

## Stewards' Report

### Stewards Report: Harness Trainer: Kay Crone

Date: 14 March 2023

Panel: D. Farquharson, N. Torpey & W. Barr

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today completed an inquiry into the analysts finding of Arsenic above the threshold in samples taken from Indefensible at Albion Park on 17 December 2022 and The Crom at Albion Park on 24 December 2022. Kay Crone trained both horses at the time of their engagement.

Stewards issued two (2) charges against Kay Crone pursuant to Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) which reads:

*“A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances”*

The specifics of charge #1 being that:

*Kay Crone, as the trainer of Indefensible did present that horse to race at Albion Park on 17 December, 2022 not free of prohibited substances in that a sample taken from Indefensible was found upon analysis to contain a prohibited substance, namely Arsenic above the threshold.*

The specifics of charge #2 being that:

*Kay Crone, as the trainer of The Crom did present that horse to race at Albion Park on 24 December 2022, not free of prohibited substances in that a sample taken from The Crom was found upon analysis to contain a prohibited substance, namely Arsenic above the threshold.*

Kay Crone pleaded guilty to both charges.

Whilst Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) carries with it an absolute liability upon a trainer to present, their horses to race free of prohibited substances the blameworthiness on the part of the trainer is to be considered.

Careful consideration was given to the submissions provided by Counsel representing Kay Crone and the following:

- Notifications have been communicated to the racing industry trainers to be vigilant and ensure stable environments are free of contaminants;;
- The offence record of Kay Crone under this rule;
- Penalty precedents for matters of this type;

After consideration Stewards ordered that, in regard to Charge #1, a fine of \$2,000 be imposed. With regard to Charge #2 Stewards ordered that a \$2000 fine be imposed. In assessing the matter of penalty, Stewards took into account the short time frame between both offences and Kay Crone's good record under this rule.

Acting under the provisions of AHR 195 Indefensible was disqualified from Race 4 – Garrards Trotters Christmas Cup at Albion Park on December 17, 2022 and The Crom was disqualified from Race 8 – Changeover Burwood Stud Pace at Albion Park on December 24, 2022.

Kay Crone was advised of her rights to an internal review.