

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Mr Jason Devine

Date: 10th July 2024

Panel: Tate Hudson, Ethan Suli & Hayden Gillett

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the statements and actions of trainer Jason Devine in regard to the thoroughbred Milky Rocket, when that entire was in his care at the relevant times.

After considering all the evidence in its entirety, the following four charges were issued against Mr Devine.

Charge 1

Division 2 – Powers in relation to misconduct and other offences

AR 227 Breaches of the Rules

Without limiting any other powers, a PRA or the Stewards may penalise any person who:

- (a) commits any breach of the Rules, or engages in conduct or negligence which has led or could have led to a breach of the Rules;*

The particulars of the charge being that Mr Jason Devine, as a licensed trainer with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission and the person in charge of the thoroughbred Milky Rocket at the relevant times, did instruct that thoroughbred to be exercised on multiple occasions during the entire's required stand down period at the Thangool Racecourse, which in the opinion of the stewards, led to a breach of AR79(4)(a).

Charge 2

Division 6 – Misconduct by failure to observe official processes and directions

AR 232 Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

- (i) give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.*

The particulars of the charge being that on the 10th of June 2024, Mr Jason Devine, during an interview with stewards at the Thangool racecourse, provided false and

misleading statements when questioned regarding the exercise routines of the thoroughbred Milky Rocket whilst in his care.

Charge 3

Division 6 – Misconduct by failure to observe official processes and directions

AR 232 Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

- (i) give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.*

The particulars of the charge being that on the 28th of June 2024, Mr Jason Devine, during a phone interview with stewards, provided false and misleading statements when questioned regarding the exercise routines of the thoroughbred Milky Rocket whilst in his care.

Charge 4

Division 6 – Misconduct by failure to observe official processes and directions

AR 232 Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

- (i) give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.*

The particulars of the charge being that on the 1st of July 2024, Mr Jason Devine, during a phone interview with stewards, provided false and misleading statements when questioned regarding the exercise routines of the thoroughbred Milky Rocket whilst in his care,

Mr Devine pleaded guilty to all four charges.

When assessing penalty stewards considered the following factors;

- Mr Devine's guilty plea to all charges
- Mr Devine's time in the industry as a trainer, being approximately twelve (12) years
- Mr Devine's clean disciplinary history with no prior breach of either rule in his approximate twelve (12) years of training.
- The Human Rights Act 2019
- The current number of staff Mr Devine employs including being the master for an apprentice jockey
- Mr Devine's personal circumstances

- Relevant penalty precedents where applicable
- The need for a penalty to serve as a deterrent to the racing fraternity and greater public
- The continued consistency of false and misleading evidence being provided on multiple occasions throughout the investigation by Mr Devine over an extended period of time.
- The gravity of the rule breaches and the seriousness of AR79(4)(a) in regard to potential animal welfare.

After considering these factors, the following penalties were issued;

Charge 1 – 3 month suspension of his license to train.

Charge 2 – 6 month suspension of his licence to train with 3 months to be wholly suspended for 24 months on the basis he does not reoffend under this rule for that period.

Charge 3 – 6 month suspension of his licence to train with 3 months to be wholly suspended for 24 months on the basis he does not reoffend under this rule for that period.

Charge 4 – 6 month suspension of his licence to train with 3 months to be wholly suspended for 24 months on the basis he does not reoffend under this rule for that period.

Stewards ordered that all penalties are to be served concurrently.

Therefore, stewards ordered the suspension to commence on midnight 10th July 2024 and to expire on midnight 10th October 2024.

Mr Devine was made aware of his rights to an appeal.