

DEATHWATCH

REPORT 2020



Prepared by the
Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses



ABOUT

Deathwatch Report 2020 is the seventh annual report that summarises all on-track deaths of racehorses around Australia over the past 12 months. Research and production is by the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses.

This report was initiated because the racing industry does not collate and publish specific information relating to on course horse deaths themselves. From the period 1st of August 2019 to 31st of July 2020 (the 'racing year'), we have monitored every race Australia-wide and gathered data on the deaths of racehorses on Australian racetracks.



The 2019-2020- death toll

The toll for this racing year is **116 horses**
– **six fewer than last year.**



In addition to these deaths

Many thousands of horses die every year from racing related injuries off the track in training, or they are killed prematurely when they are no longer commercially viable, known as “wastage” by the racing industry.



SOURCES OF DATA + KEY FINDINGS

Data for the Deathwatch Report has been gathered from each state's official stewards' reports, which are published on the individual state websites, and various media outlets.

It is important to note that most states do not report deaths while training or in trials. It is also important to note that official stewards' reports are not required to list the deaths of horses caused by on track injuries if the horse is removed from the track on race day and killed in the days or weeks later. From this, it can be drawn that if these deaths were disclosed, the total number of deaths would be far higher.

From what has been reported it is confirmed that at the very least:

116

RACEHORSES WERE KILLED
ON TRACK (OR SOON AFTER
RACING); MOST COMMONLY
FROM CATASTROPHIC FRONT
LIMB INJURY

ON AVERAGE ONE
HORSE WILL DIE ON
AN AUSTRALIAN
RACE TRACK
EVERY 3 DAYS



Of the **116** horses that were reported to have died, the most prevalent cause of death was catastrophic front limb injury with **59** occurrences. Cardiac causes were the second leading cause of death with **10** occurrences. Other causes of death were massive bleeds, catastrophic hind limb injury, pelvis injury and head trauma.



SOURCES OF DATA + KEY FINDINGS

59

HORSES DIED FROM
CATASTROPHIC
FRONT LIMB
INJURY

10

HORSES DIED
FROM CARDIAC
CAUSES

9

HORSES DIED
FROM BLEEDS

7

HORSES DIED FROM
CATASTROPHIC
HIND LIMB
INJURY

4

HORSES DIED
FROM PELVIS
INJURY

2

HORSES DIED
FROM HEAD
TRAUMA

1

HORSE DIED
FROM NECK
INJURY

24

HORSES DIED
FROM UNKNOWN
CAUSES

THE STATE WITH THE
HIGHEST RECORDED
DEATHS WAS NSW
FOLLOWED BY VIC
AND QLD

9

HORSES WERE
2 WHEN THEY
DIED

45

OF THE HORSES THAT
WERE KILLED HAD BEEN
RACED AS A 2-YEAR-OLD

THE MOST LETHAL
TRACK IN AUSTRALIA
IS WARRNAMBOOL
IN VICTORIA WITH
5 DEATHS



CAUSES OF DEATH

Of the 24 horses whose cause of death is not clarified, 22 were from Victorian racetracks. Victoria reported a total of 31 deaths, meaning Victorian stewards only disclosed the cause of death in their reporting 9 times.

Sub category of unknown causes



It is not only Racing Victoria which fails to provide transparency regarding causes of death. Across all states there is also a lack of full disclosure of necropsy results. In NSW, for example, over the past 10 years there have been only a few cases of a horse who was killed on the track disclosed as having had pre-existing pathology. This is despite equine scientific researchers around the world stating they find pre-existing injuries in over 80% of racehorses undergoing necropsies.

“More than 80% of racehorses that suffer a fatal musculoskeletal injury have pre-existing underlying pathology related to the fracture, indicating that the final catastrophic event is the culmination of repetitive wear and not an isolated incident caused by a “bad step” or a “hole in the track.”

Source: <https://bit.ly/31LPuCu>



CAUSES OF DEATH

An Australian study found:

“Up to 70% of thoroughbred racehorses have bone bruising, or joint surface collapse of the cannon bone and condylar fractures which propagate from this joint surface are the most common cause of fatal breakdown injuries. These injuries are due to bone fatigue, damage that accumulates due to repeated high loading produced by high speed galloping.”

Source: <https://bit.ly/2E3ncuP>

As former Australian racing industry veterinarian of 50 years, Peter Kerkenezov has stated:

“I could go into a stable, any stable, and pull out half their horses that shouldn’t be racing”.

Peter Kerkenezov BM
Former Racing Industry Veterinarian of 50 years
BVSc (Qld), DipAppSc, Cert Equine Surgery
Sept 2018

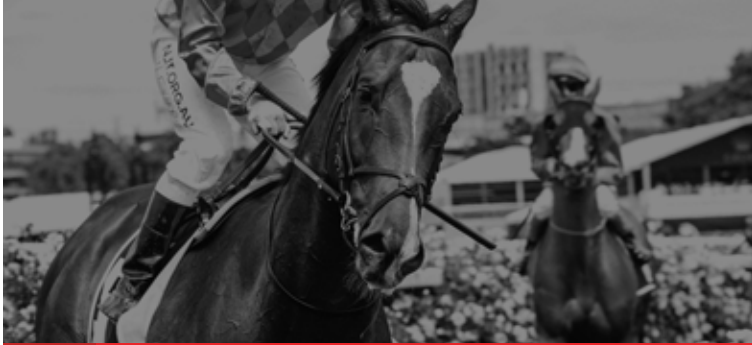
And this is just with standard veterinary inspection.

