

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Date of issue 17 October 2017

HARNESSTRAINER ZANE MEDHURST DISQUALIFIED

Office of Racing Integrity (ORI) Stewards concluded an inquiry into a report received from Racing Analytical Services Ltd (RASL) that Cobalt was detected above the permitted threshold in a urine sample taken from SUN CLASSIQUE prior to the mare competing in Race 2 at the Tasmanian Pacing Club meeting held at Hobart on 6 August 2017.

These findings were confirmed by the Racing Science Centre (Qld).

During the inquiry evidence was taken from representatives of the two approved racing laboratories, consultant veterinarian Dr. Peter Horridge and Professor Paul Mills. Mr Medhurst also tendered evidence relating to his training and husbandry practices.

Mr Medhurst was charged pursuant to AHRR 196A(1)(ii) for administering or causing to be administered the prohibited substance Cobalt to SUN CLASSIQUE which was detected above the threshold in the urine sample taken from that mare prior to it competing in the subject race.

Mr Medhurst was also charged pursuant to AHRR 190 (1),(2) and (4) for presenting SUN CLASSIQUE for the subject race when not free of the prohibited substance Cobalt above the threshold.

Mr Medhurst was found guilty of both charges after careful consideration to all of the evidence.

After hearing submissions with regard to penalty and taking into account all relevant factors, Stewards disqualified Mr Medhurst for a period of 18 months for the breach of AHRR 196A(1)(ii) and for a period of 12 months for the breach of AHRR 190(1),(2) and (4). The penalties were imposed with immediate effect and are to be served concurrently with the penalty for the breach of AHRR 190(1),(2) and (4) to expire at midnight on 12 October 2018 and the penalty for the breach of AHRR 196A(1)(ii) to expire at midnight 12 April 2019.

Mr Medhurst was advised of his rights of appeal.

In accordance with the provisions of AHRR 195 SUN CLASSIQUE was disqualified from 7th position in the subject race and Stewards ordered that the placings be amended accordingly.

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