

MR LES ENKS- INQUIRY CONDUCTED

MARCH 30, 2023

Harness Racing New South Wales (HRNSW) Stewards conducted an Inquiry today into a report received from the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) that Total Plasma Carbon Dioxide above the prescribed threshold was detected in the pre-race blood sample taken from NEVILLE SHANNON prior to it running in race 4, the TUMBY PARK RON WHITTON MEMORIAL (1609 metres) conducted at Tamworth on Friday 20 January 2023.

The 'B' sample has been confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) in Victoria.

Trainer Mr Les Enks appeared at the Inquiry and provided evidence in relation to his registered training establishment and the horse NEVILLE SHANNON.

Evidence from HRNSW Regulatory Veterinarian Dr Martin Wainscott and the Certificates of Analysis were also presented to the Inquiry.

HRNSW Stewards issued a charge against Mr Enks pursuant to Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190 (1), (2) & (4) as follows:

AHRR 190. (1) A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances.

(2) If a horse is presented for a race otherwise than in accordance with sub rule (1) the trainer of the horse is guilty of an offence.

(3) If a person is left in charge of a horse and the horse is presented for a race otherwise than in accordance with sub rule (1), the trainer of the horse and the person left in charge is each guilty of an offence.

(4) An offence under sub rule (2) or sub rule (3) is committed regardless of the circumstances in which the prohibited substance came to be present in or on the horse.

Mr Enks pleaded guilty and was disqualified for a period of 3 years to commence from 6 February 2023, the date upon which he was stood down pursuant to AHRR 183.

In considering penalty Stewards were mindful of the following:

- The serious nature of this offence;
- Mr Enk's guilty plea;
- Mr Enk's second TCO2 Prohibited Substance offence;
- Class 2 Prohibited Substance under the HRNSW Penalty Guidelines;
- Mr Enk's licence history, offence record and other personal subjective facts.

Acting under the provisions of AHRR 195, Stewards disqualified NEVILLE SHANNON from the abovementioned race.

Mr Enks was advised of his right to appeal these decisions.

For further information on this matter contact:
HRNSW Integrity Department
(02) 9722 6655