



INQUIRY INTO THE ANALYSTS FINDING OF COBALT IN THE URNE SAMPLE TAKEN FROM STORY OF TONG SAI FOLLOWING THE GELDING BEING PLACED FIRST IN THE RACE 7 – BENCHMARK 64 HANDICAP CONDUCTED AT HAWKESBURY ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2018.

RNSW Offices
Druitt Street, Sydney

26 November 2018

Stewards: **M F Van Gestel (Chairman)**
 T P Moxon
 S T Matthews

The Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the Analysts' findings of cobalt at a concentration above the level excepted in AR178C(1) in a post-race urine sample taken from Story Of Tong Sai following the gelding being placed first in Race 7 – Benchmark 64 Handicap conducted at Hawkesbury racecourse on 20 September 2018. Cobalt was certified at the following levels

National Measurement Institute	29/10/2018	300 ug/L
Racing Analytical Services Limited	14/11/2018	>200 ug/L

Evidence was today taken from trainer of Story Of Tong Sai Mr Tommy Wong, who was assisted by solicitor Mr P O'Sullivan, Mr R Lau representing the interest of part owner Mr T Tam, Racing NSW Official Veterinarian Dr James Mizzi, RASL Scientific Manager Mr Paul Zahra and ARFL Science Manager Dr Adam Cawley.

Mr Wong was issued with a charge under AR178 of having brought Story Of Tong Sai to the Hawkesbury racecourse for the purposes of the gelding engaging in a race when a prohibited substance was detected in a post-race sample.

Upon application from Mr Wong, the hearing of the charge was adjourned to a date to be fixed to allow Mr Wong to consider his plea having regard to the evidence and in particular a report from Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) that the reserve portion of the urine sample had been found to have leaked slightly upon arrival at RASL.

Relevant Rules

AR178 - *Subject to AR 178G, when any horse that has been brought to a racecourse for the purpose of engaging in a race and a prohibited substance is detected in any sample taken from it prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of such horse at any relevant time may be penalised.*

AR 178C. (1) *The following prohibited substances when present at or below the concentrations respectively set out are excepted from the provisions of AR 178B and AR 178H:-*

(I) Cobalt at a mass concentration of 100 micrograms per litre in urine or 25 micrograms per litre in plasma.

M F Van Gestel
Chairman of Stewards