

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Julie Busuttin

Date: 3rd July 2025

Panel: Ethan Suli, Hayden Gillett & Gary Wust

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today concluded an inquiry in relation to apprentice Julie Busuttin, at the Thangool Race Club meeting held on the 10th June 2025, weighing in overweight for Race 2 and having weighed out for Race 5 without her required safety vest.

Submissions were made by apprentice Julie Busuttin, along with assisting senior jockey Chris McIver at the inquiry.

After considering the evidence in its entirety, the following charges were issued against apprentice Busuttin.

CHARGE 1:

AR 211 Horses overweight by more than 0.5kg

(1) A rider must ensure that his or her horse does not carry more than 0.5kg in a race over the weight that it is required to carry.

The particulars of the charge being, on 10 June 2025, at the Thangool Race Club, apprentice Julie Busuttin, failed to ensure that JACKYLLS DANSA, for which she was the rider of in Race 2, did not carry more than 0.5kg over the weight that the horse was required to carry in that race, in that she weighed-in following Race 2 in excess of 1kg over the required weight.

Apprentice Busuttin pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty, stewards took into consideration the following:

- Apprentice Busuttin's guilty plea
- Previous clear record
- And the amount in which apprentice Busuttin had weighed in overweight
- Penalties imposed under similar circumstances

Apprentice Busuttin was fined \$200.

CHARGE 2:

AR 185 No equipment change after weighing-out

Unless permission from the Stewards is obtained, a rider or any other person must not add to, remove from, or change any equipment that the rider has been weighed-out in.

The particulars of the charge being, on 10 June 2025, at the Thangool Race Club, apprentice Julie Busuttin, after being weighed out in a safety vest for Race 2, changed that safety vest to an alternative heavier vest without obtaining the permission of Stewards.

Apprentice Busuttin pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty, stewards took into consideration the following:

- Apprentice Busuttin's guilty plea
- Previous clear record
- Forthright evidence
- Penalties imposed under similar circumstances

Apprentice Busuttin was fined \$300.

CHARGE 3:

AR 188 Riders' obligations in relation to safety vests

A rider must not:

(c) weigh-out or attempt to weigh-out for a race or ride in any race unless the rider is wearing an approved safety vest.

The particulars of the charge being, on 10 June 2025, at the Thangool Race Club, apprentice Julie Busuttin originally weighed out for Race 5 without wearing any safety vest.

Apprentice Busuttin pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty, stewards took into consideration the following:

- Apprentice Busuttin's guilty plea
- Apprentice Busuttin's previous clear record in relation to the rule
- Apprentice Busuttin's forthright evidence
- Apprentice Busuttin's remorse
- Penalty precedents

Apprentice Busuttin's license to ride in races was suspended for a period of two (2) weeks, with the suspension to commence midnight 12th July 2025 and to conclude midnight 26th July 2025.

CHARGE 4:

AR229 Corruption, dishonesty and misleading behaviour

(1) A person must not:

(h) make a false or misleading statement or declaration in relation to a matter in connection with the administration or control of racing

The particulars of the charge being, on 10 June 2025, at the Thangool Race Club apprentice Julie Busuttin, made a false and misleading statement in connection with the administration or control of racing in that she stated to the clerk of scales that she was wearing a safety vest when weighing out for Race 5, when in fact she was not wearing a safety vest.

Apprentice Busuttin pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty, stewards took into consideration the following:

- Apprentice Busuttin's guilty plea
- Apprentice Busuttin's admissions of the breach
- The seriousness of the breach of AR229(1)(h)
- A need for a general and specific deterrence
- Apprentice Busuttin's previous record in relation to the rule, which indicated no prior offences
- Apprentice Busuttin's forthright evidence
- Apprentice Busuttin's remorse and co-operation during the inquiry
- Her apprentice status
- At the first available opportunity, apprentice Busuttin had acknowledged that she had provided false and misleading information
- Apprentice Busuttin's acknowledgement of her intent to deceive the clerk of the scales and manipulate the weighing out process
- Penalty precedents

Apprentice Busuttin's license to ride in races was suspended for a period of five (5) weeks, with the suspension to commence midnight 12th July 2025 and to conclude midnight 16th August 2025, which stewards ordered to be served concurrently with the suspension incurred in charge 3.

Apprentice Busuttin was advised of her rights on appeal.

