



INQUIRY INTO THE DETECTION OF FLUNIXIN IN A PRE-RACE BLOOD SAMPLE TAKEN FROM
LOCKDOWN GAMBLE PRIOR TO RACING AT MUDGEES ON 25 FEBRUARY 2024

**Racing NSW Offices
by Video Conference**

2 April 2024

**Stewards: S G Railton (Chairman)
T P Moxon
J P W Prior**

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analysts finding of Flunixin in a pre-race blood sample taken from Lockdown Gamble prior to it running at the Mudgee race meeting on 25 February 2024. Evidence today was taken from Mr David Smith, trainer of Lockdown Gamble, Mr Terrence McDonald owner of Lockdown Gamble, Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) General Manager Mr John Keledjian and Racing NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Peter Curl.

The evidence was unable to conclusively establish how flunixin was found to be present in the sample.

Charge – AR240(2)

Mr Smith was charged with a breach of AR240(2)

The details of the charge being that he presented Lockdown Gamble to race in Race 7 the CDRA Championship Qualifier at Mudgee Racecourse on 25 February 2024 and a pre-race blood sample taken from the gelding was found to contain the prohibited substance Flunixin.

Plea: Guilty

Penalty

Stewards considered the following matters in respect to penalty.

1. Guilty plea.
2. Co-operation throughout the investigation and inquiry.
3. First breach of this rule in 12 years as a licenced trainer.
4. Personal and professional circumstances.
5. Notifications issued by Racing NSW in respect to the possibility of stable contamination.
6. Principles of specific and general deterrence and what message is sent to the industry in respect to such conduct.
7. Purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image and interests of the thoroughbred racing industry.

Mr Smith was fined the sum of \$6000, reduced from \$8,000 for guilty plea and other relevant consideration.

Lockdown Gamble

Under the provisions of AR240(1) Stewards disqualified Lockdown Gamble from its 1st placing in Race 7 – CDRA Championship Qualifier conducted at Mudgee on 25 February 2024 and amended the placings to read.

12. Musical Affair	1st
13. Ida's Rules	2nd
5.Scopics	3rd
4. Aimpoint	4th
14. Kelilah	5th

Relevant Rules

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.*

**S G Railton
Chairman Of Stewards
Racing NSW**