

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Ben Crosby

Date: 9 October 2023

Panel: D. Farquharson, R. McCrae, M. Greentree

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into matters relating to the race day treatment of Frankie Ferocious prior to racing at Albion Park on 11 August 2023.

Evidence was taken from trainer Ben Crosby who indicated the gelding had developed a discharge on the Wednesday prior to being engaged to race and he treated the gelding with sodium chloride via a nebuliser.

QRIC Stewards when attending the property of Ben Crosby on 11 August 2023 observed a horse receiving treatment in the form of a nebuliser. The brands of the horse were checked and it was established Frankie Ferocious was the horse receiving the treatment. The nebuliser was confiscated and referred to the Racing Science Centre for testing. Stewards directed the scratching of Frankie Ferocious from race 10 at Albion Park on 11 August 2023 under the provisions of Australian Harness Racing (AHR) rule 193(5).

Ben Crosby was issued with a charge pursuant to AHR rule 193 (2) which states;

A person shall not attempt to use or use an atomiser, face mask or other device on a horse nominated for a race or event within one clear day of the commencement of the race or event.

The particulars of the charge were Mr Crosby, the licensed trainer of the registered horse Frankie Ferocious used an atomiser on the horse within one clear day of the commencement of being engaged to race.

Mr Crosby pleaded guilty to the charge and Stewards when determining the penalty considered.

- Race Day treatments are strictly prohibited on race day,
- The use of a nebuliser is prohibited within one clear day prior to racing,
- Mr Crosby's forthright evidence, his previous record and guilty plea,
- The need for this penalty to serve as a deterrent to others considering breaking this rule.

Ben Crosby was fined \$10,000 and he was advised of his rights to the Racing Appeals Panel for review.