

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Jockey Masa Abe

Date: 27th November 2024

Panel: R Neal (Chairman), and P Gillard.

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today concluded an investigation into alleged breaches of Australian Rules of Racing 115(1)(c) and (e) by licensed jockey Mr Masayuki Abe.

Charge 1.

AR115(1)(c) - 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;

Particulars being that between 26 February 2023 and 30 January 2024, jockey Abe placed fifty bets on Australian and International races when not permitted to do so.

Charge 2.

AR115(1)(c) - A jockey or apprentice jockey must not: (e) bet, or have any interest in a bet, or facilitate a bet, on any thoroughbred race or contingency relating to thoroughbred racing involving a race in which he or she is riding in any jurisdiction anywhere in the world.

Particulars being that between 26 February 2023 and 30 January 2024, jockey Abe placed three bets on Australian races, when riding in those races.

Mr Abe pled guilty to both charges.

After consideration of all relevant factors the penalties imposed were.

- i. AR115(1)(e) – 16 months disqualification
- ii. AR115(1)(c) – 3 months disqualification

Both disqualifications, which are to be served concurrently, to commence today and expire at midnight on Friday 27th March 2026.

In assessing penalty Stewards considered the following:

- Mr Abe's admissions of both breaches and the remorse demonstrated.
- Mr Abe's previously clear record in relation to both rules.
- Specific circumstances of the breaches.
- Mr Abe's verbal submissions and his personal circumstances.
- That, on two occasions when riding in races, Mr Abe wagered on horses not ridden by him
- The need to ensure that the sanction imposed appropriately operates as a means of deterrence and denunciation, and that it deters others who may contemplate breaching the Rules of Racing.

- The effect breaches such as this have on the integrity and image of the industry
- Relevant penalties imposed for breaches of Rules 115(1)(c) & (e)

The Stewards found that in the two races where Mr Abe supported other runners, there was no evidence that his riding compromised or assisted any horses chances.

Mr Abe was advised of his rights of appeal.