

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Leslie Gordy – MIGHTY MARMALADE

Date: 29 January 2021

Panel: P Lane, C Warren, 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 Mighty Marmalade at Townsville on 14 December 2019.

Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) along with evidence from licensed trainer Mr Leslie Gordy. Expert evidence was also provided, via telephone, by Dr Shawn Stanley, RSC Integrity Services and Operations Director.

After considering all of the evidence Mr Gordy was issued with 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 licensed trainer Mr Leslie Gordy brought the horse Mighty Marmalade to Townsville on 14 December 2019 for the purpose of engaging in the Ratings Band 0-60 Handicap 1200m and a post-race urine sample taken was found to contain the prohibited substance DEXAMETHASONE.

Mr Gordy pleaded guilty to the charge and was afforded the opportunity to put forward submissions in relation to penalty

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards were of the view that the following points were relevant:

1. Mr Gordy's record as a trainer, in relation to the rule, with the only other breach relating to the presence of another prohibited substance revealed in the subject sample. This matter was the subject of a previous, separate inquiry held on July 6, 2020 and resulted in a monetary penalty and the subsequent disqualification of Mighty Marmalade from its 1st placing in the Ratings Band 0-60 Handicap 1200m at Townsville on December 14, 2019.
2. His forthright evidence.
3. His personal and financial circumstances.
4. Penalty precedents for DEXAMETHASONE.
5. 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.

Taking the above into account, Mr Gordy was subsequently fined \$2000.

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