

Jump Racing: Why It Must Be Banned

Information for Members of the Victorian Parliament



A submission by:

Animals Australia

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Introduction

Jump racing is a form of horse racing generally run over longer distances than flat races and with heavier jockeys. As the name suggests, it requires the horses to jump typically to (and as many as thirty three fixed obstacles. For decades, jump racing has created a major horse welfare concern due to the cruel nature of the sport. This is supported by damning statistics and media exposure that has consistently reported the unacceptable risks to horses through frequent deaths, falls and injuries. It is not surprising that jump racing was described in the Australian media in 1991 as “the most disgusting of animal sports in this part of the world”, and more recently as “horrifically cruel”.

There are two types of jump races: hurdles and steeplechases. Hurdle races are normally run over 3,000 to 3,500 metres over low fences and at a relatively fast speed. Steeplechases are normally longer races run over 3,450 to 5,500 metres over higher fences and at a slower speed.



In 1995 jump racing was banned in NSW. It now only occurs in Victoria and South Australia. As a result of the unacceptably high death rate, falls and injuries, several reviews of jump racing have been conducted in Victoria in recent years. However changes that have been implemented as a result of these reviews have done little to improve safety for the jockey and horse.



Report by the Senate Select Committee on Animal Welfare (Aspects of Animal Welfare in the Racing Industry)

In 1991 the Senate Select Committee on Animal Welfare recommended that jump racing be phased out over a three year period.

Excerpt from the 1991 report:

"Based on evidence received during the inquiry, the Committee has serious concerns about the welfare of horses participating in jump races. These concerns are based on the significant probability of a horse suffering serious injury or even death as a result of participating in these events and, in particular, steeplechasing. This concern is exacerbated by evidence suggesting that, even with improvements to the height and placing of jumps, training and education the fatality rate would remain constant. The Committee, therefore, can only conclude that there is an inherent conflict between these activities and animal welfare. Accordingly, the Committee is of the view that relevant State Governments should phase out jump racing over the next three years".

Information supplied to the Senate Select Committee in 1991 indicated that in Victoria, where more jump races are held than in any other state, an average of eleven horses die in jump races every year. Despite new measures put in place by Racing Victoria Limited (RVL) reviews in 2002 and 2005, the 2008 jumps racing season resulted in the deaths of 12 horses on the racetrack and 1 horse in a jumps trial. In addition, there have been countless injuries that have ended the racing careers of many horses and in all probability their lives.



Europa sustaining a hind limb injury in the Dominant Moonee Valley Hurdle – 3210 metres on 26 July, 2008. According to the Stewards' Report, **Europa** 'faltered' and dislodged G Gilmour, rider of the gelding. Europa has not raced since. Just one of many played-down incidents which results in the disappearance of yet another jump horse.

Jump Racing Statistics

A 15 year study into jump racing was conducted by the University of Melbourne between 1989 and 2004. The findings were presented by Dr Lisa Boden at the International Symposium for the Prevention of Thoroughbred Racehorse Fatalities and Injuries in July 2005. These are summarised as follows.

Fatalities

- o Jump horses: 1 death for every 115 horses that start in a race
- o Flat horses: 1 death for every 2150 horses that start in a race

Catastrophic limb injuries

- o Found to be 18 times more likely in jump races

Cranial (head) or vertebral (back and neck) injury

- o Found to be 121 times more likely in jump races

Sudden death

- o Found to be 3.5 times more likely in jump races.

These statistics provide clear evidence that jump horses are pushed far beyond their natural limits, and are subjected to much greater musculo-skeletal (limb, head and back injuries) and physiological stress than their flat racing counterparts.



An example of the potential for catastrophic injuries. Picture taken September, 2008 at Cranbourne trials.

A Historical Review of Fatality Statistics for Jump Racing in Victoria

The table below shows that the 2002 and 2005 recommendations did not reduce the fatality rates in subsequent jump racing seasons. In fact, no changes following any enquiry have significantly reduced the long-term average death rate in jump racing. In plain terms, no changes have reduced the risk of putting obstacles in front of groups of galloping horses, urged on by herd instinct and jockeys and owners who are keen to win prize money.

