



THOROUGHBRED RACING SOUTH AUSTRALIA

THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED

ADDITIONAL STEWARDS' REPORT - Trainer Mr. Craig Curtis

TRSA OFFICES - THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2020

On Thursday 23 January 2020 Stewards concluded an inquiry into the condition of an unnamed thoroughbred filly, in the care of trainer Mr. Craig Curtis, when inspected by Stewards on Friday 13 December 2019. Stewards heard evidence from Mr. Craig Curtis, TRSA Compliance Officer, Mr. Andrew Hayles, TRSA veterinary surgeon, Dr. Peter Horridge, Morphettville Equine Clinic veterinarian Dr Bill Marmion and photographic evidence. Stewards also considered audio recorded evidence of Dr. Jade Mather, the veterinarian who attended the filly and the results of x-rays, taken on or about 1 November 2019, provided by her, in respect of the injury sustained by the filly to its off hind leg.

After considering the evidence Stewards laid the following charges against Mr. Craig Curtis:

Charge 1:

Under AR231(1)(b)(ii) - the particulars being that as a licensed trainer, and the person in charge of the unnamed filly he failed to take such reasonable steps as are necessary to alleviate any pain suffered by the unnamed filly, those reasonable steps being either;

- (a) To have the filly euthanased on or closer to the time of the advice being received from a veterinary surgeon who attended to the filly, or
- (b) To engage in a more extensive veterinary program of care to facilitate the possible rehabilitation of the filly.

Charge 2:

Under AR231(1)(b)(iii) - the particulars being that as a licensed trainer, and the person in charge of the unnamed filly he failed to provide veterinary treatment to the unnamed filly by failing to seek further veterinary treatment between the time of examination on or about 1 November 2019 by a veterinary surgeon and the time of arrival of TRSA Stewards at his stables on Friday 13 December 2019, where such veterinary treatment was necessary for the filly. Mr. Curtis pleaded guilty to both charges and in relation to;

Charge 1 - he was disqualified for a period of nine (9) months.

Charge 2 - he was disqualified for a period of nine (9) months.

Stewards ordered both penalties to be served concurrently. In determining penalty Stewards considered imposing a period of disqualification of eighteen (18) months having regard for the seriousness of the breaches and the importance of the welfare of thoroughbred horses in the industry. However, having regard for his guilty plea, his longstanding involvement in the industry, clean record, cooperation during the course of the inquiry and throughout the process, his remorse shown and the fact his livelihood would be impacted, reduced the penalties to a disqualification of a period of nine (9) months. Stewards ordered the period of disqualification to commence at midnight on 30 January 2020 and to expire on 30 October 2020.

Stewards also noted; following veterinary advice from Dr. Horridge and Dr. Marmion, the unnamed filly was humanely euthanased on Friday 13 December 2019, shortly after being discovered by TRSA Stewards, and examined by the TRSA veterinary surgeon. Stewards also noted that while Mr. Curtis had provided some medication to the filly, such was not sufficient in the circumstances.

Mr. Curtis has appealed the severity of the penalties imposed and has been granted a stay of proceedings until matter is heard by the Racing Appeals Tribunal.

J Petzer

CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS

31 January 2020