

STEWARDS REPORT

Clarence River Jockey Club GRAFTON RACECOURSE

Thursday 26 July 2018

STEWARDS: M. A. Holloway (Chairman) & N. M. Daniels

Stewards today inquired into the alleged administration of a medication to the racehorse *Passion to Win* at the registered stable premises of licensed trainer Mr Ian Savins on the morning of Friday 25 May 2018.

Evidence was taken from Mr Ian Savins, licensed stablehand Mrs Deborah Savins, Racing NSW Chief Investigator Mr Nathan Hayward, Racing NSW Stewards Mr Troy Vassallo and Mr Fred Worrall and Racing NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Dr T. Koenig.

Mr Ian Savins pleaded guilty to a charge of administering a medication on raceday, under AR178E, in that he did, without the permission of the Stewards, at his registered stable premises on the morning of Friday 25 May 2018 administer a medication to the racehorse *Passion To Win* prior to *Passion To Win* running in Race 6 Open Handicap 1000m at Casino Racecourse on that day, when it held an engagement in the said race, such medication being two 10ml doses of a slurry of Khonke's Own Muscle XL via oral syringe.

As the stewards were of the opinion that no special circumstance were applicable to the offence, the mandatory minimum penalty of a six-month disqualification, as specified under AR196(5), was issued. Stewards ordered the disqualification commence immediately and expire on Saturday 26 January 2019.

Mrs Deborah Savins pleaded guilty to a charge of being a party to Mr Savins committing a breach of AR178E, under AR175(l), in that she did hold the racehorse *Passion to Win* to assist Mr Ian Savins whilst he did, without the permission of the Stewards, at his registered stable premises on the morning of Friday 25 May 2018 administer a medication to the racehorse *Passion To Win* prior to *Passion To Win* running in Race 6 Open Handicap 1000m at Casino Racecourse on that day, when it held an engagement in the said race, such medication being two 10ml doses of a slurry of Khonke's Own Muscle XL via oral syringe.

Stewards considered a number of mitigating and aggravating factors and believe the appropriate penalty be a disqualification for a period of three months. Appreciating that Mrs Savins pleaded guilty to the charge issued and was forthright in her evidence, such penalty was reduced to two months. Stewards ordered the disqualification commence immediately and expire on Wednesday 26 September 2018.

Mr & Mrs Savins were advised of their appeal rights.

Relevant Rules

AR178E(1) – *Notwithstanding the provisions of AR178C(2), no person without the permission of the Stewards may administer or cause to be administered any medication to a horse on race day prior to such horse running in a race.*

AR175(I) - *The Principal Racing Authority (or the Stewards exercising powers delegated to them) may penalise any person who attempts to commit, or conspires with any other person to commit, or any person who connives at or is a party to another committing any breach of the Rules.*

AR196(5) *Where a person is found guilty of a breach of any of the Rules listed below, a penalty of disqualification for a period of not less than the period specified for that Rule must be imposed unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists whereupon the penalty may be reduced:*

AR.64G(2) (where the stomach-tubing or attempt to stomach-tube occurred on race day or on the one clear day prior to race day for a horse engaged to run in a race on that race day and other than where the person is not in the opinion of the stewards, or any other person exercising delegated power of the Principal Racing Authority, the principal offender) – 12 months

AR83(d) – 2 years

AR84 – 2 years 126

AR135(d) – 3 years

AR175(aa) – 5 years

AR175(h)(i) – 3 years

AR175(hh)(i) – 2 years

AR177B(6) – 2 years

AR178E – 6 months

AR178H(2) – 2 years

For the purpose of this sub-rule, a special circumstance is as stipulated by each Principal Racing Authority under its respective Local Rules.

Mark Holloway (Chief Steward NRRA)