

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Trainer Lindsay Hatch

Date: 6 February 2025

Panel: Clayton Warren, Brett Wright, Anthony Preston & Sharon Coulthard

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance COBALT above the permitted threshold was detected in a urine sample collected from DREAM LANTERN at Ipswich on 23 August, 2024.

On 6 January 2025 an inquiry was commenced with documentary evidence being tabled from the Racing Science Centre (RSC) and Racing Analytical Services Ltd (RASL), along with evidence from Licensed Trainer Mr Lindsay Hatch & Hatch Racing Administrative Director Mrs Tracey Hatch.

After considering all of the evidence Stewards issued Mr Hatch with a charge pursuant to AR240(2) which reads:

Subject to subrule (3), if a horse has been brought to a racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in any sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of such horse at any relevant time may be penalised.

The specifics of the charge being that as the licensed Trainer of DREAM LANTERN, Mr Lindsay Hatch did have that mare presented to race at the Ipswich Turf Club on the 23rd of August 2024 in Race 6 the VINCE INSURANCE CLASS 1 HANDICAP over 1350m, whereby after that winning performance a post-race urine sample was collected and upon subsequent referee analysis was confirmed to contain COBALT at a level exceeding the permitted threshold.

Mr Hatch pleaded guilty to the charge.

The inquiry was then adjourned to permit time for submissions on penalty to be tendered in writing.

In determining penalty Stewards gave consideration to the following:

- Seriousness of breach
- Negative impact on image of industry
- Relevant Precedent
- Guilty plea

- Disciplinary history
- Penalty submissions
- Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)
- Racing Integrity Act 2016 (Qld)
- Level of culpability & Blameworthiness
- General & Specific deterrence
- Principle of totality

Mr Hatch was subsequently issued with a nine (9) months suspension of his Trainer license.

Additionally, as a breach of AR240(2) had been confirmed, a previous penalty of a nine (9) month suspension, wholly suspended under the proviso that Mr Hatch did not breach AR240(2) in relation to COBALT was also enlivened as this further breach had occurred within the operative period of that deferred penalty. With consideration to AR283(4) and the principle of totality Stewards determined that the suspensions should be served partly concurrent as follows:

- Enlivened suspension – To commence 6 February 2025 up to and including 6 November 2025
- Suspension for 23 August 2024 breach – To commence 6 May 2025 up to and including 6 February 2026

Furthermore, acting under the provisions of AR240(1), Stewards disqualified DREAM LANTERN from winning the VINCE INSURANCE CLASS 1 HANDICAP over 1350m and amended the placing as follows:

1st – WEST CORK

2nd – AERIAL BAY

3rd – SANBANO

4th – ROSE NOIR

Mr Hatch was advised of his right to an appeal.