

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Shane Sigvart – Chezblack

**Date: 12 April 2022**

**Panel: P Chadwick, and D Aurisch**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Epi trenbolone was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the thoroughbred mare CHEZBLACK at the Townsville Race Meeting on 15 August 2019.

The inquiry was initially conducted via written correspondence whereby Stewards considered documentary evidence from the Racing Science Centre and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory and subsequently charged trainer Mr Shane Sigvart pursuant to Australian Rule of Racing 240(2).

Australian Rule of Racing 240(2) provides:

*Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is 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 a 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 the horse at any relevant time breaches these Australian Rules.*

The specifics of the charges being that Mr Sigvart, as the licensed trainer of CHEZBLACK, brought that mare to the Townsville Race meeting on 15 August 2019 for the purpose of competing in a race, being Race 7 NQ Amateur Raceday Saturday 24 August Class 2 Plate 1000m, and an analysis of the post-race urine sample collected from CHEZBLACK detected the presence of Epi trenbolone in the sample, which is a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A of the Australian Rules of Racing.

Mr Sigvart subsequently pleaded guilty and made submissions in respect of any penalty to be imposed.

In determining penalty in relation to the charge, the Stewards considered the following:

1. The nature, circumstances and seriousness of the offence,
2. Mr Sigvart's personal circumstances, character and general background, noting Mr Sigvart has held a licence in the racing industry for over 7 years. Also that he currently has 3 horses in work,
3. Mr Sigvart's disciplinary history, noting that he has held a Thoroughbred Trainer's Licence for over seven (7) years and that his disciplinary history showed no previous prohibited substance positives.

4. A notice was issue by QRIC on 21 June 2018 warning in regard to the use of products containing Altrenogest.

5. Another notice in regard to an update on Altrenogest was issued 15 October 2018 advising Trainers to discontinue immediately the use of oral and injectable forms of products containing Altrenogest

6. The penalty precedents for breaches of Australian Rule of Racing 240(2) specific to the prohibited substance Epitrenbolone; and

7. The requirement for penalties to act as both a specific deterrent to Mr Sigvart to reduce the risk of further offending and ;as a general deterrent to the wider racing industry for the integrity of the racing industry to remain paramount.

The Stewards' Panel, having considered the above factors determined the appropriate penalty for the offence as specified was a monetary penalty in the amount of \$4,000.00 with \$2,000.00 to be wholly suspended for a period of twelve (12) months on the condition that Mr Sigvart does not reoffend against Australian Rule of Racing 240(2) throughout that period.

Furthermore, acting under the provisions of Australian Rule of Racing 240(1), CHEZBLACK was disqualified from its 1st placing in the NQ Amateur Raceday Saturday 24 August Class 2 Plate 1000m and the placings were amended accordingly.

Due to the period of time that had elapsed from the date of the collection of the subject sample from CHEZBLACK, Australian Rule of Racing 248(4) could not be effected. However, CHEZBLACK competed in seven (7) races throughout the twelve month period following the detection of the positive sample and obtained 3 wins throughout that time.

Mr Sigvart was advised of his rights to apply for an internal review of the decision pursuant to Chapter 6 of the *Racing Integrity Act 2016* (Qld).

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