

# Media Release

## Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

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3 September 2019

### **HRV RAD Board Hearing – Maddie Ray**

On 2 September 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 Maddie Ray.

AHRR 190(1) reads as follows:

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

The charge related to a urine sample collected from the horse 'Imahe Man' after it won Race 3, the 'Doc-U-Store / Naish Security Shredding Trotters Handicap', at the Wangaratta harness racing meeting on 10 March 2019. Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) reported the sample contained arsenic in excess of the allowable threshold.

Maddie Ray pleaded guilty to the charge before submissions on penalty were heard from the HRV Stewards and Ms Ray.

In deciding an appropriate penalty, the HRV RAD Board considered Ms Ray's guilty plea and cooperation throughout the investigation; Ms Ray's offence record; 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.

Ms Ray was fined \$3000, of which \$2250 was suspended for a period of 12 months. The HRV RAD Board also ordered that, under AHRR 195, 'Imahe Man' be disqualified from Race 3 at Wangaratta on 10 March 2019 and the placings be amended accordingly. The HRV RAD Board further ordered that any prizemoney won by 'Imahe Man' from the race in question be returned to HRV.

*HRV RAD Board Panel: Robert Abrahams (Deputy Chair) and Mr Kevin Carson*