



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Tuesday, 22 October 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

Harness Stewards Inquiry – Driver Mr Mark Reed

On Tuesday 15 October 2019, Racing and Wagering Western Australia's (RWAA) stewards conducted an inquiry into a report received from the ChemCentre (Perth) that a banned substance had been detected in the urine sample taken from driver Mark Reed at Gloucester Park during track work on Wednesday 11 September 2019.

Mr Reed pleaded guilty to a charge under Rule 250(1)(a) of providing a urine sample on 11 September 2019, which upon analysis was found to contain a banned substance over the allowable threshold.

After reserving their decision to consider penalty, stewards have now determined the appropriate penalty to be a suspension of licence for 12 months, effective 1 November 2019. Mr Reed is currently serving a 21-day suspension for a driving related matter, which ends 31 October 2019. The following conditions were applied:

1. Following a period of not less than 6 months and upon the provision of a number of clear samples and evidence of compliance with the RWAA Alcohol and Drug policy, Mr Reed would be permitted to resume driving track work.
2. Following a period of not less than 8 months and upon the provision of a number of clear samples and evidence of compliance with counselling requirements, Mr Reed would be permitted to resume driving in official trials.
3. Following a period of not less than 10 months and upon the provision of a number of clear samples and evidence of compliance with counselling requirements, consideration will be given to staying the balance of the suspension.

Failure to abide by any of the above conditions or any detection of banned substances in this period will result in the above conditions no longer applying and the full 12-month suspension being imposed.

In determining penalty, stewards took into account several factors including:

- Mr Reed's guilty plea and his offence record;
- Mr Reed's personal circumstances; and
- The use of banned substances poses serious risks to the safety of industry participants, horses, officials, members of the general public as well as the integrity of the harness racing product.

ENDS

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