

## **Stewards Report: Trainer Mark Currie**

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Panel: Clayton Warren & Peter Lane**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that a blood sample taken from WHERE'S TEKAY NOW on the 2 August 2022 prior to it participating in the Toowoomba Official Trials returned a positive result for the substance's Furosemide and Meloxicam.

Documentary evidence was tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the and the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory along with evidence from licensed Trainer Mr M Currie.

After considering all of the evidence Mr Currie was issued with a two (2) charge pursuant to AR241(a) which reads:

*If a horse is brought to a racecourse or recognised training track to participate in:*

*(a) an official trial;*

*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 the relevant event, 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 as follows:

### **Charge 1-**

Licensed Trainer Mr Mark Currie did have the gelding WHERE'S TEKAY NOW presented to the Toowoomba Official Trials on the 2 August 2022 for the purpose of competing in those trials and a blood sample taken from the gelding was found upon subsequent analysis to contain the prohibited substance Furosemide.

### **Charge 2-**

Licensed Trainer Mr Mark Currie did have the gelding WHERE'S TEKAY NOW presented to the Toowoomba Official Trials on the 2 August 2022 for the purpose of competing in those trials and a blood sample taken from the gelding was found upon subsequent analysis to contain the prohibited substance Meloxicam.

In determining penalty Stewards considered the specific circumstances of the case, Mr Currie'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 Currie but to the industry cohort as a whole.

In regard to Charge 1 Mr Currie was fined the sum of \$1000.

In regard to Charge 2, Mr Currie was fined the sum of \$3000. Additionally, under the provisions of AR283(5) Stewards ordered \$1000 of that amount to be wholly suspended for a period of twelve (12) months from the 2 August 2022 under the proviso that Mr Currie does not reoffend under AR241 or any similar rule during that period.

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