

Additional Stewards Report



Stewards: - J. Petzer (Chairman), M. Santoro, and S. Callanan

Thursday, 27 January 2022

Jason Holder

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the circumstances relating to two urine samples provided by licensed jockey Jason Holder on Thursday 9 December 2021. Evidence was taken from Jason Holder and written submissions by third party professionals, relating to Jason Holder's personal circumstances, were also considered.

After considering the evidence Stewards charged Jason Holder under the rules of racing with the following;

Charge 1: Under Australian Rule of Racing - AR139(1)(a), the particulars of the charge being;

"That a urine sample taken from him on Thursday 9 December 2021 at the offices of Racing SA, after he rode trackwork that morning at the Morphettville training facility, was found by Racing Analytical Services Ltd, an accredited laboratory, to contain the presence of a banned substance."

Charge 2: Under Australian Rule of Racing - AR139(1)(b), the particulars of the charge being;

"That he delivered a urine sample on Thursday 9 December 2021 at the offices of Racing SA after riding trackwork at the Morphettville training facility that morning, which was found to be a substitute sample."

Pleas: Jason Holder pleaded guilty to Charges 1 & 2.

Stewards note that the sample referred to in Charge 2 was the first sample provided by Jason Holder on 9 December 2021 and, that the sample referred to in Charge 1 was the second sample provided after the discovery of the fact that the first sample was a substitute sample.

In determining penalty Stewards had regard for Jason Holder's clean record in regard to breaches of these rules, his guilty pleas and his personal circumstances including the evidence advanced by third party professionals on his behalf. Stewards however also took into account the seriousness of the offences, individual and general deterrence and the need for strong penalties for breaches of this type.

In all the circumstances Stewards imposed the following penalties to be served concurrently;

In respect of Charge 1 - A suspension of Jason Holder's license to ride in races for a period of 5 months, reduced from 9 months after taking into account mitigating circumstances. The suspension to commence at midnight on Thursday 27 January 2022 and to expire at midnight on Monday 27 June 2022.

In respect of Charge 2 - A disqualification for a period of 2 months, reduced from 4 months after taking into account mitigating circumstances. The disqualification to commence at midnight on Thursday 27 January 2022 and to expire at midnight on Sunday 27 March 2022.

Jason Holder was informed of his right of appeal, and has lodged an appeal against the severity of the penalty in respect of Charge 1, and did not apply for a stay of proceedings.

J Petzer
General Manager Integrity/Chairman of Stewards