

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Mr Benny Crear

Date: 20 October 2022

Panel: Ben Cooke, Shane Larkins, Hayden Gillett

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from The Racing Science Centre in relation to a sample taken from the Benny Crear trained Grand De Lago after it won the Gladstone Cup Open Handicap on Saturday 13 August 2022.

The report from The Racing Science Centre advised that Cobalt had been detected above the allowable threshold, this was confirmed by a further report from Racing Analytical Services Limited

After considering the evidence presented and submissions made by Mr Crear, he was issued with a charge pursuant to AR 240(2) which states:

(2) 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 charge being that, as the trainer of Grand De Lago, he presented the horse to race at Gladstone on the 13 of August 2022, and a sample taken from that horse after winning the Gladstone Cup Open Handicap, disclosed the presence of Cobalt above the allowable threshold.

Mr Crear pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards acknowledged Mr Crear's good record over a seven-year training career, his admission of guilt, personal circumstance, and co-operation. However, were also mindful of the need for deterrence both specific and general. Stewards also considered recent determinations of a similar nature.

Mr Crear's license to train was suspended for 12 months with the penalty wholly suspended for a period of 2 years, on the basis he does not re-offend under the same rule for that period.

Furthermore, Mr Crear was fined \$4000.

Acting under the provisions of AR240(1) Grand De Lago was disqualified from the race in question and the placing's were amended as follows:

1st – BARACHIEL
2nd – DELIUS
3rd – GALVARINO

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