

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Mr Craig Smith - Rostrum

**Date: 17 February 2022**

**Panel: Josh Adams, Daniel Aurisch and Chris Allison**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance DESVENLAFAXINE was detected in a urine sample taken from Rostrum at Rockhampton on Saturday 15 May 2021. Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) along with evidence from licensed trainer Mr Craig Smith.

After considering all the evidence Mr Smith 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 Craig Smith brought the horse Rostrum to Rockhampton on Saturday 15 May 2021, for the purpose of engaging in Race 1 the Maiden Handicap 1050m and a post-race urine sample taken was found to contain the prohibited substance DESVENLAFAXINE.

Mr Smith pleaded guilty to the charge.

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

1. Mr Smith's record.
2. His forthright evidence and guilty plea.
3. His personal and financial circumstances.
4. 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 Smith was subsequently fined \$3000.

Furthermore, under the provisions of AR 240 (1) ROSTRUM was disqualified from the event and placings were amended to

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**Rockhampton Saturday May 15, 2021 – Race 1 Maiden Handicap 1050m**

1st – Hangry

2nd – Mount Dumeresq

3rd – Storm Water

4th – Shezroyal

5th – Vok’s The One

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