

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Alan Donohoe

Date: 03 July 2023

Panel: D.Farquharson, N.Torpey, M.Greentree

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards commenced inquiries on May 17 2023 into reports from the QRIC Racing Science Centre (RSC) and Racing Analytical Service Limited (RASL) that the prohibited substance Pregabalin had been detected in samples taken from the Alan Donohoe trained horse The Hummer following its winning performances at Albion Park on 15th and 22nd of April 2023.

On June 18, 2023, Mr Donohoe was issued with two (2) charges pursuant to AHR Rule 190(1) of the Australian Harness Racing (AHR) rules, as follows:

AHR Rule 190 (1)

(1) A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances

The particulars being that:

Charge 1: Licensed trainer Alan Donohoe, as the trainer of The Hummer, did present that horse to race at Albion Park on 15th April 2023 when a post-race urine sample taken from that horse, upon analysis, was found to contain a prohibited substance, namely Pregabalin.

Charge 2: Licensed trainer Alan Donohoe, as the trainer of The Hummer, did present that horse to race at Albion Park on 22nd April 2023 when a post-race urine sample taken from that horse, upon analysis, was found to contain a prohibited substance, namely Pregabalin.

On 21 June 2023, Mr Donohoe registered a not guilty plea to both charges.

Today after careful consideration of the facts and taking into account evidence from Mr Donohoe, Dr Shawn Stanley General Manager, Analytical Services (RSC) and QRIC Veterinarian Dr Stacey Flynn, Alan Donohoe was found guilty of both charges.

When assessing the matter of penalty, Stewards gave careful consideration to:

- * AHR Rule 190 (1) is a strict liability rule with the onus on the trainer to present a horse drug free for racing,
- * The offence file of Alan Donohoe which indicated previous breaches of this rule,
- * Penalty precedents for matters of this type,
- * The need for any penalty to serve as a deterrent both general and specific.

Mr Alan Donohoe was disqualified for a period of six (6) months to be served concurrently effective immediately.

Stewards further determined that The Hummer shall be disqualified from its winning performances at Albion Park on 15th April 2023 and the 22nd April 2023 under the provisions of AHR Rule 195 and all remaining placings be adjusted accordingly.

Mr Donohoe was advised of his rights to review to the Racing Appeal Panel.