

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Alex Malliff - Ruler

Date: 29 May 2020

Panel: P Lane & D Lane

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance DEXAMETHASONE was detected in a urine sample taken from RULER at Townsville on 20 February 2020.

Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) along with evidence from licensed trainer Mr Alex Malliff.

After considering the evidence, Mr Malliff pleaded guilty to a charge 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 charge being that Mr Alex Malliff, as the trainer of Ruler, brought that gelding to Townsville on 20 February 2020 for the purpose of engaging in the Benchmark 72 Handicap 1000m, and a post-race urine sample taken was found to contain the prohibited substance DEXAMETHASONE.

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards were mindful of Mr Malliff's unblemished record in relation to the rule. Stewards were also mindful of similar penalty precedents, the negative impact such breaches have on the image of racing and the need for a penalty to serve as an appropriate deterrent to ensure racing is conducted free of prohibited substances.

Mr Malliff was subsequently fined \$2000.

Furthermore, under the provisions of AR. 240 (1) RULER was disqualified from winning the above-mentioned race and the placing's were amended as follows –

Townsville 20 February 2020 – Benchmark 72 Handicap 1000m

1st – SWEET SURPRISE

2nd – PERFECT KNOWLEDGE

3rd – CRIMSON HALO

4th – BON TEMPS

Mr Malliff was made aware of his right to an internal review into the finding of the Stewards.