

# Media Release

## Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

---

4 July 2019

### **HRV RAD Board Hearing – Mark Gledhill**

On 3 July 2019, the Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Racing Appeals and Disciplinary (RAD) Board considered a charge issued by HRV Stewards under Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) against licensed trainer Mark Gledhill.

AHRR 190(1) reads as follows:

*A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances.*

The charge under AHRR 190(1) related to a urine sample collected from the horse 'Isobel Winifred' after it finished first in Race 2, the 'Wedderburn Goldseekers Motel Pace', at the Wedderburn harness racing meeting on 20 January 2019. Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) reported the sample contained arsenic in excess of the allowable threshold.

Mr Gledhill pleaded guilty to the charge before submissions on penalty were heard from the HRV Stewards and Mr Gledhill.

In deciding an appropriate penalty, the HRV RAD Board considered Mr Gledhill's guilty plea and cooperation throughout the investigation; Mr Gledhill's excellent record; Mr Gledhill's lengthy history in the industry and special personal circumstances; the purpose of the rules in relation to prohibited substances; to protect the integrity of the industry and to ensure drug free racing; penalties in similar cases; both general and specific deterrence; and past industry notices regarding arsenic.

Mr Gledhill was fined \$3000, of which \$2500 was suspended for a period of 12 months. The HRV RAD Board also ordered that, under AHRR 195, 'Isobel Winifred' be disqualified from Race 2 at Wedderburn on 20 January 2019 and the placings be amended accordingly. The HRV RAD Board further ordered that any prizemoney won by 'Isobel Winifred' from the race in question be refunded to HRV.

*HRV RAD Board Panel: Judge Graeme Hicks (Chair), Robert Abrahams (Deputy Chair).*

The Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board (RADB) is established under section 50B of the Racing Act (1958). The RADB is an independent Board established to hear and determine appeals in relation to decisions made under the rules to impose penalties on persons and to hear and determine charges made against persons for serious offences.