

Inquiry into the Analysts finding of Dexamethasone in a pre-race blood and post race urine sample taken from Halo Warrior prior to the gelding competing in and subsequently winning Race 3 – c,g& e benchmark 58 handicap 1200m conducted at Murrumbidgee Turf Club on 19 January 2021.

Stewards Inquiry Room
Murrumbidgee Turf Club, Wagga Wagga

24 March 2021

Committee of Stewards: J A Shultz (Chairman)

L J Martin

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry into reports from the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) and Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) into findings of dexamethasone in both a pre-race blood sample and post race urine sample obtained from Halo Warrior prior to the gelding competing in and subsequently being placed first in Race 3 – C,G & E Benchmark 58 handicap conducted at the Wagga Wagga racecourse on 19 January 2021.

Evidence was today taken from trainer of Halo Warrior Ms Donna Scott, NSW Veterinary Officer Dr Toby Koenig and ARFL Science Manager Dr Adam Cawley. The inquiry was unable to establish with confidence how dexamethasone was found to present in both the pre race blood and post race urine sample obtained from the gelding

Ms Donna Scott pleaded guilty to a charge under AR240(2) in that as the licensed trainer of Halo Warrior at all relevant times did bring the gelding to the Murrumbidgee Turf Club meeting conducted at the Wagga Wagga racecourse on Tuesday 19 January 2021 for the purpose of participating in the C,G & E Benchmark 58 handicap 1200m and the prohibited substance namely "Dexamethasone" was detected in both a pre race blood sample and post race urine sample obtained from the gelding. Having considered relevant matters in respect to penalty, including this being Ms Scott's first offence under this rule over a lengthy licensing history, her guilty plea, forthright evidence and cooperation with Stewards, Ms Scott was fined the sum of \$5000. Ms Scott was advised of her rights of appeal.

In accordance with the provisions of AR240(1), Halo Warrior was disqualified from its first placing in Race 3 – C,G & E Benchmark 58 handicap 1200m conducted at Wagga racecourse on 19 January 2021 and the placing's amended as follows.

06. Swagger	1st
02. Landmine	2nd
01. Kurocaine	3rd
08. Original Prankster	4th
04. Halliday Road	5th
07. Bonhomie	6th
10. Savvy Acquisition	7th
09. Liberty Boy	8th
11. Sam	9th

## Relevant Rules

## <u>Division 2 – Prohibited substance in a sample taken from a horse</u>

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.

J A Shultz Chief Steward Southern District Racing Association