## Media Release Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

25 July 2017

## **HRV RAD Board Hearing – Zac Steenhuis**

The Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Racing Appeals and Disciplinary (RAD) Board today considered charges issued against licensed trainer Mr Zac Steenhuis under Australian Harness Racing Rules (AHRR) 241 and 187(2)

Charges 1 – 5, under AHRR 241 which reads as follows:

A person shall not in connection with any part of the harness racing industry do anything which is fraudulent or corrupt.

The particulars of these charges relate to Mr Steenhuis providing HRV with five documents relating to the "Transfer of Ownership of Horse" and "Claiming Forms" of which he entered information and signed under another person's name.

Charge 6, under AHRR 187(2) reads as follows:

A person shall not refuse to answer questions or to produce a horse, document, substance or piece of equipment, or give false or misleading evidence at an inquiry or investigation.

The charge under AHRR 187(2) related to Mr Steenhuis providing false and misleading evidence to HRV Stewards during the course of their investigation.

Mr Steenhuis pleaded guilty to all charges.

After considering submissions on penalty, including Mr Steenhuis's early guilty plea, offence record and his relatively young age, the HRV RAD Board imposed a \$500 fine for each of the five charges under AHRR 241.

In relation to the charge under AHRR 187(2), Mr Steenhuis was also fined \$500.

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.