Will a modern society accept that fatal injuries are just part of this ‘sport’?

At the 2019 Melbourne Cup, when the eyes of the world were watching closely to see if one of the world's most famous horse races would take its seventh life in as many years, all horses were required to undergo stringent veterinary checks using the latest technology. When the eyes of the world are not watching, the industry discontinues this prudent risk management.

Specific injuries include heart attack, broken neck, head trauma, broken pelvis, fractured shoulder, major haemorrhage, ruptured suspensory apparatus, fractured radius, displaced condylar fracture, fracture of the humerus, carpal fracture, fractured knee, fractured sesamoid bone, fractured cannon bone, fractured fetlock and severed tendons.

Others are simply categorised as “Serious /catastrophic racing injury” or “collapsed and died”, with either very minimal or no details disclosed.



COMPARISON TO OTHER YEARS

2014

There were **125 deaths**. This is one death every **2.9** days.

2015

There were **116 deaths**. This is one death every **3.2** days.

2016

There were **132 deaths**. This is one death every **2.8** days.

2017

There were **137 deaths**. This is one death every **2.7** days.

2018

There were **119 deaths**. This is one death every **3.1** days.

2019

There were **122 deaths**. This is one death every **3** days.

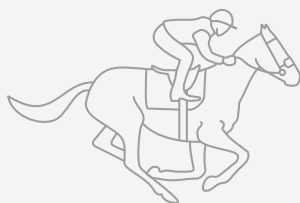
2020

There were **116 deaths**. This is one death every **3.2** days.

Again, the true number of horse deaths caused from being raced would be much greater.

Watch our short clip to see how easy it is for deaths to go unreported.

<https://youtu.be/RDszJ-4NJFw>



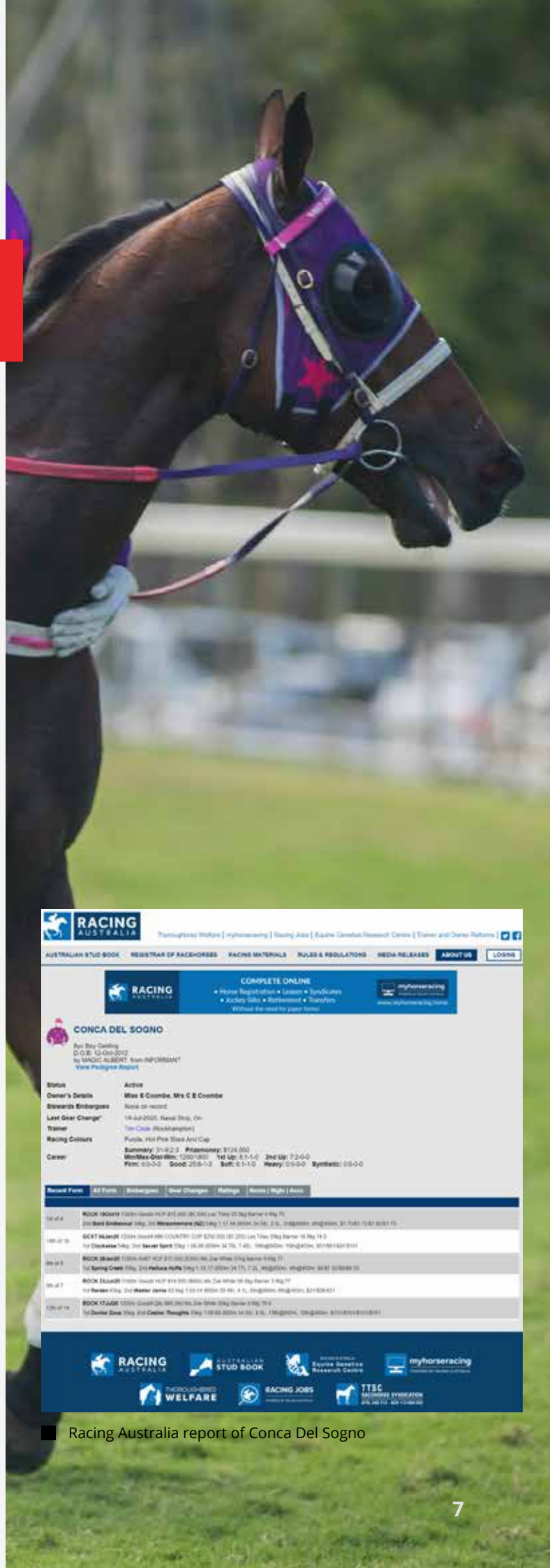
STILL ACTIVE


Since the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses has been reporting on the high number of horses still listed as active on Racing Australia, long after their deaths are reported by stewards, there has been some improvement in their record keeping.

Last year 17 horses were still listed as active at the time of writing the 2019 Deathwatch Report. This year that number has been reduced to 5. **Conca Del Sogno** is one example of this inaccurate record keeping.

On the 17 July 2020 the gelding suffered a heart attack. The stewards report stated:

CONCA DEL SOGNO - Approaching the 400m, had to take evasive action to avoid the heels of FOMO. Following the running of this event on pulling up, the gelding collapsed and suffered a heart attack. The gelding was humanely euthanised by the veterinary surgeon and stewards ordered post-mortem samples were taken.







