

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Fred Wieland – EL OF A SAGA

Date: 26 March 2021

Panel: P Lane, C Warren, D Lane

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance ARSENIC was detected in a urine sample taken from EI Of A Saga at Cairns on 20 August 2020.

Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and Racing Analytical Services Ltd (RASL) along with evidence from licensed trainer Mr Fred Wieland. Expert evidence was also provided, via telephone, by Dr Shawn Stanley, RSC Integrity Services and Operations Director.

After considering all of the evidence Mr Wieland 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 Fred Wieland brought the horse EI Of a Saga to Cairns on 20 August 2020 for the purpose of engaging in the Ratings Band 0-58 Handicap 1250m and a post-race urine sample taken was found to contain the prohibited substance ARSENIC.

Mr Wieland pleaded not guilty to the charge.

After considering all of the submissions the Stewards were comfortably satisfied that sufficient evidence existed to substantiate the charge and Mr Wieland was formally found guilty of the charge.

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

1. Mr Wieland's record as a trainer with 1 previous infringement under the rule in a long career.
2. His forthright evidence.
3. His personal and financial circumstances.
4. Penalty precedents for Arsenic.
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 Wieland was subsequently fined \$2000.

Furthermore, under the provisions of AR. 240 (1) EI Of A Saga was disqualified from winning the Ratings Band 0-58 Handicap 1250m and the placing's were amended as follows:

Cairns 20 August 2020 – Ratings Band 0-58 Handicap 1250m

1st – YALANJI

2nd – HEMSTED

3rd – TOFF ROCKS

4th – REAGAN

5th - EVIE'S PEARL

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