

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Thomas Smith – Greylist

Date: 27th May 2025

Panel: Shane Larkins, Ethan Suli, Hayden Gillett, Shikira Stehbens & Zoe Lines

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Betamethasone was detected in a pre-race blood sample collected from the horse GREYLIST, when it competed and won Race 2 – TAB 0 – 55 Handicap 1100M, at the Rockhampton Jockey Club meeting held on the 4th March 2025.

Submissions were made by Thomas Smith, trainer of GREYLIST at the inquiry.

After considering the evidence in its entirety, the following charges were issued against Mr Smith:

Charge 1;

Division 2 – Prohibited substance in a sample taken from a horse

AR 240 Prohibited substance in a sample taken from horse at race meeting

(2) Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is 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 a 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 the horse at any relevant time breaches these Australian Rules.

The particulars of the charge being, on 4th March 2025, Mr Thomas Smith, as the trainer of the horse GREYLIST at all relevant times, presented that horse to the Rockhampton Jockey Club for the purpose of participating in Race 2, the TAB 0 – 55 Handicap 1100m, where a pre-race blood sample collected from GREYLIST, upon analysis by the Racing Science Centre and Racing Analytical Services Limited, was found to contain Betamethasone.

Charge 2;

Australian Rule of Racing 104(1) which provides;

A trainer must record any medication or treatment administered to any horse in the trainer's care by midnight on the day on which the administration was given.

The particulars of the charge being that as a licensed trainer with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission, for a period between 01 January 2025 and 01 April 2025, he failed to record a significant number of treatments appropriately that were detailed in your veterinary accounts.

Mr Smith pleaded guilty to both charges.

When assessing penalty stewards considered the following factors.

- Mr Smith's immediate plea of guilty to the charges;
- Mr Smith's full cooperation throughout the investigation and inquiry process;
- Mr Smith's time in the thoroughbred racing industry as a trainer, being more than five (5) years;
- Mr Smith's disciplinary history, noting he has had one (1) prior breach under AR240(2) of the Prohibited Substances Rules in recent times;
- Mr Smith's treatment records were not maintained appropriately;
- The current number of horses currently in work under Mr Smith's care and custody, being twelve (12) horses;
- The current number of staff that Mr Smith employs;
- Mr Smith's personal circumstances.
- The nature of the prohibited substance, Betamethasone, being classified as Prohibited List B substances;
- The need to maintain the integrity of thoroughbred racing industry and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- The need for both specific deterrence to Mr Smith and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- The need for the general public to maintain confidence in the integrity control of the thoroughbred racing industry;
- Relevant penalty precedents;
- The Human Rights Act 2019;

The following penalties were imposed by stewards.

Charge 1 AR240(2) – Fine \$3500

Charge 2 AR104(1) – Fine \$1000

AR 240 Prohibited substance in sample taken from horse at race meeting

(1) Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is brought to a racecourse and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in a sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the horse must be disqualified from any race in which it started on that day.

After considering that no submissions were made by connections or trainer Thomas Smith in relation to AR240(1), stewards invoked the provisions of the rule and therefore GREYLIST was disqualified from Race 2 at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on the 4th March 2025.

The placings were amended as follows:

- 1st DIAMOND MONEY
- 2nd OUR HEART THROB
- 3rd TAHKIAM BUBBLES
- 4th ENTERPRISE PHOENIX

Mr Smith was advised of his rights of appeal.