

## www.canterburyequine.co.nz

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17-12-2020

## Veterinary Report : Crown The Moment, a Standardbred colt, Owned by Pullar, Alan, 75 Tomes Road Saint Albans Christchurch, 8052, Canterbury.

**History:** Radiographs were taken of the hocks and there was a fragment at the distal intermediate ridge of the tibia of the right hock. The left hock was radiographed and there was no obvious fragment. The horse was referred for arthroscopy of both hocks.

**Clinical Signs:** Moderate distension of the right tibiotarsal joint of the right hock.

**Surgical Procedure:** Pre-anaesthetic blood was taken 15.12.2020 and he was deemed fit to undergo general anaesthesia. On the 16.12.2020 pre-operative antibiotics and anti-inflammatories were administered along with a tetanus antitoxin. He was positioned in dorsal recumbency (on his back) and both hindlimbs were clipped prepped and draped for aseptic surgery. A standard arthroscopic approach was made to the tibiotarsal joint, starting with the right hindlimb. Osteochondral/bone fragments were present at the distal intermediate ridge of the talus, these were removed and any loose bone and cartilage were debrided. This procedure was repeated for the left tibiotarsal joint where no osteochondral fragments were present. In both joints overall cartilage health was good. Following fragment removal the joints were copiously lavaged and then the portals closed with non-absorbable suture material. The hocks were bandaged and the horse placed in recovery. Recovery was smooth.

## **Summary:**

Osteochondral fragments of the distal intermediate ridge in the right hock.

Crown The Moment will need to have the sutures removed 12-14 days post-operatively (28.12.2020). The hocks should remain bandaged until that time and these bandages can be changed every 3-4 days. It is likely that he may need sedation for the bandage changes.

He should have stall confinement for 2 weeks, following which he can be turned out into a larger area for a further 2 weeks. If he appears sound following this he can return to work or have paddock turnout and return to work at a later date.

It is common that some increased fluid distension is present in a joint that was distended before surgery, this should improve, but will often not return to a completely normal level. Joint supplements or medications aimed at reducing joint inflammation and aiding cartilage repair i.e.



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Pentosan/Glucosamines/Hyaluronic acid IV may help; please contact your vet in regard to which therapy would be most beneficial.

Please monitor for any signs of increased swelling or lameness. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.