



THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED

STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT – P. STOKES / SERENELY DISCREET

MORPHETTVILLE – TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2017

MORPHETTVILLE PARKS – SATURDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2017

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the analysis of a pre-race blood sample taken on Saturday, 2 September 2017 from the racehorse SERENELY DISCREET, which was presented to race in Race 7 the UBET Penny Edition Stakes run over 1400 metres at the Morphettville Parks Racecourse. Analysis of the sample disclosed the presence of Meloxicam, a substance prohibited under the Rules of Racing.

Evidence was taken from Mr. P. Stokes, the Trainer of SERENELY DISCREET, Thoroughbred Racing SA Veterinary Surgeon, Dr. P. Horridge, Veterinary Surgeon, and Racing Analytical Services Limited Laboratory Scientific Manager, Mr. P. Zahra.

After considering the evidence, Stewards charged Mr. P. Stokes under AR178, the particulars being that as a licensed trainer and the trainer of the racehorse SERENELY DISCREET at all relevant times leading up to and including Saturday, 2 September 2017, he did bring the said racehorse to the Morphettville Parks Racecourse where it competed in Race 7 the UBET Penny Edition Stakes run over 1400 metres, when a pre-race blood sample taken from the horse disclosed, upon analysis, the presence of the substance Meloxicam, which substance is a prohibited substance under the Rules of Racing. Mr. Stokes pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining penalty Stewards had regard for Mr. Stokes' guilty plea, his 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 and the fact that TRSA 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. Stewards noted that this was Mr. Stokes' second offence under this rule. In the circumstances Mr. Stokes was fined \$12,000.

Acting under AR177, SERENELY DISCREET, which finished in eighth (8th) place, was disqualified from this event. The placings have been amended accordingly.

Mr. Stokes was informed of his right of appeal.

J. C. PETZER

CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS

28 November 2017