

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Amanda Smith

Date: 03 July 2018

Panel: E Barron, R Hitchener

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the Analysts findings of a urine sample provided by stable hand Amanda Smith at the Toowoomba Turf Club on Saturday, 26 May 2018. Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) confirmed the sample to contain the presence of banned substance 11-nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (Cannabis).

After considering evidence tendered by Ms Amanda Smith, Stewards issued a charge under Australian Rule of Racing 81AA(1)(a) which reads:

*Any Horse Handler commits an offence and may be penalised if –
(a) a sample taken from him is found to contain a substance banned by AR.81BB*

The specifics being:

That Amanda Smith a licensed stable hand with QRIC whilst performing duties as a horse handler on the morning of 26 May 2018 at Toowoomba Turf Club did provide a sample of urine which upon analysis was found to contain 11-nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (Cannabis) at a concentration above the applicable cut-off level.

Ms Smith pleaded guilty to the charge.

In determining an appropriate penalty, Stewards took in to account Ms Smith's guilty plea, forthright evidence and personal circumstances and prior clear record in regards to offences under this rule.

However, Stewards were mindful of the negative impact on the image of racing that offences such as these have, the need for the penalty to serve as a deterrent and relevant penalty precedents.

It was the Stewards decision that Ms Smith be disqualified for a period of three (3) months to commence immediately and to expire on midnight 3 October 2018.

Ms Smith was advised of the imposition of a disqualified person under the provisions of AR. 182 and her rights to an Internal Review.

Furthermore, stewards ordered that Ms Smith must comply with the provisions of AR81AA(4) and deliver a urine sample free of any banned substance under AR81BB before being permitted to handle any horse again.