



TRNT Stewards Report – Tuesday 27th November, 2018

Panel: D Hensler, D Westover

Venue: Alice Springs Stewards Room

The TRNT Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analyst's findings that the blood samples taken from LET'S DREAM BIG prior to competing and at the Alice Springs Turf Club race meeting on 30th September 2018, contained the presence of the prohibited substance flunixin.

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). Evidence was tendered by the mare's trainer Mr W Savage, RWWA veterinarian Dr J Medd, ARFL Science Manager Dr A Cawley and veterinarian Dr K Oliver.

Subsequently Mr Savage pleaded guilty to a charge under Australian Rule of Racing 178 with the specifics being that as the trainer of LET'S DREAM BIG he did bring that mare to the Alice Springs Turf Club meeting held at Pioneer Racecourse on 30th September, 2018 for the purpose of engaging in race 5 the Ladbrokes Cash Out Handicap (1600m) with the prohibited substance flunixin being detected in the pre - race blood sample taken from the mare.

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

- The seriousness of the charge
- The therapeutic nature of the prohibited substance
- The explanation accepted by the Stewards that the positive result was in all likelihood the result of an error of judgement with the administration
- His co – operation during the inquiry and guilty plea
- His long involvement in the industry and personal circumstances
- Previous exemplary record

Mr Savage was fined the sum of \$3000.

Acting under the provisions of Australian Rule of Racing 177, the Stewards disqualified LET'S DREAM BIG from eighth placing in race 5 on 30th September, 2018.

Mr Savage pleaded guilty to a further charge under AR178F(5) in that he failed to record the treatments of flunixin administered to LET'S DREAM BIG in the days leading up to the 30th September, 2018.

Mr Savage was fined the sum of \$500. In determining this penalty Stewards took into account that he had previously been fined under this rule in September, 2015.

Mr Savage was advised of his rights of appeal.

David Hensler
TRNT Chairman of Stewards