

THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT – A. FORSTER / MONTALTO

MORPHETTVILLE – FRIDAY, 26 MAY 2017

PORT LINCOLN – FRIDAY, 3 MARCH 2017

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the analysis of a post-race blood sample taken on Friday, 3 March 2017 from the racehorse MONTALTO, which was presented to race in Race 8 the Port Lincoln Cup run over 1960 metres at the Port Lincoln Racecourse. Analysis of the sample disclosed the presence of Cobalt, at a level above the threshold level for Cobalt in plasma (25µg/L) - 25 micrograms per litre, as stipulated under the Rules of Racing.

Evidence was taken from Mrs. Forster, the Trainer of MONTALTO, Thoroughbred Racing SA Veterinary Surgeon, Dr. P. Horridge, and Racing Analytical Services Limited Scientific Manager, Mr. P. Zahra.

After considering the evidence, Stewards charged Mrs. Forster under AR178, the particulars being that as a licensed trainer and the trainer of the racehorse MONTALTO at all relevant times leading up to and including Friday, 3 March 2017, she did bring the said racehorse to the Port Lincoln Racecourse where it competed in Race 8 the Port Lincoln Cup run over 1960 metres, after which a post-race blood sample taken from the horse disclosed, upon analysis, Cobalt at a level of 31µg/L (31 micrograms per litre), which level is above the threshold level for Cobalt in plasma under the Rules of Racing and by virtue of that fact a substance prohibited under the Rules of Racing. Mrs. Forster pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty Stewards had regard for Mrs. Forster's guilty plea, her personal circumstances, the circumstances surrounding the treatment of the horse in the lead-up to the race, factors relating to individual and general deterrence, the serious nature of breaches relating to prohibited substances, particularly with reference to Cobalt and the fact that TRSA Stewards had provided a notice, in August 2016, in the Racing Calendar in respect of Cobalt. Stewards noted that this was Mrs. Forster's first offence under this Rule. In the circumstances Stewards determined that a penalty of a suspension of Mrs. Forster's licence to train for a period of six (6) months is appropriate.

Acting under AR177, MONTALTO, which finished in last place (14th), was disqualified from this event. No further amendment to the placings was required.

Stewards also ordered, under the provisions of AR196(6)(a), that the commencement of the suspension be deferred to commence at midnight, Friday, 2 June 2017.

The effect of the determination under AR196(6)(a) is that the period of suspension is to be served from midnight on Friday, 2 June 2017 until midnight Saturday, 2 December 2017.

Mrs. Forster was informed of her right of appeal.