

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Rick Nelson

**Date: 10/06/2021**

**Panel: C Warren, P Lane and D Lane**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today conducted an inquiry regarding the results of a urine sample taken from Dual Trainer/Jockey licence holder Rick Nelson at Townsville Turf Club on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 on a morning he had been riding track-work.

After hearing all submissions, Mr Rick Nelson pleaded guilty to a charge under the provisions of AR139(1)(a) which reads:

*A rider breaches these Australian Rules if a banned substance under AR136(1) is detected in a sample taken from the rider.*

The particulars of the charge being that on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 Mr Nelson did provide a urine sample at Townsville Turf Club which upon subsequent analysis was found to contain a substance banned under AR136(1).

In determining penalty Stewards were mindful of the specific circumstances of the case, Mr Nelson's forthright evidence, his guilty plea and his clear record over a significant period of time in the racing industry as well as his personal circumstances. Stewards considered the negative effect breaches of this kind have on the image of the industry and also noted the serious nature of the breach and the need for any penalty to serve not only as a specific deterrent to Mr Nelson but to the industry cohort as a whole.

Subsequently, Stewards determined a four (4) month disqualification of Mr Nelson's licence was warranted in this instance, however as he had been stood down from all riding duties since 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021, Stewards ordered a disqualification from 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 up to and including 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Stewards advised Mr Nelson that he would be granted seven (7) days from 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021, to make the appropriate arrangements for the horses currently in his stable.

Stewards further ordered that under the provisions of AR139(4) Mr Nelson must provide a urine sample free of any banned substances prior to being re-licensed.

Mr Nelson was advised of his right to an internal review.