RACING

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CONCA DEL SOGNO

Bay Gelding

D.O.B. 19-08-2012

by **MAGIC ALBERT** from **INFORMANT**

[View Pedigree Report](#)

Status

Owner's Details

Stewards Embargoes

Last Gear Change

Trainer

Racing Colours

Career

Active

Mrs E Coombe, Mrs G Coombe

None on record

16-Jul-2020, Head Strap, On

Tim Cook (Rockhampton)

Purple, Hot Pink Stars and Cap

Summary: 31-62-3 Prize money: \$124,000

Max/Mex-Gst Wtn: 1200/1800 1st Up: 8.5-1-0 2nd Up: 7.2-0-0

Fave: 8.0-0-0 Good: 25.8-1-3 Soft: 8.1-1-0 Heavy: 0.0-0-0 Synthetic: 0.0-0-0

Recent Form

1st of 4

2nd of 4

3rd of 4

4th of 4

ROCK 190019

1200m Good HCP \$10,000 (24,000) 2nd Time 12.5g Barrier 4 Rg 11

2nd **Rock Underhill** 1200m 2nd **Messmore** (NZ) 1200m 1st 11.4g Barrier 10 Rg 11

ROCK 184020

1200m Good HCP \$10,000 (24,000) 1st Time 12.5g Barrier 10 Rg 11

1st **Clockwork** 1200m 2nd **Sever Sport** 1200m 1st 10.4g Barrier 14 Rg 11

ROCK 184020


1200m Good HCP \$10,000 (24,000) 1st Time 12.5g Barrier 10 Rg 11

1st **Spring Creek** 1200m 2nd **Malva Huffs** 1200m 1st 10.7g Barrier 14 Rg 11

ROCK 184020


1200m Good HCP \$10,000 (24,000) 1st Time 12.5g Barrier 10 Rg 11

1st **Sever Sport** 1200m 2nd **Malva Huffs** 1200m 1st 10.7g Barrier 14 Rg 11




RACING

AUSTRALIA




AUSTRALIAN

STUD BOOK




THOROUGHBRED

WELFARE



RACING JOBS

Equine Care and Research Centre

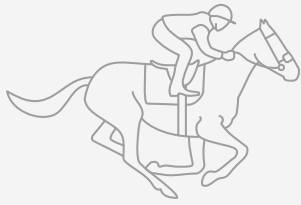


TTSC

THOROUGHBRED SYNDICATE

185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

■ Racing Australia report of Conca Del Sogno



STILL ACTIVE

Even though there has been an improvement in recording the status of deceased horses whose deaths are publicly reported by stewards, there is a countless number of horses listed as 'active', 'spelled' or 'retired' who have simply vanished. Racing Australia must be more proactive in following up horses who never return to the track and publicly disclose the reasons.

5 of the 116 horses that have died on the track or in training are still listed as "active" on the Racing Australia website, despite their deaths being recorded in the stewards' reports.



Machine



Gothic Romance



Dispossessed



Fast Tycoon



Conca Del Sogno

For screenshots of deceased horses still listed as active at the time of writing this report email enquiries@horseracingkills.com



NOTE: THESE HORSES WERE RESEARCHED AND CHECKED FOR THE FINAL TIME ON 24 AUGUST 2020. THEIR STATUS MAY HAVE BEEN UPDATED BY THE RACING INDUSTRY FROM 'ACTIVE' TO 'DECEASED' SINCE THIS DATE TO DISPLAY THE TRUTH.



'UNNAMED' HORSES

Occasionally this report refers to a horse as 'unnamed'. In those cases, the horse died before being given an official racing name, usually during trackwork or training. Currently New South Wales is the only state to disclose these figures, making it difficult to form an accurate record of racing deaths. The Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses continues to call for all deaths during trackwork, trials and training to be included in stewards' reports nationwide.

1

Unnamed Gelding Killed After Trying To Escape

An unnamed 3-year-old gelding was euthanised on the morning of 23 March 2020. The report stated *"that on the morning of Saturday 21 March 2020, after being saddled in its stable tie-up stall" at the Sapphire Coast Racetrack, "the gelding became very fractious, reared over the partition and escaped, and soon after slipped over and fell on two occasions prior to being re-captured."* He was examined, treated and ultimately *"euthanised on humane grounds."*

2

Unnamed Filly Killed At Pakenham With No Reason Disclosed

A stewards' report covering a race day at Pakenham on 19 March 2020 revealed the death of a 2-year-old unnamed filly three months prior. This information was only made publicly available because the trainer was reprimanded for failing to lodge a stable return. The filly's death would have been unknown to us otherwise.

From the report:

Trainer Phillip Stokes was reprimanded for failing to lodge a stable return in accordance with AR103(4)(b) for an unnamed filly (Nostradamus/Twisted Heart/2017), which entered his stable 3/12/2019 and was subsequently euthanised 9/12/2019, following a track accident at Pakenham Racecourse.

DIED IN THEIR FIRST RACE

These four horses died in their first ever race:



Barragan

5 years old. Post-race vet examination revealed serious injury to left knee and a bleed from one nostril.

4/12/19, Echuca, VIC



Gis a Butchers

3 years old. Fractured right fore fetlock.

6/10/19, Bairnsdale, VIC



Jeruca Jewel

2 years old. Serious racing injury.

8/5/20, Mornington, VIC



Savanissi

2 years old. Serious racing injury.

8/8/19, Warrnambool, VIC

DIED IN THEIR FIRST TRIALS OR TRACKWORK

These six horses didn't even make it to the racetrack:



Bijiji

2 years old. Trackwork: Broke down during trackwork, suffering a catastrophic failure of left humerus.

