

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Mr Phillip Bobic– SONIC ARROW and SENNACHIE

27 September 2023

Panel: Joshua Adams, Paul Zimmermann, Brett Wright and Emily Tickner.

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance COCAINE and metabolites BENZOYLECGONINE and METHYLECGONINE were detected in urine samples taken from SONIC ARROW at the Toowoomba on 10 June 2023 and SENNACHIE at Gatton on 24 June 2023.

After considering all of the evidence, Mr Bobic was issued with two (2) charges pursuant to AR 240(2) which states:

Subject to AR240(3), when any horse that has been brought to a racecourse for the purpose of engaging 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 such horse at any relevant time breaches these Australian Rules.

The particulars of charge 1 were as follows - Mr Phillip Bobic, as a licensed trainer with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission, was the registered trainer of SONIC ARROW when on 10 June 2023 the mare was brought to the Toowoomba racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race, that being Race 1 The Prime Thoroughbred Handicap over 1000 metres. A post-race urine sample was collected following its winning performance, which upon analysis revealed the sample to contain cocaine and its metabolites benzoylecgonine and methyl ecgonine. The substances are prohibited under the Australian Rules of Racing pursuant to Division 1 Prohibited List B and thus breaching the requirements of AR 240(2).

Mr Phillip Bobic, as a licensed trainer with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission, was the registered trainer of SENNACHIE when on 24 June 2023 the gelding was brought to the GATTON racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race, that being Race 7 The Public Safety and Training Response Group Maiden handicap over 1400 metres. A post-race urine sample was collected following its winning performance, which upon analysis revealed the sample to contain cocaine and its metabolites benzoylecgonine and methyl ecgonine. The substances are prohibited under the Australian Rules of Racing pursuant to Division 1 Prohibited List B and thus breaching the requirements of AR 240(2).

Mr Bobic pled guilty to both charges.

When determining the appropriate penalty, stewards were mindful that given the close proximity of both samples, Mr Bobic was unable to rectify stable practices which Mr Bobic submitted may have led to the swab irregularities. After considering recent penalty precedents, penalty submissions made on behalf of Mr Bobic, and the circumstances unique to this matter, stewards fined Mr Bobic \$4,000.

After considering submissions by the ownership group of Sonic Arrow, stewards acting under AR240(1), disqualified Sonic Arrow from its placing in the above-mentioned race and the placing were amended as follows:

Stewards amended the placings in Race 1 at Toowoomba on 10 June 2023 in the PRIME THOROUGHBREDS BENCHMARK 58 HANDICAP (1000m) to the following results:

1ST – SUPER LEAGUE

2ND – ORACOLO

3RD – ORSETTO

4TH – THE ORPHAN (NZ)

5TH – STARS 'N' RICHES

After considering submissions by the ownership group of Sennachie, stewards acting under AR240(1), disqualified Sonic Arrow from its placing in the above-mentioned race and the placing were amended as follows:

Stewards amended the placings in Race 7 at Gatton on 24 June 2023 in the PUBLIC SAFETY & TRAINING RESPONSE GROUP MAIDEN HANDICAP (1400m) to the following results:

1ST – HUSSONHOFF

2ND – JONDY GRACIE

3RD – NEWMARKET MISS

4TH – WAN D'AMOUR

5TH – SHAMUKA

Mr Bobic was advised of his appeal rights.