

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Mr Kevin Annetts

**Date: 22 January 2024**

**Panel: N. Torpey, R. McCrae, S. Shinn & M. Greentree**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards have concluded an inquiry into reports from the QRIC Racing Science Centre (RSC) and the Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) that the prohibited substance Cobalt above the prescribed threshold as defined in Australian Harness Racing (AHR) Rule 188A(1)(k) had been detected in a sample taken from the Kevin Annetts trained pacer Shezamaterialgirl following its winning performance at Marburg on 5 November 2023.

Mr Annetts was issued with a charge pursuant to rule 190(1) of the Australian Harness Racing (AHR) rule, via written correspondence as follows:

AHR Rule 190(1)

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

The particulars of charge being that:

*Licensed trainer Kevin Annetts, as the trainer of Shezamaterialgirl, did present that horse to race at Marburg on 5 November 2023 when a post-race urine sample taken from that horse, upon analysis, was found to contain a prohibited substance, namely Cobalt above the prescribed threshold level.*

Mr Annetts pleaded guilty to the charge via written correspondence on 17 January 2024.

In assessing penalty Stewards considered the following:

- \* AHR Rule 190 (1) is a strict liability rule with the onus on the trainer to present a horse drug free for racing,
- \* Mr Annett's previous good record under this rule,
- \* Penalty precedents for matters of this type,
- \* The need for any penalty to serve as a deterrent both general and specific.

Stewards after careful consideration of the matter suspended the trainer's licence of Kevin Annetts for a period of 9 months effective immediately.

Acting under the provisions of AHR Rule 195 Shezamaterialgirl was disqualified from its winning performance in Race 3 at Marburg on 5 November 2023 and all other placing were amended accordingly.

Mr Annetts was advised of his rights to an appeal.

