

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Harness Trainer: Ryan Veivers

Date: 2 July 2020

Panel: L. Wilson; N. Torpey; C. Simpson & M. Winwood

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today completed an inquiry into the analysts finding of Arsenic above the threshold in samples taken from ANDREW JAY at Redcliffe on 4 March 2020 and LETTUCEFIRESTAR at Albion Park on 9 May 2020. Ryan Veivers trained both horses at the time of their engagement.

Stewards issued two (2) charges against Ryan Veivers pursuant to Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) which reads:

“A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances”

The specifics of charge #1 being that:

Ryan Veivers, as the trainer of ANDREW JAY did present ANDREW JAY to race at Redcliffe on March 4, 2020 not free of prohibited substances in that a sample taken from ANDREW JAY was found upon analysis to contain a prohibited substance, namely Arsenic above the threshold.

The specifics of charge #2 being that:

Ryan Veivers, as the trainer of LETTUCEFIRESTAR did present LETTUCEFIRESTAR to race at Albion Park on May 9, 2020 not free of prohibited substances in that a sample taken from LETTUCEFIRESTAR was found upon analysis to contain a prohibited substance, namely Arsenic above the threshold.

Mr Veivers pleaded guilty to both charges.

Whilst Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) carries with it an absolute liability upon a trainer to present, their horses to race free of

prohibited substances the blameworthiness on the part of the trainer is to be considered.

Careful consideration was given to the submissions provided by Mr Veivers and the following:

- Notifications have been communicated to the racing industry trainers to be vigilant and ensure stable environments are free of contaminants;
- The Study conducted by the Melbourne University faculty of Veterinary; Agriculture Science, which examined the ingestion of wood shavings containing arsenic and elevated levels achieved;
- The offence record of Mr Veivers under this rule;
- Penalty precedents for matters of this type;

After consideration Stewards ordered that, in regard to Charge #1, a fine of \$2,000 be imposed. With regard to Charge #2 Stewards, acting under the provisions of AHRR. 256(6) deemed that a conviction be recorded but no penalty imposed as it was considered the offence occurred under the same set of circumstances.

Further, acting under the provisions of AHRR 195, ANDREW JAY was disqualified from Race 1 at Redcliffe on 4 March 2020 and LETTUCEFIRESTAR was disqualified from Race 2 on 9 May 2020.

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