

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Jade Rideout

Date: 16 February 2021

Panel: J Adams, C Allison, E Suli

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into evidence provided by licensed stablehand Ms Jade Rideout during a Stewards inquiry at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 25 August 2020.

It was ascertained that during a Stewards inquiry into a substance that was found in a vehicle being used by Licensed Trainer Damien Rideout at the Rockhampton Jockey Club, Ms Rideout provided false evidence to the Stewards inquiry.

After considering all of the evidence, Ms Rideout was issued with a charge pursuant to AR 232(i) which states:

A person must not give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.

The specifics of the charge being that Jade Rideout as a licensed stablehand with QRIC, knowingly provided false evidence during a Stewards inquiry into a substance found in a vehicle used by Licensed Trainer Damien Rideout at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 25 August 2020.

Ms Rideout pleaded guilty to the charge and made submissions in regard to penalty.

When considering an appropriate penalty, Stewards view breaches of this kind very seriously as knowingly providing false evidence at an inquiry is a hindrance to those who are tasked with upholding the integrity of racing. The penalty must not only deter Ms Rideout but must also illustrate to the entire racing industry that these actions cannot be condoned. Stewards also considered previous penalties for breaches of this rule.

Subsequently, Ms Rideout was disqualified for a period of four(4) months to commence 16 February 2021 and to conclude 16 June 2021.

Jade Rideout was advised of the restrictions of AR263 and was made aware of her right to an internal review into the finding of the Stewards.