Year	Jump Race	Jump Starter	Jump death	Jump deaths to Starters %	Animals Australia comment & Jumps race industry and Govt. recommended changes	Flat races deaths to starter %
1975 - 86					AA has figures back to 1975/76 – average 0.64% death rate/starters for those 10 years	
1986/87		1,797	14	0.78		0.04
1987/88		1,794	8	0.44		0.05
1988/89		1,850	13	0.70		0.05
1989/90		2,054	18	0.88		0.02
1990/91		2,095	16	0.76		0.03
					Senate Committee Report (8/91) – recommends 3 year phase out, says changes will not assist	
1991/92		1,932	15	0.77		0.05
1992/93		1,921	20	1.04		0.04
					Vic. Minister McGrath (6/8/93) says new jump design and qualifying conditions introduced	
1993/94		1,764	20	1.13		0.04
					VRC Chairman announces (11/94) new safety standards – jumps and qualifying conditions	
1994/95		1,533	22	1.43		0.06
1995/96		1,533	9	0.59		0.03
1996/97		1,509	12	0.79		0.04
1997/98		1,545	7	0.45		0.04
1998/99		1,528	16	1.05		0.05
1999/00		1,455	6	0.41		0.04
2000/01		1,254	9	0.72		0.06
					Change from financial year to calendar season	Flat race deaths not available.
2001	145	1371	13	0.95		
2002	139	1278	11	0.86		
Total 2 seasons		2,649	24	0.89	Average 2 years <u>prior to</u> modular jumps Aug 2002 RVL Independent Panel Report	
2003	114	989	8	0.81		
2004	116	1055	8	0.76		
2005	110	959	7	0.73		
Total 3 seasons		3003	23	0.76	Average 3 years during <u>roll out</u> modular jumps (Mark I to Mark III) December 2005 RVL Review Panel Report	
2006	111	1038	5	0.48		
2007	123	1214	7	0.57		
2008*	98	837	11*	1.31	To 11/8/08	
Total almost 3 seasons		3089	23	0.74	Average 3 yrs – <u>All</u> races over modular jumps	

Please note: This table is only to August 2008. There was a subsequent death on 28/08/2008.

The 2008 Jump Season

Despite jump racing being banned in other states, it is televised across Australia from both Victoria and South Australia. The 2008 jump racing season was described in the media in New South Wales as Victoria's "jump racing's season from hell". Graphic images of the horrific cruelty and injuries were published in the media and footage of the horses' suffering and being euthanised on track were shown nationally on the ABC's 7.30 Report. Despite new measures put in place by RVL reviews in 2002 and 2005, the 2008 jump racing season led to the deaths on track of 12 horses. The mounting death toll during the season led the Minister for Racing, the Hon. Rob Hulls, to call for yet another review.

1 in 24 jumps horses was killed on the racetrack

- o 290 Individual horses competed in the 2008 season. Of these 12 were killed on the racetrack. Another horse, Aussie Humour was killed during a jumps trial.

Warnambool 1 March, 2008

- o **Silver Bonanza** made a faulty jump and was euthanised.

Pakenham 8 March, 2008

- o **Victory Sweep** broke down badly in the near foreleg and was euthanised.

Hamilton 12 April, 2008

- o **Shades of Dane** ruptured it's off fore flexor tendon and was euthanised.

Warnambool 1 May, 2008

- o This Dominant Grand Annual Steeplechase was run over 5500 metres and 33 fences. **Poker Face** was raced for the third time in a week and was no doubt suffering severe fatigue when he fell at the last fence. He sustained a catastrophic injury and was euthanised.

Poker Face jumping at Pakenham in April 2008.



Sandown Racecourse 4 May, 2008

- o **Force Nine** fell and was fatally injured.

Casterton 1 June, 2008

- o **Rhythm Stick** made a faulty jump and was subsequently euthanised.

Sandown Racecourse 14 June, 2008

- o **Crying Storm** fell at the fifth fence, sustained a serious injury to the off foreleg and was euthanised.

The pictures below show Crying Storm after suffering this catastrophic injury. He was caught and walked a considerable distance on three legs so that the race could continue. He was then subjected to what appears to be 'aggravated cruelty' by having his ear held to restrain him while the race continued. His abnormal posture with limbs stretched out in front of his body is very disturbing as he appears to be weight-bearing on his broken limb.



Casterton 22 June, 2008

- o **Turbo Charged** fell at the second last obstacle and suffered a fatal injury.

Flemington Racecourse 28 June, 2008

- o In the Grand National Hurdle run at Flemington over 4350 metres, **only 4 runners completed the course from 13 starters**. **Charted** fell and broke a hind leg and was euthanised. **Eveready** broke down and was also euthanised.

