

Additional Stewards Report



Stewards: - J. Petzer (Chairman), M. Santoro, and L. Murch

Tuesday, 8 August 2023

SILENT SURRENTE – Mr. W. Clarcken & Mr. N. O’Shea

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the result of the analysis of a post-race urine sample taken on Saturday, 06 May 2023 from the racehorse **Silent Surrente**, which was presented to race in and competed in Race 1 – The SkyCity Handicap run over 2014 metres at the Morphettville Racecourse. Analysis of the sample disclosed the presence of **Dexamethasone**, a substance prohibited under the Rules of Racing.

Evidence was taken from Mr. W. Clarcken & Mr. N. O’Shea, the Co-Trainers of **Silent Surrente**, Racing SA Chief Veterinarian, Dr. T. Koenig, and Racing Analytical Services Limited Laboratory Science Manager, Dr. A. Cawley. Evidence was also received from Veterinarian Dr. D. Arnold, on behalf of Mr. W. Clarcken and Mr. N. O’Shea, and the treatment records relating to horses trained by Mr. W. Clarcken & Mr. N. O’Shea were also considered.

After considering the evidence, Stewards charged Mr. W. Clarcken & Mr. N. O’Shea, under AR240(2), the particulars being that as licensed trainers and the co-trainers of the racehorse **Silent Surrente** at all relevant times leading up to and including Saturday, 06 May 2023, they did bring the said racehorse to the Morphettville Racecourse where it competed in Race 1 - The SkyCity Handicap run over 2014 metres, after which a urine sample taken from the horse disclosed upon analysis the substance **Dexamethasone**, which substance is a prohibited substance under the Rules of Racing. Mr. Clarcken & Mr. O’Shea pleaded guilty to the charge – a charge of strict liability.

In determining penalty Stewards had regard for a number of factors including the nature of the rule with which they were charged, elements of individual and general deterrence, Mr. Clarcken and Mr. O’Shea’s records in respect of breaches of the rules in respect of prohibited substances, and the fact that Racing SA Stewards had provided notice on a number of occasions in recent years that offences in relation to prohibited substance matters may in future attract more severe penalties. In the circumstances Stewards imposed a fine of \$9,000; however, having regard for mitigating factors, which included Mr. Clarcken’s & Mr. O’Shea’s guilty pleas, their cooperation and forthrightness during the process, Stewards reduced the penalty to a fine of **\$6,000**.

Further, acting under AR240(1), **Silent Surrente**, which was declared the winner of the race, was disqualified from this event, and the result of the race was amended as follows;

1 st	First Immortal
2 nd	Eaglelou
3 rd	Smiling Assassin
4 th	Wolf Prince
5 th	Ritratto

Mr. Clarcken & Mr. O’Shea were informed of their rights of appeal.

J Petzer
General Manager Integrity