



Media release

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One year ban for Birchley

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) has today upheld the Victorian Racing Appeals and Disciplinary (RAD) board's one year disqualification from racing for Brisbane trainer Liam Birchley.

Commissioner Ross Barnett said the QRIC would enforce the penalty decision under the Australian Rules of Racing.

Mr Birchley, one of Queensland's biggest thoroughbred trainers was along with seven others found guilty of dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent, improper or dishonourable practice in that they were party to the administration of alkalising agents and/or medications to a horse or horses on a raceday.

Mr Barnett said the one year disqualification highlighted the importance of maintaining the integrity standards of racing nationwide and would be enforced.

"These are very serious charges and while the majority of racing participants obey within the rules of racing it is incumbent on regulators to ensure those who do not, are sufficiently punished," he said.

"I congratulate the work of Racing Victoria stewards for their work in investigating and bringing this matter to a conclusion.

"Under the ban Mr Birchley is disqualified from training horses for one year and he will have seven days to transfer all horses under his care to other registered trainers or make application to the Chief Stipendiary Steward for an extension period.

Yesterday, Mr Birchley transferred six horses due to run this weekend to Gold Coast trainer Toby Edmonds.

ENDS.

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

Media contact: Vincene Overs

E: vincene.overs@qric.qld.gov.au

P: 0472 842 346