



# Media release

2 February 2018

## **CORRECTION Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Media Statement regarding Liam Birchley**

**CORRECTION** – In a media release issued by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission headed “Queensland Racing Integrity Commission – Liam Birchley” it was stated that a charge under the Australian Rule of Racing AR 175(a) against Mr Birchley related to the mare Lovani. This is incorrect.

The charge against Mr Birchley relates to three allegations of Mr Birchley being a party to the administration of alkalinising agents and/or medications to a racehorse or racehorses on a raceday dating back to 2011.

These allegations have been raised as a result of a Racing Victoria investigation known collectively as the “Lovani Investigation”.

The Commission regrets this error and sincerely apologises to Mr Birchley.

Please see corrected statement below: The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission is monitoring Racing Victoria’s prosecution of Queensland-based thoroughbred trainer Liam Birchley under the Australian Rules of Racing.

Mr Birchley has competed in Victoria on a Visiting Trainer’s Permit. He was charged last month by Racing Victoria Stewards for an alleged breach of Australian Rule of Racing (AR) 175(a).

Mr Birchley has provided Racing Victoria with an undertaking not to compete in that state for the remainder of the current racing season.

The charge of breaching AR 175(a) is due to be heard before the Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board of Racing Victoria on a date to be fixed.

It is alleged that Mr Birchley engaged in a practice that was dishonest, corrupt or fraudulent, improper or dishonourable in that he was a party to the administration of alkalinising agents and/or medications to a racehorse or racehorses on a race-day on three occasions dating back to 2011.

Mr Birchley’s lawyers have indicated his intention to plead not guilty.

Queensland Stewards will consult with their Victorian counterparts before determining if any interim action is appropriate prior to the finalisation of Mr Birchley’s Victorian matter.

Mr Birchley is considered one of Queensland’s top trainers with more than 60 thoroughbreds stabled at Eagle Farm and Archer Park at Woodford.

**If you have any information about serious misconduct in racing, contact Crime Stoppers on their toll free number 1800 333 000 or e-mail [reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au](mailto:reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au)**

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