

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Mr Bruce Powell

**Date: 24 October 2023**

**Panel: P Zimmermann, D Aurisch, O Legg.**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the Analysts findings of a urine sample provided by licensed trackwork rider Bruce Powell at the Deagon Racecourse on 22 September 2023. Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) confirmed the sample to contain the presence of banned substance 11-nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (Cannabis).

After considering evidence tendered by Mr Powell, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Australian Rule of Racing AR139(1)(a) which reads:

AR 139 Offences where riders use banned substances (1) A rider breaches these Australian Rules if:  
(a) a banned substance under AR 136(1) is detected in a sample taken from the rider.

AR 136 Banned substances in relation to riders (1) Unless otherwise stated in these Australian Rules, the following substances and/or their metabolites, artefacts and isomers are specified as banned substances in riders when detected in a urine sample at a concentration above the respective threshold level:(c) all Cannabinoids, including but not limited to: (i) 11-Nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (15ug/L).

The particulars being that on Friday 22 September 2023 at the Deagon racecourse Mr Powell provided a urine sample to Stewards which upon analysis was found to contain a banned substance, namely 11-nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (Cannabis).

Mr Powell pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards considered Mr Powell's guilty plea, forthright evidence, disciplinary history and personal circumstances. However, Stewards were also mindful of the significant increase to occupational health and safety risks when individuals are found to be riding whilst under the influence of banned substances.

Stewards suspended Mr Powell's license for a period of 6 months to commence 22 September 2023 (day in which he was stood down from riding) and expire 22 March 2024.

Mr Powell must also provide a clear sample prior to resuming.

Mr Powell was advised of his appeal rights.

**Paul Zimmermann.**