



TRNT Stewards Report – Darwin Turf Club

Date: Wednesday 12 February, 2020
Panel: D Hensler (Chairman), D Westover

Stewards today completed an investigation and subsequent inquiry into complaints relating to the circumstances of the removal of the racehorse HALOGEM from the registered stables of TRNT licensed trainer Mark Nyhan in early January, 2020.

After considering the evidence accumulated during this investigation, registered part owner of HALOGEM Mr Dean Slattery was charged with two breaches of the Australian Rules of Racing.

Charge 1 under AR 228 – As a part owner of the race horse HALOGEM, on or about the 9th January, 2020 he did facilitate the removal of that gelding from the registered stables of trainer Mark Nyhan located at the Alice Springs Turf Club and relocate the gelding to an undisclosed location. This was done whilst the trainer was overseas and without his knowledge, and he has since refused to advise the managing part owner Mr Mark Pickering of the location of the gelding. The Stewards were of the opinion that the above mentioned conduct was prejudicial to the image and interests of racing.

Charge 2 under AR 232(c) - As the part owner of HALOGEM he has refused to comply with a direction of the Stewards to disclose the location of the gelding.

Mr Slattery was found guilty of charge 1 and pleaded guilty to charge 2.

In consideration of a penalty for each charge the following was taken into account:

- The Stewards are currently satisfied that HALOGEM is being properly cared for and in good condition as evidenced by a recent inspection of the gelding by a veterinarian at an Alice Springs veterinary practice
- The serious nature of each charge and his plea of guilty to charge 2
- His continued refusal to disclose the location of HALOGEM during the proceedings
- The impact his conduct has on the other part owners
- The implications his actions have on the control of thoroughbred racing and compliance with the Rules of Racing
- Precedents for similar breaches
- The penalty must serve as a specific and general deterrent
- His limited submissions of his personal circumstances

Mr Slattery was disqualified on charge 1 for a period of 8 months. In relation to charge 2 he was disqualified for a period of 18 months. The Stewards determined that the penalties should be served concurrently and therefore the total period of disqualification will be 18 months.

Against these decisions Mr Slattery has his right of appeal to the NT Racing Appeals Tribunal which must be lodged within 7 days.

Australian Rules of Racing referred to in this report:

AR228 – Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing

A person must not engage in:

(a) conduct prejudicial to the image, interests, integrity, or welfare of racing, whether or not that conduct takes place within a racecourse or elsewhere.

AR232 Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

(c) fail or refuse to comply with any order, direction or requirement of the Stewards or any official