



TRNT Stewards Report - Tuesday 15th August 2017

Panel: D Hensler (Chairman), D Westover

Venue: Stewards' Room, Alice Springs Turf Club

The TRNT Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analyst's findings that the blood samples taken from ENGINE FIFTY FIVE after competing and winning at the Alice Springs Turf Club on 18 June, 2017 detected the presence of the banned substance lignocaine.

The Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) issued a first certificate for this finding and the confirmation analysis was performed and the second certificate was issued by Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL). Both certificates confirmed the presence of lignocaine at a level greater than the screening limit prescribed by the Rules of Racing.

Present at the inquiry was the gelding's trainer Paul Gardner and evidence was tendered by Racing NSW senior veterinarian Dr C Suann and ARFL Science Manager Dr A Cawley via teleconference, and written evidence was presented by veterinarian Dr K Oliver.

Subsequently, Mr Gardner pleaded guilty to a charge under Australian Rule of Racing 178 with the specifics being that as the trainer of ENGINE FIFTY FIVE he did bring that gelding to the Alice Springs Turf Club meeting held at Pioneer Park racecourse on 18 June, 2017 for the purpose of engaging in race 3, the Bernadette Joyner & Brian Cairns Handicap (1000m), with the prohibited substance lignocaine being detected in the post-race blood sample taken from the gelding.

In consideration of penalty, Stewards took into account the following factors:

- The seriousness of the charge
- The therapeutic nature of the prohibited substance
- Mr Gardner's guilty plea and personal circumstances
- Mr Gardner's previous record in relation AR178
- Mr Gardner's non-compliance with the provisions of AR178F for failing to provide the treatment records for the gelding when requested to do so

Mr Gardner was fined the sum of \$7,000.

Acting under the provisions of Australian Rule of Racing 177, the Stewards disqualified ENGINE FIFTY FIVE from the abovementioned race and amended the placings as follows:

1 st	GROOTE EYLANDT	C Cook	(J Todd)
2 nd	ROUGHLY	P Gardner	(P Denton)
3 rd	TEQUILA RED	L Gillett	(W Kerford)

Mr Gardner was advised of his right of appeal against this decision to be lodged within (7) days with the Independent Appeals Tribunal.

David Hensler
TRNT Chairman of Stewards