

Additional Stewards Report



Thursday, 26 August 2021

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT - Race 1 - 12 September 2020 - Morphetville

Stewards: J. Petzer (Chairman), M. Santoro & S Callanan.

On Thursday, 26 August 2021 Stewards concluded an inquiry into the running of Race 1 at Morphetville on Saturday 12/9/2020. The inquiry was opened on 8 October 2020 following a number of concerns being expressed by parties with an interest in the race, in particular parties connected to the racehorse **Smokin' Val** which participated in the race. Stewards considered evidence which was taken from Jockeys D. Caboche, the rider of **Free To Dance**, J. Toeroek, the rider of **Chosen Blonde** and Mr. C. Bieg, the trainer of **Chosen Blonde & Free To Dance** on Wednesday 16 September 2020. Stewards also heard evidence tendered by Mr. J. O'Connor, trainer of **Smokin' Val**, Mr. C. Bieg, the trainer of **Chosen Blonde & Free To Dance**, Jockeys K. Zechner, the rider of **Smokin' Val**, D. Caboche, the rider of **Free To Dance** and J. Toeroek, the rider of **Chosen Blonde**. In addition, Stewards also heard evidence from Mr. B. Patterson the Track Supervisor at the SAJC. The inquiry was adjourned on that day and recommenced on Thursday 11 March 2021.

On Thursday 11 March 2021 Stewards heard evidence from Jockey T. Pannell, the rider of **The Multiplier**, Mr. W. Clarcken, the trainer of **The Multiplier** and Mr. L Weekley, a Stable Employee engaged with Mr. W. Clarcken. The inquiry was again adjourned to allow Stewards to further investigate matters relating to the race, including betting records in respect of the race, sectional times and other related matters.

Stewards also note that during the course of this matter data extraction was performed on some participant's mobile phones.

On the evidence Stewards found the following;

1. The assertion that one of the parties involved had made a comment suggesting that **Free To Dance** was entered in the race to affect another runner's running position in the race, could not be made out on a balance of probabilities.
2. The assertion that there was an element of Team Riding in the race which could not be made out on a balance of probabilities.
3. The suggestion that **Chosen Blonde** had rolled off near the entrance to the straight to afford **The Multiplier** an easy passage into the straight could not be made out given the racing manners of **Chosen Blonde**.
4. The pace in the event and the general settling positions of runners was largely consistent with exposed form and expectations.
5. The sectionals in this race does not lead to any specific conclusions of impropriety.
6. The data extraction obtained from a number of mobile phones does not lead to any specific conclusions of impropriety.
7. The alleged circumstances surrounding the sale of **The Multiplier** to interests in Hong Kong does not lead to any specific conclusions of impropriety.

In conclusion having regard for the requirements and the standards applicable to breaches of the rules of racing relevant to this matter, and all the other related aspects and evidence, Stewards cannot be comfortably satisfied, on a balance of probabilities to the Briginshaw standard that there had been a breach of the rules of racing in respect of the running of the race in question, and consequently no further action is required.

J. Petzer

General Manager Integrity/Chairman of Stewards

26 August 2021