5/11/19, Albury, NSW



Unnamed

2 years old. Trackwork: Death from unknown cause during trackwork.

9/12/19, Pakenham, VIC



River Deep

3 years old. 1st Trial: Catastrophic injury to his offside hindleg during first trial.

6/8/19, Scone, NSW



Vandusen

2 years old. 1st Trial: During his first trial, suffered an exercise-associated sudden death.

20/3/20, Warwick Farm, NSW



Unnamed

3 years old. Trackwork: Became very fractious in tie-up stall after being saddled, reared over and escaped, slipped over on two occasions. Subsequently found to have suffered a left forelimb humeral fracture.

23/3/20, Sapphire Coast, NSW



Minnie Malachi

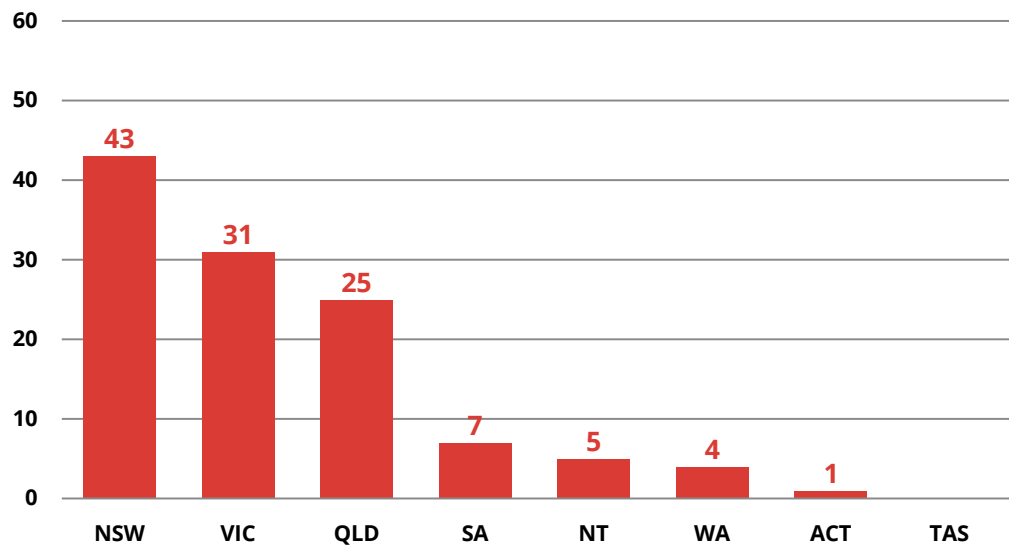
4 years old. 2nd Trial: The mare suffered a right-fore displaced lateral condylar fracture on returning to the scales and was subsequently euthanased.

18/8/19, Moruya, NSW

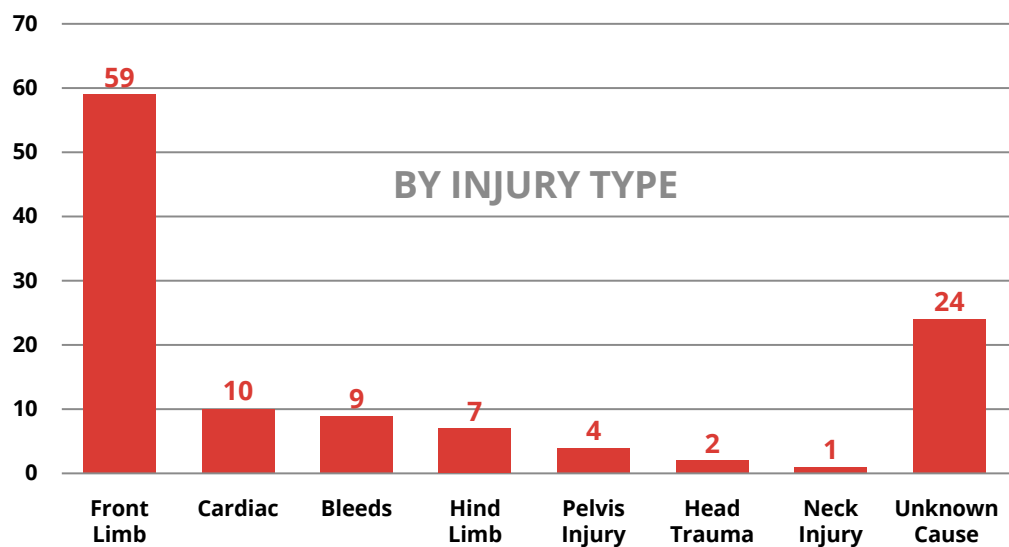
Note: Only NSW records deaths in trials and trackwork, hence why the above are all in NSW (excluding the Pakenham death which was only publicly available information as the trainer received a reprimand for not submitting a stable return). Many more deaths of very young horses would be recorded and would make up part of this report if other states were required to disclose such information.

