

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Mr Dale Evans

Date: 29th February 2024

Panel: Mr T. Hudson (Chairperson), Mr S. Larkins, Mr E. Suli, Mr H. Gillett and Miss S. Stehbens

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards conducted an inquiry into betting reports provided by Wagering Service Providers "Neds" and "Ladbrokes" and the betting activity of licensed jockey Dale Evans.

After considering the evidence in its entirety, including submissions made by Mr Evans, Stewards issued a charge under AR115(1)(c), which provides:

AR 115 Jockey and apprentice jockey misconduct

(1) A jockey or apprentice jockey must not:

(c) bet, or have any interest in a bet, or facilitate a bet, on any thoroughbred race or contingency relating to thoroughbred racing in any jurisdiction anywhere in the world.

The specifics of the charge were as follows:

That as a licensed jockey with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission that between 22 July 2023 and 20 December 2023 he did place 2,042 bets with wagering service providers "Neds" and "Ladbrokes" on Thoroughbred racing throughout the world, of which 47 of those bets were on Australian races.

Mr Evans entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made submissions in respect of penalty.

In determining the matter of penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Mr Evans's plea of guilty to the charge and full admissions;
- Mr Evans's time in the thoroughbred racing industry as a jockey, being approximately fourteen (14) years;
- Mr Evans's disciplinary history, noting Mr Evans had no prior breach of the betting rules;
- The gravity of the rule breach;
- The need to maintain the integrity of thoroughbred racing and to ensure that all jockey's are compliant with the betting restrictions placed upon them;
- The need for both specific deterrence to Mr Evans and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- Relevant penalty precedents;
- The Human Rights Act 2019;

- Mr Evans' current personal circumstance;
- Thoroughbred Racing Minimum Penalty Guidelines;

Accordingly, Stewards determined that the appropriate penalty for the breach be a 6-month licence suspension from riding in races.

Stewards ordered that the suspension commence as of midnight 27 April 2024, which is at the conclusion of a current suspension period being served. Mr Evans was advised of his right of appeal.