



INQUIRY INTO THE ANALYSTS' FINDING OF MELOXICAM IN A PRE-RACE BLOOD SAMPLE TAKEN FROM GANGIKA PRIOR TO THE MARE STARTING IN RACE 8 – NRRRA COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFIER CONDUCTED AT COFFS HARBOUR 13 FEBRUARY 2021.

Coffs Harbour Racecourse

Wednesday 7 April 2021

**Stewards: R W Loughlin (Chairman)
M A Holloway**

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the Analysts' finding of Meloxicam in a pre-race blood sample taken from *Gangika* prior to the mare starting in Race 8 – NRRRA Country Championships Qualifier conducted at Coffs Harbour Racecourse on 13 February 2021.

Evidence was taken from trainer of *Gangika* Mr Jim Jarvis, Racing NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Toby Koenig and ARFL Science Manager Dr Adam Cawley.

Mr Jarvis pleaded guilty to a charge under AR240(2) of having brought *Gangika* to race at Coffs Harbour Racecourse on 13 February 2021 and the prohibited substance Meloxicam being detected in a pre-race blood sample taken from the mare.

In assessing penalty, Stewards were mindful of their requirements, to issue a penalty to deter Mr Jarvis from repeating such conduct in the future, to provide a deterrence to the community at large to indicate to those who are likeminded to offend in such manner what the likely consequences are, and, to indicate to the broader community who are not likely to engage in such conduct that horse racing is operating at the highest possible standards.

Amongst other aggravating and mitigating factors, Stewards formed the opinion that the penalty was mitigated by the fact Mr Jarvis had not previously offended under the relevant rule in approximately 62 years involved in the horse racing industry, 57 years being as a trainer.

Accordingly, Mr Jarvis was fined the sum of \$5000. In accordance with the provisions of AR240(1), *Gangika* was disqualified from its eleventh (11th) placing in Race 8 – NRRRA Country Championships Qualifier. Mr Jarvis was informed of his appeal rights.

Relevant Rules

Division 2 – Prohibited substance in a sample taken from a horse

AR 240 Prohibited substance in sample taken from horse at race meeting

- (1) *Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is brought to a racecourse and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in a sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the horse must be disqualified from any race in which it started on that day.*
- (2) *Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is brought to a racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in a sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of the horse at any relevant time breaches these Australian Rules.*

**R W Loughlin
Deputy Chief Steward NRRRA**