

Media Release

Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

29 June 2018

HRV RAD Board Hearing – Craig Turnbull

The Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Racing Appeals and Disciplinary (RAD) Board today considered a charge issued by HRV Stewards under Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 190(1) against licensed trainer-driver Craig Turnbull.

AHRR 190(1) reads as follows:

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

The charge under AHRR 190(1) issued by HRV Stewards against Mr Turnbull related to a urine sample taken from the horse 'The Russian' at the Kyabram trial meeting on 24 September 2017. The definition of a 'race' within the AHRR includes an official trial.

Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) reported that the analysis of the urine sample revealed it to contain the prohibited substance frusemide. The Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) in NSW confirmed these findings in the reserve portion of the relevant sample.

Mr Turnbull pleaded guilty to the charge before submissions on penalty were presented.

In deciding an appropriate penalty, the HRV RAD Board highlighted Mr Turnbull's cooperation throughout the investigation and guilty plea at the earliest opportunity, along with his good record over a long period in the industry. The HRV RAD Board also highlighted the purpose of the rules in relation to prohibited substances and the dangers associated with horses competing with these substances in their system.

Mr Turnbull was subsequently fined \$3000, of which \$1500 was suspended for a period of 12 months.

HRV RAD Board Panel: Alanna Duffy (Chair), John Kearney