STATISTICS

DEATH BY STATE

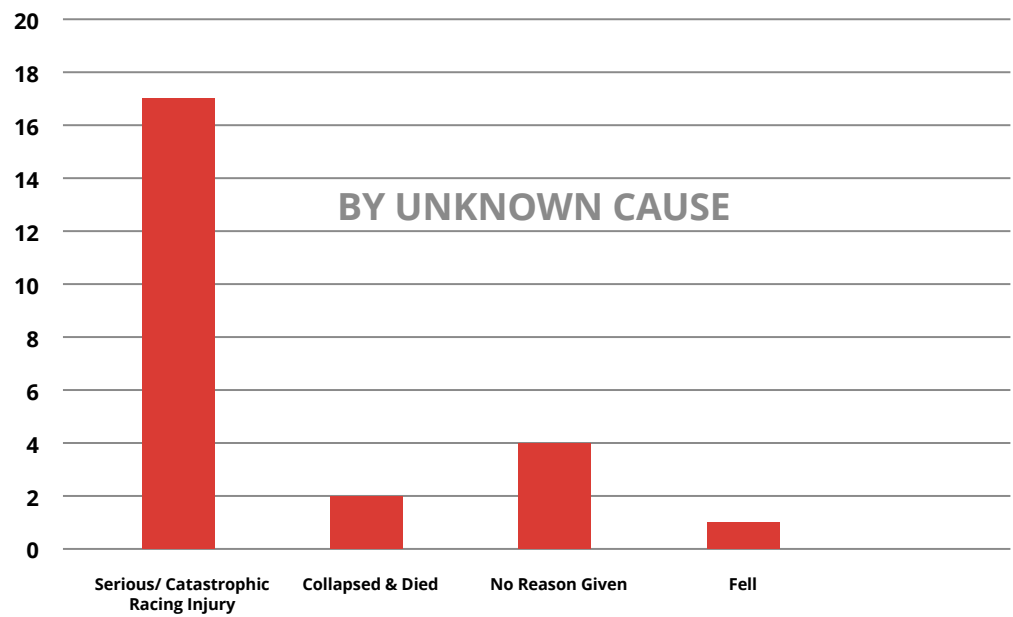


DEATH BY CAUSE

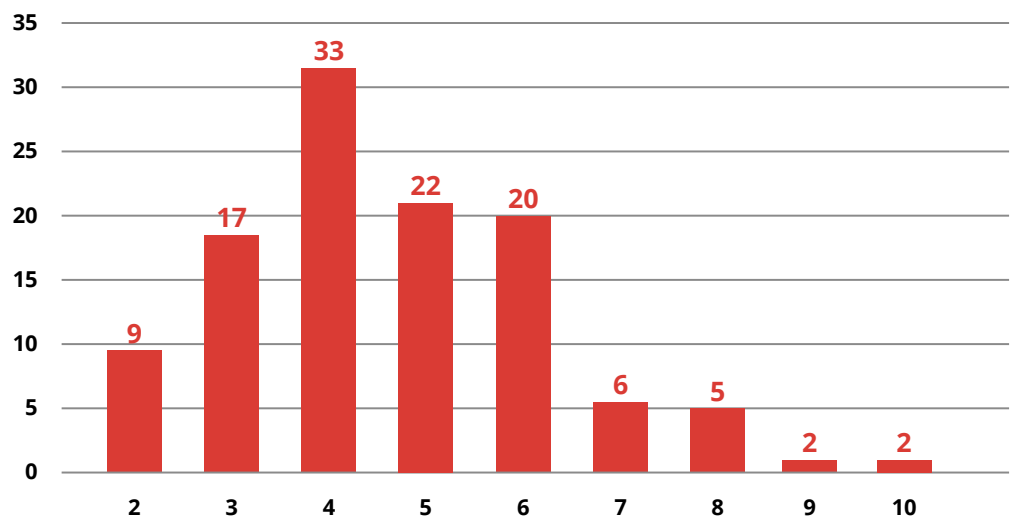


STATISTICS

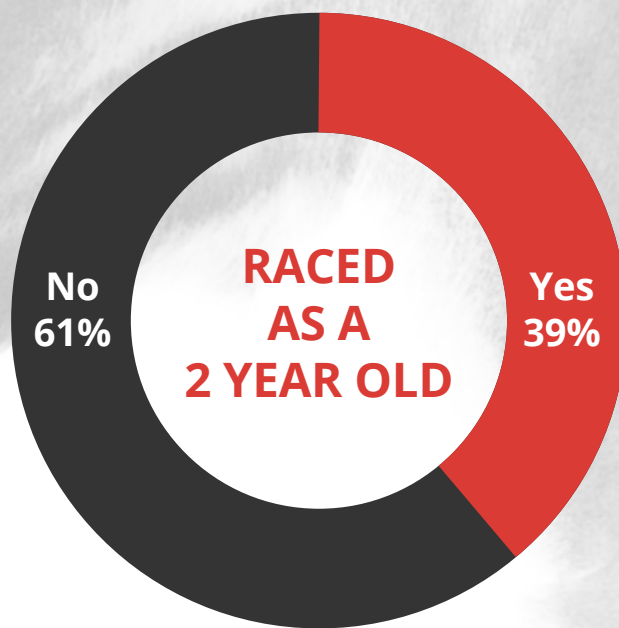
DEATH BY CAUSE



DEATH BY AGE



STATISTICS



*Many of the horses who did not race as a 2-year-old were in fact raced as a 3-year-old, which is still an under-developed stage



CASE STUDIES

1

The Star Legend Falls, Euthanised After Heart Attack

During Race 6 at Alice Springs, NT, on the 15th March 2020, **The Star Legend** suffered a heart attack and fell. The 5-year-old gelding was subsequently euthanised on the track. The steward reported that the rider was “...dislodged at the 500m after his mount fell. The veterinarian advised that the gelding fell as a result of suffering a cardiac event and was subsequently humanely euthanised.”

Over eleven races, **The Star Legend** had won his owners over \$32,000.



