

Stewards' Report

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Greg Elkins

Date:

20th January, 2020

Panel:

Neil Finnigan & Nathan Thorneycroft

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards completed their inquiries into the analyst's findings of testosterone at a concentration level in excess of the allowable threshold for a gelding under the provision of Australian Harness Racing (AHR) Rule 188 (2)(g) in the pre-race urine sample taken from BEE GEES BANDIT which competed in Race 2 at Albion Park on 3rd August, 2019. BEE GEES BANDIT was presented to race by trainer Greg Elkins.

Stewards considered evidence from Mr Elkins, Dr Karen Caldwell (QRIC Veterinary Surgeon and former Acting Manager of Veterinary Services at the Racing Science Centre) via telephone and Ms Samantha Nelis (Principle Chemist at the Racing Science Centre). Stewards also considered a report from Dr Adam Crawley (Science Manager at the Australian racing Forensic Laboratory, Racing NSW) who was of the view that *the steroid profile for the sample is not consistent with the administration of exogenous testosterone or testosterone precursor and is inconclusive with respect to possible adrenocorticotrophic manipulation.*

Stewards were also mindful of other analytic results from other urine samples taken from BEE GEES BANDIT.

Stewards, after careful consideration with regard to both scientific and analytical evidence available to them were satisfied that the concentration of testosterone detected in the urine sample taken from BEE GEES BANDIT was of endogenous origin and/or as a result of endogenous activity.

Stewards, although fully aware of the provisions under AHR Rule 190(1), with the evidence taken in its entirety deemed no charge nor conviction be imposed against trainer Elkins. However, as in accordance with AHR Rule 195, which reads:

A horse which has been presented for a race shall be disqualified from it if blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen taken from the horse is found to contain a prohibited substance.

BEE GEES BANDIT was disqualified from its 3rd placing in Race2 at Albion Park on 3rd August, 2019, and amended the placings accordingly.

Mr Elkins was advised of his rights to an internal review