

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Mr Glenn Thornton – Miss Sha Blue

Date: 11 April 2024

Panel: Paul Zimmermann, B Wright, L Dewitt-Rowson

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) stewards today concluded an inquiry into a report from the analyst that the prohibited substance cobalt over the prescribed limit was detected in a urine sample taken from Miss Sha Blue after it competed in Race 1 at Doomben on 1st February 2024.

After considering the evidence, Mr Glenn Thornton was issued with one (1) charge pursuant to AR 240(2) which states:

Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is brought to a racecourse for the purpose of participating in a race and a prohibited substance on Prohibited List A and/or Prohibited List B is detected in a sample taken from the horse prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of the horse at any relevant time breaches these Australian Rules.

The particulars being that Mr Glenn Thornton as the licensed trainer of Miss Sha Blue, which was brought to the Doomben Racecourse on 1 February 2024, for the purpose of participating in Race 1, The Girls Day Out On Sale Now QTIS Three Year Old Handicap 1200m metres and a post-race urine sample taken from Miss Sha Blue was found to contain cobalt at a mass concentration above the prescribed limit.

Mr Thornton pleaded guilty to the charge and made submissions regarding the matter of penalty.

When considering an appropriate penalty for this breach, stewards considered that Mr Thornton had a previous unblemished record over a long period of approximately 25 years. The personal circumstances of Mr Thornton were also considered. Stewards recognised that breaches of this kind have a negative impact to the image of thoroughbred racing and any penalty imposed by stewards must serve as both a specific deterrent to Mr Thornton and also as a general deterrent to the wider industry.

Stewards suspended Mr Thornton's license to train for a period of 12 months, which under the of provisions AR283(5) fully suspended the operation of the penalty for a period for two years (24 months), on the condition that Mr Thornton does not reoffend under this rule regarding the prohibited substance cobalt. Mr Thornton was also fined \$5000.

Under the provisions of AR240(1), Miss Sha Blue was disqualified from its placings in the above-mentioned race and the placing were amended as follows:

1st February 2024 - Doomben Race 1- Girls Day Out On Sale Now QTIS Three Year Old Handicap 1200m metres.

1st – FEMME FATALE
2nd – REVITUP CHARLIE
3rd – BUTT HEADS
4th – MASTERPLAN

Mr Glenn Thornton was advised of his appeal rights.