



Media Release

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QRIC Commissioner overturns decision on twitch

A \$400 fine for a Cairns Trainer for his use of a twitch on race day has been overturned.

Racing Integrity Commissioner Ross Barnett said following representations from peak industry bodies, he has considered and overturned the decision to fine Cairns Trainer Trevor Rowe for his use of a twitch at Cairns Jockey Club on 11 February, 2019.

“Nose twitches when properly applied are a humane restraint to subdue a horse for short use situations,” he said.

“There is no intention of QRIC Stewards to alter the use of nose twitches, which in many instances are used by veterinarians and those who handle race horses to subdue them, and any adverse ruling in this case may have conveyed the wrong message.

“If a decision about the application of the twitch was being considered, the Commission would consult with industry and educate participants on any change.

“While all cases of suspected animal cruelty are of the utmost importance, in this case the charge was deemed to be inappropriate and it has been overturned.”

ENDS