Mooney Valley Racecourse 26 July, 2008

- o In the Dominant Hiskens Steeplechase, **Spanish Symbol**, the winner of the same race in 2007, crashed heavily and suffered a fractured off fore-leg and was euthanised.



Spanish Symbol failed to finish in his previous two races and then trialled badly prior to the race. During a demonstration at Moonee Valley by around 20 activists, these pictures were taken that show Spanish Symbol dumped at the back of the track under a tarpaulin. Ironically, several police arrived to 'guard' his body from being accessed by horse advocates who were campaigning to ban jump racing to protect horses from this form of horrific cruelty and suffering.

Mooney Valley Racecourse 27 August 2008

- o **In Detention** broke down severely and was euthanised.

On 29 September, 2008

Retired County Court judge, David Jones suspended hurdle racing and any jump trials. This was due to health and safety concerns of both jockeys and horses of the modular hurdles. The fact that this was undertaken prior to the completion of the jumps racing season was a telling point.

1 in 3 jockeys received injuries that prevented them from continuing racing

- o Of the 35 jockeys who competed in the 2008 season, it appears that 13 received injuries that prevented them from continuing their racing commitments. Though all professional sportsmen and women have to accept the physical risks associated with their sport, the risks to a jump jockeys are unacceptably high. It is only a matter of time before a jump jockey is killed if jump racing is allowed to continue.



1 in 3.5 jump horses had a major incident which prevented them from continuing racing

- o According to Steward's Reports, (Appendix 1) it is estimated 83 of the 290 horses that competed in 2008 had an 'incident' and did not re-appear. Most of these horses are now presumed dead. Though it is possible some may have been re-homed or may recover and race next year, many horses will have sustained injuries that were not recorded, which is why they are now no longer racing. It is poignant to note the high turnover of horses required to sustain this form of racing. This supports the assertion that many more horses die from jump racing related injuries than is officially recorded.

Why Jump Racing is Dangerous

Many factors contribute to the much higher risk of injury and death to horses in a jump race compared to flat horseracing. These include much longer races, the heavier weight of riders, the combination of fatigue, pre-existing injury, speed, jumping under pressure beside other horses and errors of judgment by both horse and jockey. In addition, it is common for horses to be brought down by other horses that are falling and for horses to fall or stumble and lose their rider and then create havoc as they continue running with the field without a jockey to steer them.

The assumption that horses 'love' to jump has no scientific basis. Equine behaviourists will confirm that horses jump because they have been trained to do so. Horses will often continue jumping after they have lost their rider and/or because, being a herd animal, they stay with the other horses for safety.

Jump proponents frequently state, without foundation, that horses love to jump and love to race. This is based on the belief that if a horse didn't want to, it wouldn't. There appears to be no scientific evidence to support the premise that horses enjoy jumping. As is the case with nearly all animals used for entertainment, they are conditioned to perform unnatural tasks through a combination of positive and negative reinforcement, or under the threat of punishment.

"There is a common misconception that the horse is a natural jumper, possessed of a flexible and supple body capable of maintaining balance at all gaits and speeds. The reality is very different. In fact, of all athletic animals, the horse has been provided with a very inflexible carcass of great bulk and weight... Apart from the trunk providing anchorage for muscles responsible for limb movement, its weight is a serious handicap to rapid and flexible progression, like a motor car with a very heavy chassis" (Smythe & Goody, 1993, Horse Structure and Movement, Third Edition, J.A. Allen, London).

"Unless trained to jump, horses generally avoid ditches and horizontal obstacles" (McGreevy, 2003, Equine Behavior, W.B.Saunders).



The following photos were taken at Victorian jump races and trials in 2008. They illustrate the inherent danger encountered by every competing horse and jockey.



Running through the brushes on the fences



Rapping the jumps with the front limbs and the hind limbs



Falling head- first into the ground

The Horses' Feet

The feet are the complete and dynamic base upon which the locomotor system of a horse functions. Their healthy structure and correct function are absolutely fundamental for proper biomechanical health and soundness of the horse. Jump horses often exceed the age of 5 years old (after a flat racing career), thus they have been traditionally shod for some years. Shoeing damages the feet and many jumpers monitored (during the 2008 season) have had seriously damaged and dysfunctional feet and, most likely, associated pain.

