



MEDIA RELEASE

20th March 2018

Christopher Massey – Prohibited Substance Inquiry

Harness Racing South Australia Stewards today conducted a hearing into adverse test results returned by 3 horses that were trained by Mr C. Massey following swab samples taken from the horses when racing at the following venues

1. ARONOUX NZ – Race 2, HOPKINS SADDLERY CLAIMING PACE at Globe Derby Park on Saturday the 25th November 2017
2. ARONOUX NZ – Race 2, HYGAIN PAK-CELL CLAIMING PACE at Globe Derby Park on Monday the 27th November 2017
3. BLUE BEACH ANGEL – Race 4, TOBY RYAN PACE at Globe Derby on Saturday the 2nd December 2017
4. ONE NIGHT AT THEMILE – Race 5, NOTABLE IMPRINT PACE at Victor Harbor on Monday 1st January 2018.

Due to the time frames surrounding the swab results stewards treated the case as one breach with 4 components, rather than 4 individual cases.

The particulars being that the samples taken from ARNOUX NZ, BLUE BEACH ANGEL and ONE NIGHT AT THEMILE NZ revealed the presence of Arsenic at a level greater than .030 micrograms per millilitre in urine.

Mr Massey confirmed a breach of Rule (AHHR) 190(1) which states *“A horse shall be presented for a race free of prohibited substances”*

After receiving submissions on penalty put by Mr Massey, the Stewards determination was that once Mr Massey had served his current disqualification, he then be suspended from training for a period of eight (8) months, with the activation of the penalty to commence on 26th August. When considering penalty stewards were mindful of the circumstances surrounding the adverse swab results, the co-operation shown by Mr Massey, his guilty plea, previous penalties for similar offences and Mr Massey’s personal circumstances.

Furthermore, acting under the provisions of AHRR 195, ARNOUX NZ, BLUE BEACH ANGEL and ONE NIGHT AT THEMILE NZ were disqualified from their placings in their respective races and Stewards directed that the placings be amended accordingly. Mr Massey was also ordered to pay costs associated with the confirmation of each swab, to the amount of \$2,500.00.

Mr Massey was advised of his rights of appeal.

Simon Ewen

Stipendiary Steward