

# **RACING NSW STEWARDS REPORT**



*INQUIRY TO DETERMINE CHARGES ISSUED AGAINST LICENSED TRAINER MR RON JOHNSON AND  
INQUIRE INTO COMPLAINTS LODGED AGAINST MR JOHNSON.*

**Racing NSW Offices**

**6 June 2019**

**Druitt Street, Sydney**

**Stewards: M F Van Gestel (Chairman)  
W R Birch  
J J Earl**

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Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry to determine two charges issued against Licensed Trainer Mr Ron Johnson on 29 January 2019 relevant to his conduct at the Albury racecourse on the morning of Saturday 26 January 2019 and Monday 28 January 2019. Under the provisions of AR23 Mr Johnson's licence was suspended on 29 January 2019 pending the determination of the charges. In addition, the inquiry today considered additional allegations made against Mr Johnson in respect to his conduct on 18 January 2019 and 29 January 2019.

Evidence today was taken from Mr Johnson, who was assisted by Mr Tim Egan, Licensed Trainer Mr Mitchell Beer, Stablehands Ms Faith Collins, Ms Cheyenne Seymour, Ms Kathryn Fairbairn, Mr Scott McCullum, and Licensed Foreperson Mr Daniel Clarke.

## **Charges AR228(b) – Issued 29 January 2019**

1. Mr Johnson plead guilty to a charge, under AR 228(b) for engaging in improper conduct for comments he made towards a licensed person near on the morning of Saturday 26 January 2019.
2. Mr Johnson was found guilty to a charge, under AR 228(b) for engaging in improper conduct for comments he made towards licensed person at Albury racecourse on 28 January 2019.

## **Charge AR228(e)**

3. Mr. Johnson also plead guilty to a charge issued by Stewards today under AR 228(e) for engaging in threatening and vilifying conduct towards a licensed person on the morning of 28 January 2019 at Albury racecourse.

## **Penalty**

After considering submissions made by Mr Johnson relevant to penalty, Stewards issued the following penalties.

**Charge 1 – AR228(b) 6 Months disqualification reduced to 4 months for guilty plea.**

**Charge 2 – AR228(b) 12 Months disqualification**

**Charge 3 – AR228(e) 2 Years disqualification reduced to 18 months for guilty plea.**

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Stewards determined that all penalties to be served concurrently. Accordingly, Mr Johnson was disqualified for a period of 18 months to commence on 29 January 2019, the day he was stood down under the provisions of AR23 and to expire on 29 July 2020 on which day he may re-apply for his licence.

### **Relevant Rules**

#### **Division 3 – Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing**

##### ***AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing***

*A person must not engage in:*

- (b) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour;*

#### **Division 3 – Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing**

##### ***AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing***

*A person must not engage in:*

- (e) conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person (“other person”) on any basis, including but not limited to, a person’s race, religion, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, or sexual orientation, preference or identity, while the other person is acting in the course of his or her duties in the racing industry.*

**M F Van Gestel**  
**Chairman of Stewards**  
**General Manager - Integrity**