

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Donald Graham

Date: 16 July 2020

Panel: L Hicks, D Aurisch, P McLean.

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into the analysis of breath samples provided by licensed trackwork rider Mr Donald Graham at trackwork at the Deagon Racing Club on Monday, 6 July 2020.

After considering evidence tendered by Mr Graham, Stewards issued a charge under Australian Rule of Racing 139(1)(a) which reads;

AR 139 Offences where riders use banned substances

(1) A rider breaches these Australian Rules if:

(a) a banned substance under AR 136(1) is detected in a sample taken from the rider;

The specifics of the charge being that Mr Graham when breath tested during the course of trackwork duties at the Deagon Racecourse on Monday 6 July 2020, the samples provided returned a blood alcohol reading in excess of the 0.02% threshold as stated in AR136(1)(f).

Mr Graham pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty, Stewards were mindful of Mr Graham's guilty plea, forthright evidence, his personal circumstances, his unblemished record and penalty precedents. Stewards also considered that a penalty for this breach must serve as a specific deterrent to Mr Graham and also a general deterrent to the industry to illustrate that riding under the influence of a prohibited substance will not be tolerated.

Subsequently, Mr Graham licence was suspended for a period of 3 weeks, to commence from the day he was stood down, Monday 6 July 2020 and to expire at midnight Monday 27 July 2020.

Mr Graham was advised of his rights to an internal review.