

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Chris Whiteley

Date: 18 February 2020

Panel: D Aurisch, N Boyle & E Barron

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into the behaviour of Jockey Chris Whiteley following a raceday inquiry into a minor whip infringement at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 9 February 2020.

Evidence today was taken from Mr Whiteley and written statements from the Stewards that officiated at the relevant meeting were also considered.

Mr Whiteley subsequently pleaded guilty to a charge under the provisions of AR 228(c) which reads:

A person must not engage in improper or insulting behaviour at any time towards a PRA, the Stewards, a Club, or any official, employee, contractor or agent of any them in relation to the relevant person's function's, powers or duties.

The specifics of the charge being that following a Stewards inquiry at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 9 February 2020, Mr Whiteley did conduct himself improperly and directed insulting behaviour by using several profanities towards the Stewards that officiated at the meeting.

When considering an appropriate penalty, the Stewards considered relevant penalty precedents and the seriousness of the charge and the need for a penalty to serve as a specific deterrent to Mr Whiteley and a general deterrent to the wider industry to illustrate that this type of conduct will not be tolerated. The panel also acknowledged Mr Whiteley's forthright evidence and that he was very remorseful about the incident.

Subsequently Mr Whiteley was suspended from riding in races for four (4) weeks, however under AR. 283 (5) suspended two (2) weeks of the penalty for a period of two (2) years provided there is no breach of a similar rule in that time.

The suspension will commence at midnight 22 February 2020 and will expire at midnight 7 March 2020.

Mr Whiteley was made aware of his internal review rights.