■ The Star Legend **Source:** Racing and Sports

2

10-Year-Old Entirely Perfect Dies in His 154th Race

On the last day of 2019, while people were celebrating New Year's Eve, 10-year-old **Entirely Perfect** ran his 154th race. During that race, at Warrnambool, Vic, **Entirely Perfect** “suffered a serious racing injury,” according to the steward's report, and was euthanised. Of his 154 races, 26 were jumps races and the remaining 128 races were flat.

Entirely Perfect had won his owners \$116,859 before his death.



■ Entirely Perfect **Source:** Breednet

CASE STUDIES

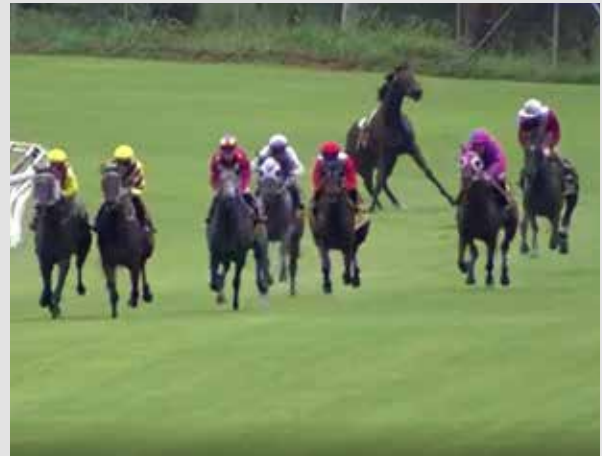
3

Catastrophic Pelvic Injury in Her Second Race

In just her second race, and at only 2-years-old, **Miss Magnitude** suffered a horrific injury on 5th March 2020. The steward reported that during Race 5 at Rockhampton, Qld, **Miss Magnitude** “[b]ecame awkward in its stride and fell in the vicinity of the 700m resulting in rider R. Wiggins being dislodged.” The examining veterinarian found that both her hind legs had paresis “which resulted in a catastrophic pelvic injury and as such was humanely euthanised.”

Several horses in the race were impacted by **Miss Magnitude**’s fall, including **Gracious Jazz** who, according to the steward’s report, had to “take evasive action in the vicinity of the 700m to avoid

the falling **Miss Magnitude**,” and when he returned to his stables “was lame in both front legs.”



■ Miss Magnitude injured during race

4

Papaya Euthanised After Leg Snapped

2-year-old **Papaya** had been raced six times before her leg snapped, leading to her euthanasia. Her final race was Race 4 on the 13th June 2020, at Eagle Farm, Qld. According to the steward’s report, **Papaya** “[b]roke down in the near fore fetlock soon after the winning post and was euthanised on humane grounds.”

In her five months of racing, she won over \$49,000 for her owners.



■ Papaya



CASE STUDIES

5

Rostropovich Narrowly Avoids Becoming a Melbourne Cup Fatality, But Cup Day Was Not Fatality Free

4-year-old **Rostropovich** was very nearly the 7th Melbourne Cup day death at Flemington in as many years after he fractured his pelvis during 'the race that stops a nation.' He was taken to Werribee Equine Centre for treatment, something other horses with similar injuries may not be so fortunate to receive. He hasn't been raced since the Melbourne Cup and is still being rehabilitated.



■ Rostropovich

Rostropovich has been used as a pin up story as the racing industry scrambles to redeem themselves after six recent fatalities at the event. However, there was an overlooked victim on Melbourne Cup day: 5-year-old **Point Forward** lost his life at Richmond, Qld, during Race 2. He *"sustained a serious injury"* to his near foreleg and was euthanised.



■ Point Forward

6

Euthanasia Following Leg Trapped for "Extended Period"

Returning from an 11-month spell after her first race, 4-year-old **Wealth of Goolhi** lost her life in the barriers while getting ready for her third race at Grafton, NSW. According to the steward's report, after her *"near-hind leg became caught on the right-rear barrier gate"* **Wealth of Goolhi** fell and became panicked. She was stuck *"for an extended period"* before her leg could be freed, and *"was extremely fractious"* during that time. The Club's Official Veterinarian examined her after the event and found she had *"sustained a catastrophic*

injury" to her other back leg (her off-side stifle) and was euthanised



■ Wealth of Goolhi



CASE STUDIES

7

Al Kaphero Euthanised After 6 Months of Injuries

Al Kaphero was euthanised on the track during Race 7 in Bordertown SA on the 3rd May 2020. The 4-year-old “*broke down*” and sustained a fracture to the near fore shoulder. This was the fifth documented injury to his near fore limb in less than six months.

On 17/11/19, in Strathalbyn, SA, he was scratched pre-race due to a “*lame near foreleg.*” Eleven days later, he was again a late scratching from a trial at the same location, requiring a veterinary certificate before being allowed to be raced again.

On 12/2/20, at Gawler Racecourse, SA, he “*shifted in on jumping away*” and bumped another horse. A post-race vet exam found he was lame in the near foreleg and was again listed as a veterinary certificate being required before racing again.

On 15/3/20 during Race 4 at Murray Bridge, SA, he raced in “*restricted room,*” and a post-race vet exam found he was again lame in the near foreleg and the trainer again informed a veterinary certificate would

be required before being raced – the fourth time in five months. He was approved by stewards to be safe to race again on the 1st May 2020, and in his final race two days later, as he approached the 400m, he “*blundered in [his] action and broke down.* A post-race veterinary examination revealed a fracture to the near fore shoulder” and Al Kaphero was euthanised.