"The most difficult foot conformation is the classic low heel/long toe, thin walled, flat soled individual. Such feet are continuously exposed to a multitude of deleterious factors. I suggest that while these feet may not cause lameness at a jog, they can be painful at speed and are responsible for overloading other structures and can lead to serious problems elsewhere" (Marks, Daniel VMD, 2000, *Conformation and Soundness*, AAEP Proceedings Vol 46).



This horse was photographed prior to the race showing a 'toe first landing' which is known as dynamic misplacement of the foot. Toe first landings are abnormal, this indicates a horse with sore feet!

Higher Impact Forces

"Horses jumping large fences experience higher impact forces than during normal locomotion. These forces are imposed over a small area on the hoof and are transmitted across small contact areas at the joint surfaces as they are transmitted up the front limbs. Since pressure on the hoof and the joints is high, it is not surprising that jumpers are prone to wear and tear injuries of their limbs" (Marks, Daniel VMD, 2000, *Conformation and Soundness*, AAEP Proceedings Vol 46).

The Whip

The use of the whip in jump racing is much more prominent than in flat races. Horses can be whipped in excess of 40 times. This may be because the races are much longer, the horses are suffering from fatigue and there is a belief that whipping the horse extracts the last ounce of energy out of the horse. As the majority of falls occur over the last two jumps when the whip is being used, it is likely that the whip combined with fatigue (which scientists suggest affects limb coordination) is at least partly to blame.



This horse is being vigorously whipped, and on closer inspection, has his tongue jammed between his teeth, a sign the horse is in physical pain.

"Analysis of racetrack patrol videos (Ueda et al., 1993) has shown that breakdown injuries often occur immediately after a lead change (47%) use of the whip (38%) or an oblique movement of the horse across the track (21% cases)" (Equine Locomotion, Willem Back, Hilary Clayton, W.B. Saunders, 2001.)

"It is a fact that whips have been involved in 86% of racing accidents" World renowned horse trainer Monty Roberts, The Weekend Australian, August 5-6, 2006.

Fatigue

It is without doubt horses jumping over obstacles while fatigued are at a dramatically increased risk of falling. This is proven to be the case as the majority of falls occur at the last two jumps. Considering that horses in natural conditions will rarely run at high speed for more than a few hundred metres, it should not be any surprise that races run over distances as long as 5.5km and as many as 33 jumps will inevitably cause falls and deaths.

“Since the stride and respiratory cycles are synchronized in galloping horses, it has been suggested that the changes in limb coordination associated with fatigue may be related to the respiratory demands” (Equine Locomotion, Willem Back, Hilary Clayton, W.B. Saunders, 2001).

Poor Forward Vision

The laterally placed eyes on a horse means that the muzzle obstructs forward vision. The racehorse must estimate where the jump is and attempt to adjust stride well before the jump. This can be extremely difficult when the horses are bunched together.

“Depending on the carriage of the head, the particular breed and the setting of the eyes, there is a blind zone extending almost 2 metres directly in front of the horse”.(Dr Paul McGreevy, *Equine Behavior, A guide for Veterinarians and Equine Scientists*, Saunders, 2004).

Horses Cannot Adjust Take-off

The speed at which horses travel in a jump race means that there may not be enough time for the horse to adjust its take-off. This is exacerbated by other horses trying to do the same thing in close proximity.

“There is no time for a horse to put in a short one – they are going too fast” (Chris Hyland, trainer of jump horse Toulouse La Trec).

Confidence

Confidence is critical for jumping and this depends on three factors in the horse:

