

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: John Manzelmann

Date: 4 June 2020

Panel: D Aurisch, P Chadwick & E Barron

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance DEXAMETHASONE was detected in urine samples taken from ZOFFANY ROCKET and CANFORD TREE at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 23 August 2019 and 28 August 2019 respectively.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this inquiry was conducted by written correspondence and Trainer John Manzelmann was provided with documentary evidence from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL).

After considering the evidence, Mr Manzelmann pleaded guilty to two (2) charges pursuant to AR 240 (2) which reads:

Subject to subrule (3), if a horse has been brought to a racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in any sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of such horse at any relevant time may be penalised.

The specifics of the charges being as follows:

1. Mr Manzelmann, being the trainer of ZOFFANY ROCKET, brought that horse to the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 23 August 2019, for the purpose of participating in a race and a post-race urine sample taken after the gelding competed in the Benchmark 65 Handicap 1600m, revealed the prohibited substance Dexamethasone being detected.
2. Mr Manzelmann, being the trainer of CANFORD TREE brought that horse to the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 29 August 2019, for the purpose of participating in a race and a post-race urine sample taken after CANFORD TREE competed in the Maiden Set-Weights 1200m, revealed the prohibited substance Dexamethasone being detected.

When considering an appropriate penalty for this breach, the Panel were of the view the following points to be relevant:

1. Mr Manzelmann has five (5) previous offences for prohibited substances;
2. He submitted forthright written evidence which included a guilty plea;

3. The veterinarian advice he received about the safe withhold period for the substance;
4. Penalty precedents for Dexamethasone;
5. Need for both a specific deterrent to Mr Manzelmann and a general deterrent to the wider industry that these matters have a negative impact on the image of the sport.

When taking the above into account, Mr Manzelmann was subsequently fined the sum of \$3000 for each charge.

Furthermore, acting under the provisions of AR 240(2) ZOFFANY ROCKET and CANFORD TREE were disqualified from winning their respective races and the placing's amended as follows:

Zoffany Rocket – Rockhampton- BM 60 Hcp – 1600m

- 1st – STEELZ TIME
- 2nd – DARTS AWAY
- 3rd – ALOOF'S TURF
- 4th – LITTLE HUNTER
- 5th – BACKHOUSE BILLY

Canford Tree – Rockhampton – Maiden SW – 1200m

- 1st – HEZAGIGALO
- 2nd – HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL
- 3rd – ANNMARIE
- 4th – BEAUTY SECRETS
- 5th – ATTARD

Mr Manzelmann was made aware of his right to an internal review against this decision.