■ Al Kaphero **Source:** Inglis Digital

BLEEDS

Bleeding of the lungs or EIPH (Exercise-Induced Pulmonary Haemorrhage) is an exercise-induced condition with high prevalence in racing thoroughbreds.

Horses with EIPH bleed into their lungs and airways, usually as a result of burst capillaries. The tiny blood vessels are ruptured by the sheer pressure of blood pumping around the body during strenuous exercise. Researchers at the University of Melbourne have shown that 56 per cent of racehorses have blood in their windpipe, and 90 per cent have blood deeper in their lungs. Only about 1 per cent of horses show visible signs of bleeding, with blood at the nose. The rest are more difficult to diagnose because they bleed into their lungs without it being visible.

483 horses in Australia were reported to have suffered bleeds while being raced within this racing year. This equates to 1.3 horses being pushed to the point of bleeding through their nose every day. The vast majority of those reported bled from one or both nostrils. Just a small number were recorded as having bled internally—those bleeds were only reported as they had resulted in death.

In Australia, the first time a horse is reported to have suffered from EIPH during a race, they are banned from racing for three months; the second time they are banned for life. However, the majority of bleeds go undetected.



■ Horse suffering from Exercise-Induced Pulmonary Haemorrhage after racing. **Source:** winhorse



BLEEDS | CASE STUDIES:

1

Bled, Collapsed and Died During Race

On 14 September 2019, during Race 4 at Toowoomba, Qld, 7-year-old **There's Nemo** started to bleed and then collapsed and died on the track. The steward noted that **There's Nemo** yielded *"...ground from the 1100m before being retired from the race near the 500m at which point the gelding collapsed and died. A post-race veterinary examination revealed that the gelding had sustained a significant bleeding attack."*

There's Nemo had run 60 races before his death.



■ There's Nemo

2

Rancho Notorious Dies on Track After First Bleed

4-year-old **Rancho Notorious** collapsed and died during Race 4 at Royal Randwick, NSW on 9th May, 2020. According to the steward's report, the rider *"stated that soon after entering the straight he observed blood to be present at the nostrils and for this reason he eased the gelding down."* Despite no prior history of bleeding, *"Rancho Notorious collapsed near the 50m and was found to be deceased when attended to by the official veterinarians."*



■ Rancho Notorious **Source:** Jason Coyle Racing



BLEEDS | CASE STUDIES:

3

Four Horses Bled on Same Day at Same Track

On the 7th June 2020, at the NSW Sapphire Coast track, four horses all suffered bleeds and two did not survive.

Sacred Son bled from both nostrils for the second time and is now prohibited from racing.

Lord Boulevard bled from both nostrils for the first time and was given a three month ban from racing.

Bryan Roy suffered a severe bleeding attack and collapsed and died.

Bart suffered a severe bleeding attack, weakened and then collapsed and died. Bart had previously suffered a bleed in November 2019 and had only returned to racing 11 weeks before this second race-day bleed claimed his life.



■ Bryan Roy



■ Bart



MISSING OR EDITED VIDEO REPLAYS

As we frequently see in the racing industry, the standard action taken when horses are harmed is to try to cover it up rather than address it.

As the racing industry becomes increasingly under scrutiny, it is becoming more difficult for race replays which involve deaths to be accessed.

Of the 116 races where a horse was reported to have been killed, most of the various websites from the states and territories either failed to upload the stewards' vision, edited the replay or failed to upload any video replays of the race in which the death occurred entirely, on a total of 19 occasions.

Of the 19 deaths whose replays were either not uploaded or edited, 13 were from Victoria.

The Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses is calling on the racing industry to live up to their claims of being open and transparent by reporting on all deaths caused by race day injuries, even when the horses die away from the track, and ensuring all race replays are accessible, even when they involve serious injuries and death.



Flemington Race 01-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



Flemington Race 02-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



Flemington Race 03-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



Flemington Race 04-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



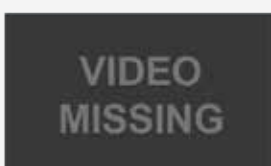
Flemington Race 05-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



Moonee Valley Race 06-Stewards Vision-13-12-19
13 December, 2019



Flemington Race 07-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019



Flemington Race 09-Stewards Vision-14-12-19
14 December, 2019

■ Race 8 video from the Radical Candor steward's vision missing

HORSE RACING SPONSORS

Horse racing has many sponsors, from small local businesses through to large corporations.

The Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses is calling on businesses to withdraw their support of horse racing and outlines '10 Reasons Why Your Brand Should Not Be Associated With Horse Racing.' here: <https://bit.ly/3milhV3>

The following companies (or clubs) sponsored (or supported) races in which a horse was killed:

CQ Production Hire – Rockhampton, QLD
Wheatbelt Office and Business Machines – Northam, WA
Windward Balloon Adventures – Northam, WA
Hair Room 116 - Hair Salon – Warrnambool, Vic
Commings Hendricks Solicitors – Wagga Wagga, NSW
Gosford RSL Club – Gosford, NSW
Lazy Sunday Lifestyle Clothing Boutique – Dubbo, NSW
Long Fine Hospitality Services – Broadmeadows, Vic
Glanville Hotel – Port Adelaide, SA
Lyndons Building and Construction Products – QLD
Cornerstone Stud – Angaston, SA
Carlton & United Breweries – Vic
Scrivens Haulage – Meringandan, QLD
The Sofitel – Melbourne, Vic
Jeff Hannaford Chartered Accountants – Texas QLD
Railway Hotel – Jamestown, SA
Coopers – Adelaide, SA
De Bortoli Prosecco – King Valley, Vic
Ballina Fair Shopping Centre – Ballina, NSW
Frankston Sand, Soil & Mini Mix – Carrum Downs Vic
Highview Accounting Services – Cranbourne Vic
Wharton & Co Real Estate – Richmond QLD
Cooktown Food & Ice Services – Cooktown, QLD
Musgrave Roadhouse – Cooktown, QLD
Seaview Motel – Cooktown, QLD
Neil Mansell Transport – Wilsonton, QLD
Avis Car Rental – Ballarat, Vic
Press Statement Vinery Stud – Scone, NSW
Hygain Equine Feed
Channel Ten Darwin – NT
Roku Gin / Society Liquor
Hothams Sand, Soil & Gravel – Bathurst, NSW
Winning Edge Presentations – Richmond, Vic
Sungold Milk – Allansford, Vic
Eureka Concrete – Redan, Vic
Western Star Hotel – Dubbo, NSW
Helloworld Travel
Ray White Real Estate – Tumut, NSW
Toyota – Colac, Vic
Mortimer Petroleum – Drysdale, Vic

GPS Onsite – Coffs Harbour, NSW
Queens Beach Pub – Bowen, QLD
Ranvet Equine Nutrition
Midfield Trading
McCarthy Catering – Warrnambool, Vic
Wellington & Reeves Real Estate – Albany, WA
Drummond Golf
Central Coast Crusaders Basketball – NSW
Central Queensland Plasterers – Rockhampton QLD
Woods Tyre Service – Emerald, QLD
South West Equine Veterinary Group – Warrnambool, Vic
Clarke Trenching – Edmonton, QLD
SDA Plumbing – Alice Springs, NT
Power FM – NSW
Australian Bloodstock – Rutherford, NSW
Shojun Concrete – Leopold, Vic
Amelia Park Wines & Restaurant – Wilyabrup, WA
Superior Food Services – Oakleigh South, Vic
Drysdale Funerals – Sunshine Coast, QLD
Bordertown Stone Supplies – Vic
Carlton Draught
Canberra Rex Hotel – Canberra, ACT
Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service
XXXX Gold
Mortgage Choice
Schweppes
Casterton Foodworks – Vic
Advanced Inland Security – Tamworth, NSW
Walker Brothers Timber & Building Supplies – Gosford, NSW
Audi Centre – Toowoomba, QLD
Silks Hotel – Darwin, NT
Just Cats Cattery – Merimbula, NSW
Merimbula Jazz Club – NSW
Sam Miranda Wine – King Valley, Vic
Iron Jack Beer
Ecycle Solutions
T.C Air & Electric – Fairy Meadow, NSW
Lloyd Sound
Roachs Timber & Hardware – Coonabarabran, NSW
Jack Rabbit Restaurant and Vineyard – Bellarine, Vic

REST IN PEACE

Hidden Thunder
Thisaway
Heavenly Dust
River Deep
Savanissi
Stryke the Gates
Leftover Diamond
Georgia Hit
My Friend Charlie
Minnie Malachi
John's Revenge
Wild Sea
Lets Tango
Miss Chuckle
Balwarra Gold
Septimo
There's Nemo
Antah
Feeling Ready
First Three Legs
Gis a butchers
Airdale
Yulong Chief
Fantastic Halo
Rushard
Whicker
Wealth of Goolhi
Theresa Maree
Welter
Bijiji
Point Forward
Little Bertie
Whinging Wife
Ong Varn
Kartem Around Boy
All Sassitude
Baker Street
Kapajack
Poldark
Barragan
Polleny

Unnamed
Call The Sheriff
Radical Candor
Shono Mercy
Gotta Minute
Win For Time
Orbost
Entirely Perfect
The Bluesmobile
Hiero
Bel Hot
New Offer
Regalia
Winning Kiss
Jaxim
Let It Roll
Fast Fever
Manuel
Victory Vibes
Little John
Ronstar
Perpetual Bliss
Discovered
Unabashed
Notta Mocha
It's Not There
Tombstone
Miss Magnitude
Charlotte's Heart
Morenita
Countless Rock
The Star Legend
Vandusen
Aldee
Unnamed
Unusual
Seraglio
Finally Free
Rush'N Machine
Waltonia
Gothic Romance

Al Kaphero
Sir Isaac Newton
Booradley
Dispossessed
Rancho Notorious
Fast Tycoon
All That She Wants
Stragun
My Nordic Hero
Grand Crown
Future Road
Chantilly Bay
Egyptian Pharaoh
Tenkaye
Alcatran
Bryan Roy
Bart
Jeruca Jewel
Coola Coola
The Real Wasabi
Think No Evil
Papaya
Ironore Gina
The Hotz
Perpetuity
I Am A Country Boy
Fourgrandman
Broccolo
Scales of Justice
Conca Del Sogno
Fomo
Hot 'N' Hazy
Canvas
Beguilement

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PAY RESPECT TO THE MANY HORSES WHO SUSTAINED AN INJURY DURING THEIR RACE BUT WERE TAKEN OFF THE TRACK TO AVOID THEIR DEATH BEING RECORDED IN THE STEWARDS' REPORTS, THEREFORE PREVENTING IT FROM BECOMING PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.



THANK YOU FOR READING

This report was written by the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses.

If you have any more information to share, get in touch. We will never divulge sources.

horseracingkills.com