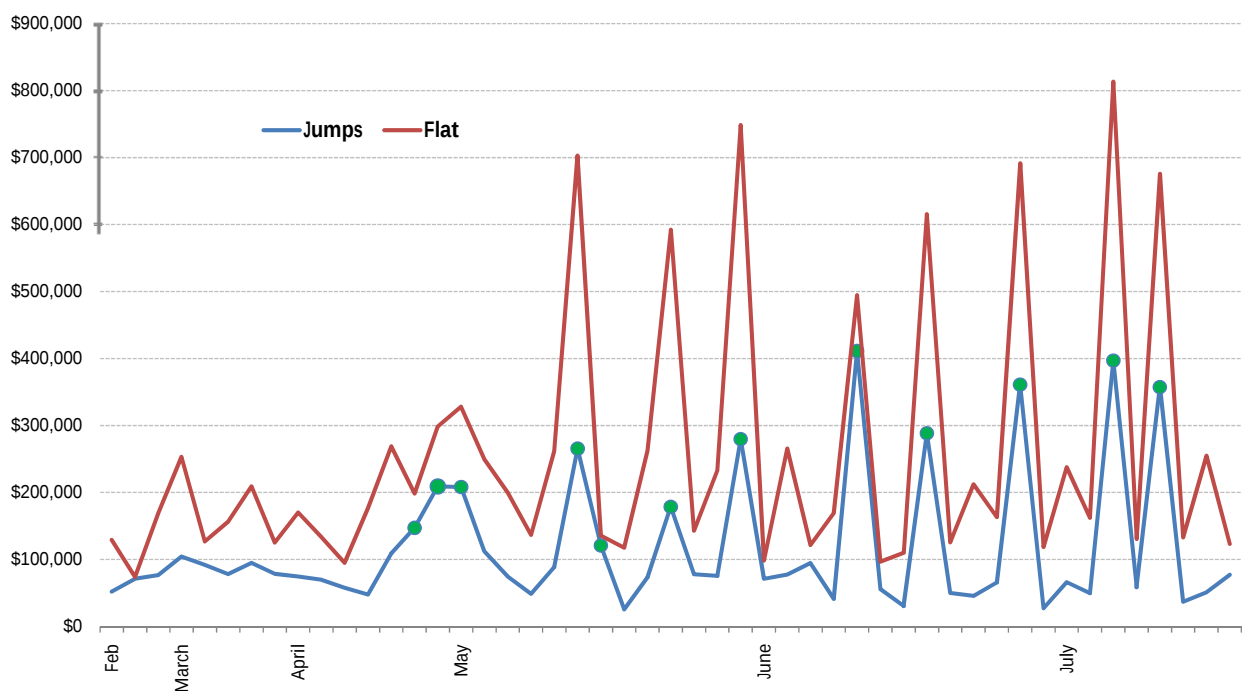
- o confidence in his own physical ability;
- o confidence in the environment;
- o confidence in the rider.

Loss of confidence can be instant and sometimes permanent, for example following a stumble, fall, interference etc. As shown in our statistics, a large percentage of horses fall, are injured, or fail to finish. This often starts a downward spiral whereby the confidence of the horse rapidly diminishes and further increases the risk of injury or even death.

The Economic Value of Jump Racing

Wagering

During the period February to July 19 2008, there was a total of 49 race meetings that included a jump race in Victoria (either a hurdle or a steeple). The following data is based on information from the TAB website. It shows the average amount of betting on jump races compared to flat races. An average of \$127,410 was spent on a win or place with the TAB for jump races. This compared to an average of \$252,592 for flat races (a difference of over \$125,000).



Average amount of betting on jump races compared to flat races (Feb-July, 2008). Green markers indicate high prize money races. Source: Tab Betting Website

Attendance Levels

Carnivals such as Warrnambool (and Oakbank in South Australia) claim that if jump racing was banned attendance would drop and create financial hardship for the local communities who rely on the tourism dollars generated from these races. The Melbourne Spring Carnival attracts record crowds each year to its many race meets without a single jump race. It is worth noting that Melbourne Cup Day had a feature jump race in its programme up until 2001. It was discontinued as a result of the death of the horse 'He's Back on Track' who was killed on Melbourne Cup Day 2001.

Trainers

During 2008 there were 125 trainers who entered a horse in a jump race. As the following table shows, 60% of those trainers only had one horse. Importantly only 3%, or three trainers with 10 or more horses, could be considered to be more than 'hobby' trainers. And from a cursory check, none of the trainers with 10 or more horses active in the jumps racing for 2008 were solely training jump horses. That is, they had active horses in both jump and flat races.

Number of Horses	Number of Trainers	%
20 and above	1	1%
10 - 19	2	2%
5 - 9	10	8%
2 - 4	37	30%
1	75	60%
Total	125	100%

Trainers by number of horses. Source: Racing Victoria Website

Jockey Information

Only 36 jockeys have participated in the 2008 jump season to-date. Of these, 16 (44%) had less than 10 starts, with only 12 jockeys (33%) having more than 40 starts. Of the 36 jockeys involved in the jump industry in 2008, it is estimated that some 13 (36%) have received injuries that have prevented them from continuing on in the season.

