

## MRS ASHLEE GRIVES- INQUIRY CONDUCTED

MARCH 30, 2023

**Harness Racing New South Wales (HRNSW) Stewards conducted an Inquiry yesterday into a report received from the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) that naproxen had been detected in the post-race blood sample taken from FREDDY SINGH following its win in Race 10, the FINAL NIGHT MARQUEE 25TH MARCH PACE (2260 metres) conducted at Bathurst on Wednesday 9 March 2022.**

The 'B' Sample has been confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in Victoria.

Mrs Grives appeared at the Inquiry and presented evidence in relation to her registered training establishment and the horse FREDDY SINGH. In addition, Mrs Grives presented evidence in relation to the medical records of her farrier, Mr Garry Bryant, who had shod the horse FREDDY SINGH on 9 March 2022 prior to the subject race.

In addition, Mr Bryant gave evidence by telephone in relation to his medical history and his attendance at the registered training establishment of Mrs Grives on 9 March 2022.

Evidence from HRNSW Assistant Regulatory Veterinarian Dr Annie Knox and Certificates of Analysis were also presented to the Inquiry.

The registered owner of the horse FREDDY SINGH, Mr Jim Grives, was also in attendance at the Inquiry.

HRNSW Stewards issued a charge against Mrs Grives 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.

Mrs Grives was found guilty of the charge.

In respect of that charge Stewards determined that a conviction would be recorded, however, Stewards did not impose a penalty on Mrs Grives as they were satisfied that the detection of naproxen had resulted from contamination in the stable environment through the farrier. Based on the evidence before the Stewards they were satisfied to the requisite standard that the contamination resulted from Mr Bryant's medication.

Mrs Grives was cautioned that she must take all reasonable measures in future to manage her training establishment and horses to ensure that her horses are not exposed to prohibited substances by any person, licensed or otherwise.

In considering penalty Stewards were mindful of the following;

- The results reported by ARFL and RASL;
- The evidence and submissions presented by Mrs Grives and Mr Bryant;
- Contamination within the stable environment;
- Mrs Grives' first Prohibited Substance offence;
- Mrs Grives' licence history and other personal subjective facts.

Acting under the provisions of Rule 195, FREDDY SINGH was disqualified from the abovementioned race.

Mrs Grives was advised of her right to appeal this decision.

Mr Grives was also advised of his right to appeal the decision of HRNSW Stewards to disqualify his horse.

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