

## QUEEN'S CUP COURSE INSPECTION

Date of Inspection: April 19, 2008  
Course: Queen's Cup Steeplechase  
Executive Director: Glenn K. Springer  
Time in: 8:46 a.m.

Date of Race Meet: April 26, 2008  
Clerk of the Course: Wes Moore  
Inspector: Bill Price  
Time out: 9:30 a.m.

Wind: Variable at 5 MPH (4 KT):0  
Sky conditions: cloudy  
Dew Point: 52.0 F  
Pressure (altimeter): 30.01 in. Hg (1025 hPa)

Visibility: 10 mile(s):0  
Temperature: 60.0 F  
Relative Humidity: 72%

**Turf:** *Relatively consistent lush.* The turf on this course consists of a thick lush cover of "fine tall fescue" and recently introduced Kentucky blue grass that at the time of inspection, was 6". The blue grass is continuing to spread into the fescue, which was the intent of the Race Chairman, in hopes that it will create a more even and better racing surface and mat throughout. There is some weed on the inside rail where the boom was not able to spray for fear of damaging the hedge along the hub rail.

There are a number of relatively small areas of "ground under repair," where bermuda grass had been eradicated from last fall. Due to the extreme dry weather conditions last fall, those areas have not fully recuperated, leaving the ground somewhat thin in these areas. This condition is most apparent on the far down-hill turn and a couple of spots on the finishing stretch and between timber fence 5 & 6. There are also some slightly patchy areas of early spring fescue clumping grass conditions, most notably on the backstretch of the course before hurdle/timber fences 2 & 3. While irrigating the spring weeds a few weeks ago, the fertilizer truck (not TruGreen) oversprayed two areas of the racecourse with their boom, burning the turf in two areas – the outside path of the Club House Turn and the peak of Turn Three. Although note worthy, these areas are minor imperfections and "should not be cause for concern".

**Smoothness:** *Very Smooth.* This course has been "Cambridge" rolled several times this spring and last fall and will be rolled again this morning, with the exception of the slight difference of the aforementioned areas of note, this racing surface is smooth throughout.

**Compaction:** *95 avg. (Soft to Good) compared to 100 avg. (Good to firm) in 2007 and 120 (firm) in 2006.* This course has been "AerWay" and core aerated several times last year and this spring, most recently yesterday afternoon. Due to the aeration, adequate spring rains, Toro irrigation system and top dressing with 100 tons of sand immediately after last's year (this is the fourth year in a row where the racecourse has been top dressed) there is a very good feel under foot. Specific readings were noted on the landing sides of both the hurdle and timber fences and were found to be consistent throughout.

**Moisture:** *10 (Avg. Wet to a full depth of 9") Brooklandwood* has a fully automatic Toro irrigation system and have enjoyed an average of a minimum of a quarter to an inch of rain every weekend. The irrigation system has not, but four times, been used however, we will monitor the situation on a daily basis and are prepared to run the irrigation up until this coming Friday evening if necessary. There is plenty of moisture in the ground however the issue is more compaction related. If the ground firms between now and race day, we will be prepared to AerWay again.