

STEWARDS INQUIRY DECISION

Date of Decision: 28/09/2021

Stewards Panel: S Shinn (Chairman), R Brown, J Gleeson, J Steele (Cadet Observer)

Name: Mr Ben Woodsford

Track/Race: Launceston Pacing Club

Date: 05/09/2021

Rule no's: Charge 1 AHRR 250(1)(a), Charge 2 AHRR 250A(1)(a)

Charge(s): **Charge 1** - Mr Woodsford drove in races at LPC on 05/09/2021 when a urine sample taken from him on that night subsequently tested positive to a substance prohibited under AHRR 251 (b).as evidenced by a certificate of analysis and subsequent confirmation issued by Racing Analytical Services Ltd.

Charge 2 - Mr Woodsford as the trainer of record raced horses at LPC on 05/09/2021 when a urine sample taken from him on that night subsequently tested positive to a substance prohibited under AHRR 251 (b).as evidenced by a certificate of analysis and subsequent confirmation issued by Racing Analytical Services Ltd.

FACTS:

Mr Woodford trained and drove horses which competed at Launceston Pacing Club on 05/09/2021.

Mr Woodsford provided a urine sample during the race meeting at Launceston Pacing Club on 05/09/2021.

The urine sample provided by Mr Woodsford at Launceston Pacing Club on 05/09/2021 subsequently tested positive to a substance banned by AHRR 251 (b).

INQUIRY:

An inquiry was conducted in the Stewards Room at Elwick Racetrack on 28/09/2021. Documentary evidence from Racing Analytical Services Ltd was read into evidence. Evidence was taken from Mr Ben Woodsford.

DECISION:

After taking into account Mr Woodsford's personal circumstances, his guilty plea, his forthright evidence, the nature of the offence and the principles of both general and personal deterrence the Stewards issued the following penalties:

Charge 1 - Mr Woodsford's driver's licence was suspended for 6 months backdated to commence 16/09/2021, the date on which he was stood down from driving. Under the provisions of AHRR 250(4), prior to resuming race/trackwork driving Mr Woodsford must deliver a sample that is free of any substance banned by AHRR 251.

Charge 2 - Mr Woodsford's trainer's licence was suspended for 3 months.

Mr Woodsford was advised of his right of appeal.