

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Ryan Veivers

Date: 31 December 2024

Panel: D. Farquharson, R. McCrae, L. Bahr

On 18 December 2024, Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards commenced an investigation into several animal welfare matters at the stables of licenced trainer Ryan Veivers. This followed a report from Harness Racing NSW that the horse Tungsten Terror, previously trained by Ryan Veivers had arrived at the stables of an New South Wales trainer in poor condition.

On 20 December, Stewards attended the stables of Ryan Veivers and identified further welfare concerns regarding the racehorse Rockinthecity and retired racehorse Sparkling Melody. On 23 December, Rockinthecity was subsequently euthanised on humane grounds due to an infection that did not respond to veterinary treatment. Sparkling Melody was also euthanised on humane grounds on 27 December.

After taking evidence from Ryan Veivers, and considering substantial veterinary evidence presented during the course of the inquiry, the following charges were applied

Charge 1

AHR rule 218 - A person having responsibility for the welfare of a horse shall not fail to care for it properly.

Particulars of the charge being that Ryan Veivers failed to provide the proper veterinary attention to the horse Rockinthecity prior to and including the 20 December 2024.

Plea: Guilty.

Charge 2

AHR rule 218 - A person having responsibility for the welfare of a horse shall not fail to care for it properly.

Particulars of the charge being that Ryan Veivers failed to provide the proper nutrition to the horse Tungsten Terror to maintain an acceptable condition.

Plea: Guilty

Charge 3

AHR rule 218 - A person having responsibility for the welfare of a horse shall not fail to care for it properly.

Particulars of the charge being that Ryan Veivers failed to provide the proper nutrition to the horse Sparkling Melody to maintain an acceptable condition.

Plea: Guilty

In assessing the matter of penalty, Stewards took into consideration

- Animal welfare is of paramount importance to the racing industry to continue to operate to uphold the standard to public expectation.
- Mr Veivers personal, business and financial circumstances
- Mr Veivers guilty plea to all charges and his remorse for all matters
- Penalty precedents for similar rule breaches
- Mr Veivers good record with no breaches under this rule.

Mr Veivers was suspended for a period of 6 months on each charge and acting under AHR rule 257 Stewards directed the three suspensions to be served concurrently. Stewards directed the term of suspension commence Friday 3 January 2025. Stewards further directed under AHR rule 256(5)(a) that 3 months of each suspension be suspended for a period of 2 years on the provision no rules pertaining to animal welfare are breached by Mr Veivers in the next 2 years.

Mr Veivers was advised of his right to appeal the decisions to the Racing Appeals Panel.