

Stewards' Report

Stewards' Report – Harness Trainer – Heather Warland

Date – 10 August 2020

Panel – D. Farquharson, N. Torpey & N. Finnigan

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today concluded an inquiry into the analyst's findings that a pre-race blood sample taken from Royal Icing prior to it competing in Race 9 at Redcliffe on 19 July 2020 contained a prohibited substance, namely TC02 above the prescribed threshold. Royal Icing was trained for this event by Ms Heather Warland.

On 28 July 2020, Stewards issued the following charge against Heather Warland 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 the charge being:

Ms Heather Warland, as the trainer of Royal Icing, did present that horse to race at Redcliffe on 19 July 2020 when not free of a prohibited substance namely TC02 above the prescribed threshold.

Today, Stewards formally found Ms Warland guilty of the charge and in determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Ms Warland's personal situation;
- Submissions provided by Ms Warland;
- The particular circumstances of the case;
- Penalty precedents including relevant appeal decisions;
- The need for a penalty to serve as a deterrent to illustrate that drug free racing is of paramount importance to the integrity of harness racing;

Ms Warland was disqualified for a period of 6 months.

Acting under the provisions of AHR rule 195, Royal Icing was disqualified from Race 9 at Redcliffe on 19 July 2020 and the placings amended accordingly. The embargo previously placed on the horse was lifted.

Ms Warland was advised of her rights to an Internal Review