

Additional Stewards Report



Stewards: - J. Petzer (Chairman), M. Santoro, C. Deakin & B. Jarman (Cadet)

Monday, 21 October 2024

KETCHIKAN – Mr. R. Balfour

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the result of a post-race urine sample taken on Wednesday, 17 July 2024 from the racehorse **Ketchikan**, which was presented to race in Race 1, the Sportsbet Fast Form Maiden Plate run over 2112 metres at the Gawler and Barossa Jockey Club. Analysis of the sample by Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) disclosed the presence of Cobalt, at a level above the threshold level for Cobalt in urine of 100 micrograms per litre, as stipulated under the Rules of Racing.

Evidence was taken from Mr. Ryan Balfour, the Trainer of **Ketchikan**, who was accompanied by a support person, Racing SA Industry Regulatory Veterinarian, Dr. S. McColgan, and Dr. A. Cawley, Scientific Manager - RASL. After considering the evidence, Stewards issued the following charge against Mr. Balfour.

Charge: - Under Australian Rule of Racing - AR240(2)

The particulars being that as a licensed trainer and the trainer of the racehorse **Ketchikan** at all relevant times leading up to and including Wednesday, 17 July 2024, he arranged for the horse to be presented at the Gawler and Barossa Jockey Club where it competed in and won Race 1, the Sportsbet Fast Form Maiden Plate run over 2112 metres, after which a urine sample taken from the horse disclosed upon analysis the substance Cobalt at a level greater than 200 micrograms per litre, which is above the threshold level of 100 micrograms per litre, at which level the substance is a prohibited substance under the rules of racing. Mr. Balfour pleaded guilty to the charge.

Penalty: In determining penalty Stewards had regard for Mr. Balfour's guilty plea, his personal circumstances, forthrightness during the inquiry process, and his clean record in relation to prohibited substance breaches. Stewards also considered the serious nature of breaches relating to prohibited substance rules, factors relating to individual and general deterrence, and the range of penalties imposed historically for similar breaches in South Australia – noting that in all Cobalt related matters the penalties imposed have been a suspension of license for a period. In the circumstances, Stewards determined the following penalty:

A suspension of Mr. Balfour's license to train for a period of **four (4) months**, reduced from eight (8) months after taking into account mitigating factors. Acting under the provisions of AR283(7), the suspension was ordered to commence at midnight on Monday 28 October 2024 and to expire at midnight on Friday 28 February 2025.

Mr. Balfour was informed of his right of appeal.

Further, acting under AR240(1), **Ketchikan**, which finished in first place (1st), was disqualified from this event. The new result of the race is:

1 st	MOTO MOTO
2 nd	RELLEUM
3 rd	NORMIE NO SHOW
4 th	BORISLAV (NZ)
5 th	SUPER INTELLIGENT

J Petzer
General Manager Integrity