

Stewards Report: Trainer Mr. L Hatch

Date: 15 June 2022

Panel: Clayton Warren & Peter Lane

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that a post-race sample taken from BEFANA on the 12 February 2022 at Doomben returned a positive result for the substance O-desmethylvenlafaxine.

Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory along with both anecdotal and empirical evidence from licensed Trainer Mr L Hatch.

After considering all of the evidence Mr Hatch was issued with a charge pursuant to AR240(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 Lindsay Hatch did have the horse BEFANA presented to Doomben on February 12 2022 for the purpose of engaging in the Class 3 Handicap over 1110m and a post-race urine sample taken from the mare was found to contain the prohibited substance O-desmethylvenlafaxine.

In determining penalty Stewards gave consideration to the specific circumstances of the case, Mr Hatch's guilty plea and forthright evidence, his record in relation to the rule, his personal and financial circumstances, relevant penalty precedents as well as the negative impact such breaches have on the image of the industry and the need for any penalty to act not only as a specific deterrent to Mr Hatch but to the industry cohort as a whole.

Mr Hatch was subsequently fined the sum of \$1000, furthermore under the provisions of AR283(5) Stewards ordered that \$500 of that amount be wholly suspended for a period of 12 months under the proviso that Mr Hatch does not reoffend under this rule regarding O-desmethylvenlafaxine or any other antidepressant or their metabolites.

Furthermore, acting under the provisions of AR240(1), Stewards disqualified BEFANA from winning the Class 3 Handicap over 1110m and the placings were amended as follows:

Doomben, February 12 2022 – Class 3 Handicap over 1110m

1st- BOOMNOVA

2nd- ZINGALONG

3rd- TORUN

4th- ONE SHY RUBY

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