



TRNT Stewards Report – Darwin Turf Club

Monday 29 October, 2018

Panel: D Hensler (Chairman), R Hamilton, P Carroll

Stewards today conducted an inquiry into a report that HE'S OUR WOODY, trained by David Bates had allegedly bled from both nostrils after winning race 5 at the Darwin Turf Club race meeting on 27 October, 2018. This matter was reported to the Stewards at the conclusion of the race meeting by a TRNT employee and when contacted trainer D Bates denied that the gelding had bled.

At the inquiry evidence was taken from trainer D Bates, TRNT swab attendant J Mason, veterinarian Dr J Farebrother, trainer A Forster and track rider J Edwards. After considering the evidence the Stewards were satisfied to the requisite standard that HE'S OUR WOODY did bleed from both nostrils following the race and therefore the gelding is ineligible to start in a race in accordance with AR53A(5) as it had previously bled on 26 May, 2018.

Trainer D Bates was subsequently found guilty of a charge under AR175(k) in that his negligence had led to a breach of the rules. The specifics being that as the trainer of HE'S OUR WOODY he had sole care and custody of the gelding following it competing in the abovementioned race and he had been negligent in failing to observe and subsequently report that the gelding had bled from both nostrils in accordance with the requirements of AR53A(2).

In consideration of penalty Stewards took into account

- Mr Bates excellent disciplinary record over 30 years
- His personal circumstances
- The high level of culpable negligence given the circumstances of the offence
- Serious nature of the charge
- Precedents for breaches of a similar nature
- That the penalty must serve as a specific and general deterrent

Mr Bates had his trainers licence suspended for a period of 3 months. He was advised of his right of appeal.