

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Mr. Allan Clark

**Date: 17 August 2022**

**Panel: Ben Cooke, Shane Larkins**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a stable inspection conducted by QRIC Integrity Investigative Team at the stables of Licensed Trainer Allan Clark on the morning of Saturday 7 May 2022.

It was alleged that during the stable inspection, Stewards questioned Mr Clark in relation to whether any horses had been subject to race day treatment, with the trainer admitting that he had stomach-tubed and given an IV injection to Whoa Lola, which was engaged to race in race 6 the Knight Frank Agribusiness Benchmark 65 Handicap at the Rockhampton Jockey Club the same day.

After considering the evidence presented and the admissions made by Mr Clark, he was issued with a charge pursuant to AR 255(1)(c)(i) which states:

*(1) A person must not, without the permission of the Stewards; (a) stomach-tube; a horse engaged to run in a race, official trial or jump-out, (i) at any time on the day of the race, official trial or jump-out and prior to the start of that event.*

The specifics of the charge being that, on the morning of 7 May 2022, Licensed Trainer Mr Allan Clark, without the prior permission of the Stewards, stomach-tubed Whoa Lola, which was engaged to race that afternoon at the Rockhampton Jockey Club, with a turmeric drench,

Mr Clark pleaded guilty to the charge.

Furthermore, Mr Clark was issued with a charge pursuant to AR 254(1)(a)(i) which states:

*(1) A person must not, without the permission of the Stewards; (a) inject; a horse engaged to run in any race: (i) at any time on the day of the scheduled race and prior to the start of that race.*

The specifics of the charge being that, on the morning of 7 May 2022, Licensed Trainer Mr Allan Clark, without the permission of the Stewards, injected Whoa Lola, which was engaged to race that afternoon at the Rockhampton Jockey Club, with potassium.

Mr Clark pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards acknowledged Mr Clark's very good record over an extended period, immediate admission of guilt, personal circumstance, and co-operation. However, stewards were also mindful that a breach of AR 255 attracted a minimum mandatory penalty under the Australian Rules of Racing. In this regard, Stewards considered whether special circumstances existed as set out under LR 117B(a) i. ii. which would allow for a reduction in the minimum mandatory penalty. Stewards were satisfied that an early admission and guilty plea had occurred and warranted a reduction in penalty. Stewards were also cognizant that four samples taken from Whoa Lola on the day in question all returned negative results upon analysis.

Mr Clark was disqualified for a period of eight (8) months on each charge with the penalties ordered to be served concurrently. Mr Clark's disqualification was ordered to commence from midnight 17 August 2022 and to conclude at midnight 17 April 2023.

Mr Clark was made aware of his rights to an internal review into the finding of the Stewards.