"One of the specific costs of jumps racing was the \$1 million spent on workers' compensation fees" (RVL chief executive Rob Hines, Herald Sun 27/11/2008).



Legislative Position – The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act

An excerpt from *The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* that defines cruelty as it applies to the unnecessary pain or suffering of any animal reads as follows:

Cruelty (s9) A person who...

(d) 'drives, conveys, carries or packs an animal in a manner or position or in circumstances which subjects or is likely to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering... commits an act of cruelty upon that animal and is guilty of an offence'.

Similarly, Section 10 addresses 'aggravated cruelty' where the cruelty results in death or serious disablement of the animal. It is apparent from the jump racing statistics provided in this report that each and every horse that starts in a jump race runs the risk of being injured or killed. The 2008 statistics show so far that:

- o 1:74 starters have been killed on the racetrack
- o 1:24 horses active on a race field have died on track.

We argue that the risks to the horse in jump racing are well known to the racing industry. As such, knowingly placing a horse in this situation, where it is likely to be injured or even killed, could be argued as intolerable cruelty or aggravated cruelty. It follows that jump racing should not be allowed from a legal perspective as it breaches Victorian state legislation.

Formal cruelty complaints have been lodged with RSPCA Victoria this year in regard to the on-track deaths of several jump racing horses. The RSPCA have advised they are currently actively investigating those complaints.



A utility vehicle can often be seen following jump races with the green screen (the death tent behind which horses are killed). This vehicle is usually accompanied by two ambulances which indicates the high expectation of injury to both horses and their riders.

Summary

Jump racing has been in existence in Australia for well over 150 years but comprises only a small part of the horse racing industry. Community attitudes towards animal welfare is undergoing dramatic change and therefore the beliefs and practices of seemingly entrenched institutions will be forced to admit that jump racing no longer has a place in a civilised country such as Australia. The time has come for Victoria (and South Australia) to follow the example set by other Australian states by acting, on behalf of the wider community (who have clearly expressed their opposition to the sport), to have it banned under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

The Facts

- o Arguments that jump racing provides employment are grossly exaggerated.
- o Revenue from betting is typically much lower than flat races in the same race meeting.
- o Attendances are generally lower than that of similar race meetings without jump racing.
- o Jump racing is not supported by the wider community.
- o A parliamentary enquiry in 1991 recommended it be phased out on animal welfare grounds.

The Horse

- o The horse is not designed for jumping.
- o A horse only jumps because it is 'trained' to do so.
- o The combination of speed and jumping makes jump racing intrinsically dangerous for horses.

Statistics (2008)

- o 1 in 24 horses that competed in a jump race was killed on the racetrack.
- o 1 in 3.5 horses sustained an injury that prevented them from continuing racing.
- o 1 in 3 jockeys received injuries which prevented them from continuing racing.

More...

- o In addition to horses that die on the racetrack, a significant number of horses are injured off the racetrack and never re-appear, presumed killed
- o Previous reviews and implemented changes have not worked
- o Under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, knowingly placing an animal in a situation that is likely to cause suffering is an offence.

Appendix A

2008 Jump Horses Gone Missing

The following horses have not re-appeared in 2008 after comments made in the Stewards Report. Though it is likely some horses will be recovering from injuries and may race again in 2009, the vast majority will be discarded, presumably killed. This table does not include horses which may have been injured in trials or training

