

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Mark Elliott

**Date: 15 February 2020**

**Panel: P Lane, C Warren, D Lane**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analytical findings of a urine sample taken from jockey Mark Elliott at Townsville Turf Club race meeting 25 January 2020.

After hearing all submissions, Mr Elliott subsequently pleaded guilty to a charge under AR139 which reads: (1) A rider breaches these Australian Rules if (a) a banned substance under 136 (1) is detected in a sample taken from the rider. The specifics of the charge being that on 25 January 2020 when riding at the Townsville Turf Club race meeting, he did provide a urine sample which upon analysis was found to contain a substance banned under AR136 (1) namely 11-nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid.

In determining penalty, Stewards took account Mr Elliott's guilty plea and forthright evidence during the inquiry, however they were also mindful of the serious nature of the offence, the danger that riding under the influence of prohibited substances represents to his fellow riders and which could also impair his judgment when in control of a racehorse. Stewards also took into account, of Mr Elliott having 5 previous breaches under a similar rule in relation to the same prohibited substance and that any penalty must serve as a strong deterrent to others.

Stewards acting under the provisions of AR24 subsequently disqualified Mr Elliott's licence for a period of four (4) years to commence 15 February 2020 and to expire on 15 February 2024.

Mr Elliot was advised that under the provisions of AR139 (4) that he must provide a urine sample clear of any prohibited substance prior to him applying to be relicensed.