

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Annabel Neasham & Rob Archibald

Date: 25 March 2025

Panel: S Fletcher, L De Witt-Rowson

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards finalised an inquiry today into unlicensed staff undertaking duties at co-trainers Annabel Neasham and Rob Archibald stables at Eagle farm during a stable inspection on 27 February 2025.

After considering all evidence, co-trainers Annabel Neasham and Rob Archibald pleaded guilty to a charge under LR43, which reads:

Unless with the permission of the Principal Racing Authority a Trainer shall not employ an unlicensed person or allow an unlicensed person to work in or about any training establishment in any role involving the training working or custody or management of any racehorse trained, owned or leased by him.

The specifics of the charge being, that licensed co-trainers Annabel Neasham & Rob Archibald did have in their employment, five (5) staff that were conducting stable duties on 27 February 2025, that were unlicensed to work in or about their training establishment.

Stewards considered a written submission regarding the circumstances and penalty in this matter. In determining an appropriate penalty, the Stewards took the following into consideration:

- The plea of guilty to the charge.
- Ms Neasham and Mr Archibald's forthright evidence and remorse for the breach of the rules regarding staff being unlicensed.
- The action taken by the stable to ensure staff are now appropriately licensed.
- The clear disciplinary record of the stable with regards to this rule.
- Previous penalty precedents.

- The requirement to ensure all persons engaging in duties of licensees are the holders of a licence to do so for the purposes of ensuring the integrity of the industry and the welfare of thoroughbreds involved.
- The significant breach being five (5) persons in totality being unlicensed.

Accordingly, Stewards determined that a monetary penalty of \$1000 be applied in this matter. Additionally, acting under the provisions of AR283(5), \$500 of the penalty was wholly suspended for a period of 12 months under the proviso that a breach of LR43 (unlicensed person not to be employed) by the Annabel Neasham and Rob Archibald stable does not occur within this time.

Ms Neasham & Mr Archibald were advised of their right to an appeal.