Horse	Last raced	Stewards, comments
Classic Karla	5/3/08	Performed poorly
Wit and Polish	11/3/08	Jumped poorly, retired from racing
Silver Bonanza	11/3/08	Euthanised
Listen Pal	11/3/08	Jumped poorly, eased out of race
Like a Tick	20/3/08	Bleeding attack
Reach	20/3/08	Lost rider at trial
Victory Sweep	8/4/08	Euthanised
Kalahari Star	12/4/08	Eased out of race, retired from racing
Shades of Dane	12/4/08	Ruptured tendon, euthanised
Mukilteo	13/4/08	Lame
Miss Lash	19/4/08	Lame
Poker Face	1/5/08	Euthanised
Force Nine	4/5/08	Euthanised
Shifty Lad	4/5/08	Lame
Justakid	13/5/08	Not normal in his actions
Bhradrain	13/5/08	Faulty Jump
Lottery King	13/5/08	Bleeding attack
Awesome Weather	14/5/08	Landed awkwardly, sore, may be retired
Reins Of Power	20/5/08	Strained fore tendon, vet certificate req'd
Lancettier	24/5/08	Sustained injury, unfit to run
Hasta Manana	31/5/08	Fell
Top Scarlet	1/6/08	Weakened badly, vet certificate req'd
Mayfair Magic	1/6/08	Pulled up short, previously fell at Stryb 16/4/08
Rhythm Stick	1/6/08	Euthanised
Travelling Boy	14/6/08	Fell
Crying Storm	14/6/08	Euthanised
Emgee Rex	14/6/08	Lame, vet certificate req'd
Sanders Legacy	21/6/08	Crashed through jump
Five Legs	22/6/08	Eased out of race
Fil The Bill	22/6/08	Jumped poorly, eased out of race
Imposing Lord	22/6/08	Knuckled, reluctant to jump
Turbo Charged	22/6/08	Euthanised
Douglas	26/6/08	Fail to finish, appears lame, 17/6/06 lost rider
Conzeal	28/6/08	Galoped on
Eveready	28/6/08	Euthanised
Charted	28/6/08	Fell, euthanised
Danever	28/6/08	Lame, eased out of race
Sugar Daad	28/6/08	Did not stretch out
Lovers Truce	29/6/08	Lame, vet certificate req'd
Manazab	2/7/08	Made faulty jump

Gold Mover	2/7/08	Retired from race, lame, vet certificate req'd
Leap Forward	3/7/08	Pulled up, irregular heart beat, vet certificate req'd
Toulouse Lautrec	5/7/08	Fell, lame, vet certificate req'd
Conzeal	5/7/08	Fell, lame, vet certificate req'd
Tadakatsu	5/7/08	Fail to finish, previously brought down Flemington 28/6/08
Al Garhood	12/7/08	Failed to finish
Made of Music	13/7/08	Fell, lame, vet certificate req'd
Quick Learner	19/7/08	Fell, lame, vet certificate req'd
Oscar Goes To	19/7/08	Eased out of race
Ivorbedito	19/7/08	Eased out of race, failed to respond
Biralee	19/7/08	Made faulty jump, fell 21/6/08, fail to finish 12/7/08
Coastal Music	24/7/08	Eased out of race
Johnny Knoxville	26/7/08	Faulty jump, eased out of race
Europa	26/7/08	Lame, vet certificate req'd
Father Patrick	26/7/08	Fell, lame, vet certificate req'd
Spanish Symbol	26/7/08	Fell, euthanised
Personal Drum	26/7/08	Retired from race, jumps trial req'd
Derringer	26/7/08	Beaten horse, sore in front
Believe In Victory	27/7/08	Eased out of race
El Zahia	30/7/08	Eased out of race, suspended from racing
Taurean	3/8/08	Eased out of race
Rommel's Gold	3/8/08	Knuckled
May Goodnight	5/8/08	Failed to respond to riding, slower recovery rate
Fiddleray	9/8/08	Faulty jump, knuckled
Ancient Faeroe	9/8/08	Pulled up, Trainer advised will be retired
March In Style	9/8/08	Disappointing performance, elevated heart rate, bled prev. 13/3/08
God's Racer	16/8/08	Unusual respiratory noise, must trial
Daad's Boy	13/08/08	An official warning would be recorded against Daad's Boy for being uncompetitive
Secret Rain	21/08/08	Fell
Horeb	23/08/08	Decision in due course based on how Horeb pulls up today
In Detention	27/08/08	Broke down severely and was euthanised
Taken At The Flood	27/08/08	Slower than normal recovery rate
Portland Prophet	31/08/08	Making an abnormal respiratory noise
Sixfootsix	31/08/08	Fell at the jump near the 1000m
Brookton Mist	31/08/08	Ran off and crashed through the inside wing
Riri	31/08/08	Revealed she was lame in the right foreleg
Portland Prophet	31/08/08	Making an abnormal respiratory noise
Riri	31/08/08	Revealed she was lame in the right foreleg
Sixfootsix	31/08/08	Fell at the jump near the 1000m
Gracious Curves	09/09/08	Fell, lame in the off foreleg
Bishop's Cleve	11/09/08	Faulty Jump (small laceration to near foreleg)
Beau Celeb	21/09/08	Failed to finish, faulty jump. Fell at trails (05/09/2008)
One Sandwich Short	21/09/08	Lame in both forelegs