Media Release

8th May 2020

Inquiry – Mr Todd Weidenbach

Harness Racing South Australia Stewards, on Wednesday 6th of May 2020, concluded an inquiry into comments made by Mr Todd Weidenbach on social media platform Face Book .

Stewards found Mr Weidenbach guilty of a breach of Australian Harness Racing Rule 248 which states:

"A person shall not say, publish or write or cause to be said, published or written anything malicious, intimidatory or otherwise improper about the Controlling Body, its members and employees or the Stewards or anyone else associated with the harness racing industry."

The particulars being that comments, relating to the controlling body, made by Mr Weidenbach, on the social media platform Face Book were improper.

After considering submissions provided by Mr Weidenbach and after having regard to the following relevant factors:

- A copy of the comments on Face Book.
- Mr Weidenbach's admission of the breach.
- The need for general and specific deterrence.
- Mr Weidenbach's personal circumstances

Stewards believed the appropriate sanction was a \$400.00 fine, \$200.00 suspended for 12 months, provided there are no further offences under this rule during that period.

The Stewards firmly remind all participants of the need to be mindful of any content or comments they elect to put on any social media platform. The Stewards will not tolerate unacceptable commentary directed at the Controlling Body, its members, employees, the Stewards or any one associated with the Harness Racing Industry. Failure to adhere to these expectations will result in significant penalties being imposed.

For further information please contact:

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