handicap 1000m

Abstruse – Was a little slow to begin and crowded soon after by Maybe Maureen which shifted out. Raced very wide from the 700m.

Incantata – Raced five-wide throughout.

Witch Of November – Raced four-wide until the 600m and three-wide thereafter.

ItzARBaby – Began awkwardly. When questioned regarding the performance of the mare, rider app Ms M Fitzgerald advised that her mount was disadvantaged when held up for clear running between the 600m and the 500m and with its big impost was subsequently unable to sprint and near the 350m also had its momentum impeded when had to be re-directed to the inside of Single Beat to continue into clear running. A post-race veterinary examination of the mare did not reveal any abnormality.

RACE 4: MGI Joyce Dickson Handicap 1000m

Capital Babe – Rider J Martin was permitted to ride his mount 1kg overweight in accordance with the policy. Began awkwardly and shifted in and came into contact with All Exceed which shifted out.

All Exceed – Began awkwardly shifted out and made contact with Capital Babe which simultaneously shifted in. Raced four-wide throughout.

Wee Win – Began awkwardly resulting in its rider being unbalanced.

Ocean Empress – Shifted in at the start and made heavy contact with Mashean and became unbalanced. Raced three-wide and also greenly throughout. Rounding the home turn overreacted and became unbalanced when taken out slightly by Mashean which shifted out. Passing the 50m laid in and shifted in slightly and was restrained from the heels of Bedda Mia (Ms R Freeman) which simultaneously shifted out under riding when not quite clear. Ms R Freeman was reprimanded (AR131(a)).

Mashean – On jumping was bumped by Ocean Empress which shifted in.

RACE 5: Kennards Hore Maiden Plate 1300m

Lovehunter – Rider N Heywood was permitted to ride his mount 1kg overweight in accordance with the policy. Began awkwardly and shifted out.

Sir Tua – The gelding, which was late arriving on course due to transport difficulties, was examined by the Club's veterinary officer and passed suitable to start.

Alamagan – Was a late scratching at 1:05pm due to transport difficulties.

That's Outstanding – Got its head down as the start was effected and was consequently slow to begin.

Onoma – The gelding, which was fractious in the barriers, was examined by the Club's veterinary officer and passed suitable to start. Was a little slow to begin. When questioned regarding the disappointing performance of the gelding, rider app Ms M Fitzgerald advised that her mount did not travel during the race, was disappointing in the straight and she attributed today's lacklustre showing to her mount's pre-race manners. A post-race veterinary examination of the gelding did not reveal any abnormality.

Skibidi – Began awkwardly and shifted in. Over-raced in the early and middle stages.

Camilla – Laid out under pressure over the final 200m.

RACE 6: TAB Federal 1200m

His Honour – Rider P Boudvillain did not require the 1/2kg overweight initially sought in accordance with the policy. A subsequent notification to this effect was made. Was bumped on jumping by King Taurus which began awkwardly and shifted out.

Keikoku – Rider J Martin was permitted to ride his mount 1kg overweight in accordance with the policy. Was held up rounding the home turn and in the early part of the straight.

King Taurus – Began awkwardly and shifted out bumping His honour. Over-raced in the early stages and was obliged to race three-wide throughout.

Imasuperstar – Was held up rounding the home turn and in the early part of the straight.

RACE 7: Heffernan Lending Solutions Handicap 1400m

The Eyes Have It – Rider P Boudvillain did not require the 1/2kg overweight initially sought in accordance with the policy. A subsequent notification to this effect was made.

Hell's Itch – Slow to begin. Was held up rounding the home turn and until passing the 250m when able to improve into a run that developed between Tokyo Star and Cashbook.

Cashbook – Was contacted on jumping by Supairo which shifted out. When questioned, rider app D Cole advised that he was instructed to be positive from the gates but to obtain cover. He added that he felt his mount jumped too well and ultimately when trapped wide he was obliged to make some use of his mount to obtain a position closer to the rail, settling outside

the leader Tokyo Star. He added that as a consequence his mount was left without a finishing effort. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to be lame in its off-foreleg (grade 1/5). Trainer Mr T Smart was told that a veterinary clearance would be required before the gelding would be permitted to race again.

Cossack Warrior – On straightening was contacted by Supairo which forced a run between that runner and Nights Inferno when improving to that runner's outside.

Swabs:

Swab samples were obtained from all winners.

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Nil.
Reprimands:	Race 4: Ms R Freeman (Bedda Mia) - AR131(a) – Careless riding.
Suspensions:	Nil.
Bleeders:	Nil.
Warnings:	Nil.
Trials:	Nil.
Vet Certificates:	Race 2: Twisted Love – Poor performance fav beaten 14L. Race 7: Cashbook – Lamé off-foreleg (grade 1/5).
Falls/Injuries:	Nil.
Change of Colours:	Race 2: Kindamagic – Yellow with green starred cap. Race 7: The Eyes Have It – White cap.
Follow up:	Nil.