



HEARING OF A CHARGE ISSUED AGAINST PERMITTED VETERINARIAN DR KEVIN SQUIRE UNDER AR227 FOR CONDUCT THAT LED TO A BREACH OF THE RULES OF RACING.

**Racing NSW Offices**  
**(by video conference)**

**25 September 2020**

**Stewards: M F Van Gestel (Chairman)**  
**M Holloway**  
**R Loughlin**

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1. Racing NSW Stewards today conducted a hearing of a charge under AR227(a) issued against permitted veterinarian Dr Kevin Squire.
  2. The hearing was scheduled to be conducted on 1 September 2020 however that date was vacated at the request of Dr Squire to allow him further time to consider the charge and evidence. On 24 September 2020, Dr Squire, through his legal representative advised Stewards that “he will not be present” at the hearing. Dr Squire was advised that the matter would be heard and determined in his absence should he fail to appear.

## **Charge**

3. Dr Squire was charged in the following terms.

### ***AR227(a) – Conduct which led to a breach of the Rules of Racing***

The details of the charge being that Racing NSW Permitted Veterinarian Dr Squire engaged in conduct that led to a breach of the Rules of Racing, in that.

1. Dr Squire is the holder of a Racing NSW Veterinary Permit.
2. On 1 January 2020, he prescribed and dispensed to licensed trainer Ms Julie Pratten Ovu-Mate Injection for Horses for the administration by injection to horses in Ms Pratten’s care in contravention of the Racing NSW policy and advice published for the use of altrenogest products.
3. Ovu-Mate Injection for Horses was administered by injection to the racehorse Rahaan by Ms Pratten, on 15 January 2020.
4. The administration of Ovu-Mate Injection for Horses, resulted in licensed trainer Ms Julie Pratten breaching AR240(2) as;
  - a. Ms Pratten did bring Rahaan to the Ballina racecourse on 17 January 2020 for the purpose of participating in Race 1 – Showcase Country Maiden Plate 1000m
  - b. Prohibited substances were detected in a sample taken from Rahaan prior to running in Race 1 – Showcase Country Maiden Plate 1000m at Ballina on 17 January 2020 as;

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- i. Trendione and epitrenbolone were detected in a sample taken following Rahaan running in Race 1 – Showcase Country Maiden Plate 1000m at Ballina on 17 January 2020.
  - ii. Trendione and epitrenbolone are anabolic androgenic steroids
  - iii. Anabolic androgenic steroids are listed on Prohibited Substance List A
5. Dr Squire failed to appear at today's hearing as required and the Stewards proceeded to hear the charge in Dr Squire's absence, taking into consideration correspondence received from Dr Squire on 31 August 2020, 22 September 2020 and 24 September 2020, through his legal representative.
6. Stewards issued a further charge against Dr Squire under AR232(h)

### **AR232(h) – Failure to attend a Stewards hearing when requested to do so**

The details of the charge being that Dr Squire did fail to appear at a Stewards hearing on 25 September 2020 when requested to do so.

### **Findings**

7. Dr Squire was found guilty of the charge under AR227(a), when the Stewards were satisfied that Dr Squire had prescribed and dispensed injectable altrenogest to Mrs Pratten to use such substance in a thoroughbred horse, such advice in contravention of advice published by Racing NSW and led to Mrs Pratten breaching AR240(2).
8. Dr Squire was found guilty of the charge under AR232(h).

### **Penalty**

9. Having considered the correspondence provided by Dr Squire and his failure to appear the following penalties were issued.
  - a. Breach of AR227(a) – 9 months suspension of his Racing NSW Veterinary Permit
  - b. Breach of AR232(h) – 6 months suspension of his Racing NSW Veterinary Permit.
10. Acting under the provisions of AR283(4), the Stewards determined that 3 months of the suspension under AR232(h) be served concurrently with the penalty under AR227(a). Accordingly, Dr Squire's Racing NSW Veterinary Permit is suspended for a period of 12 months to commence immediately 25 September 2020 and to expire on 25 September 2021.

### **Relevant Rules**

#### **Division 2 – Powers in relation to misconduct and other offences**

##### **AR 227 Breaches of the Rules**

*Without limiting any other powers, a PRA or the Stewards may penalise any person who:*

- (a) commits any breach of the Rules, or engages in conduct or negligence which has led or could have led to a breach of the Rules;*

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### **AR 232 Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards**

*A person must not:*

*(h) refuse or fail to attend or give evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing or appeal when directed or requested to do so by a PRA, the Stewards or a person authorised by a PRA or the Stewards.*

### **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.*

### **AR 283 Penalties**

- (3) Unless otherwise ordered by the person or body imposing the penalty, a disqualification or suspension imposed under subrules (1) to (3) is to be served cumulatively to any other suspension or disqualification.*

**M F VAN GESTEL  
CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS  
GENERAL MANAGER - INTEGRITY**