



STEWARDS REPORT

DEAGON OFFICES – 3 November 2010

TRAINER - FRANCIS WESTON

Stewards today inquired into a report by RQL Stewards that during a stable visit to the premises of trainer F Weston at Marburg on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, he was found to be injecting a horse, which was engaged to race at the Albion Park meeting that day.

Mr Weston advised the Stewards that prior to their arrival that morning he had similarly injected 3 other horses engaged to race at the same meeting. The four horses involved were VARANNE, IWI TROUBLE, DOCTOR PRIDE & FRANCO EMERGER.

Mr Weston further voluntarily supplied the product which had been administered that morning, along with two other products which he had secured inside his home. These three products were voluntarily surrendered by Mr Weston as he was of the belief that they did not contain any prohibited substances. Stewards delivered these products to the Racing Science Centre for analysis. The products surrendered by Mr Weston were:

Two bottles (one unopened) labelled - '**Bleeder X**',
One bottle labelled - '**P Block 100**'
One unlabelled bottle known to Mr Weston as -'**Clog**'.

Urine samples were then obtained from all four horses and dispatched to the Racing Science Centre for analysis. Subsequently the Racing Science Centre advised that all four urine samples obtained from the four horses did not show any traces of prohibited substances and were reported as clear.

Analysis of the items surrendered by Mr Weston and submitted for analysis revealed that the two bottles of 'Bleeder X' and one bottle of 'P Block 100' were shown to contain Stanozolol, which is an anabolic steroid, and a

Schedule 4 substance These bottles were not labelled in accordance with the Health (Drugs and Poisons) regulation 1996.

The item known as 'Clog' was also analysed and found to contain no prohibited substances.

Mr Weston advised Stewards that the products he held, and surrendered, had been purchased by him, or provided to him by local distributors. These bottles did not display prescriptions, nor did Mr Weston have a current supporting prescription for these drugs.

Mr Weston today pleaded guilty to four counts of a breach of Rule 193(3) which states:

“A person shall not administer or cause to be administered any medication to a horse on race day prior to such horse running in a race.”

The first particular being that Mr Weston, on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, administered a medication namely, 'Bleeder X', by injection to the horse VARANNE, trained by him, which was engaged to run in Race 1 at Albion Park on that day.

The second particular being that Mr Weston, on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, administered a medication namely, 'Bleeder X', by injection to the horse DOCTOR PRIDE, trained by him, which was engaged to run in Race 1 at Albion Park on that day.

The third particular being that Mr Weston, on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, administered a medication namely, 'Bleeder X', by injection to the horse IWI TROUBLE, trained by him, which was engaged to run in Race 1 at Albion Park on that day.

The fourth particular being that Mr Weston, on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, administered a medication namely, 'Bleeder X', by injection to the horse FRANCO EMERGER, trained by him, which was engaged to run in Race 2 at Albion Park on that day.

Mr Weston was fined the sum of \$750 on each charge. (\$3000)

Mr Weston also pleaded guilty to a charge under AHR Rule 194 which states:

“A person who holds or controls drugs unlawfully or which are unlabelled or without a supporting prescription is, if those drugs are capable of being administered to a horse, guilty of an offence.”

The particulars being that during a routine stable visit to Mr Weston's property at Marburg, on the morning of Tuesday 28 September 2010, was found to be in control of drugs, namely two bottles labelled 'Bleeder X', and one bottle labelled 'P Block 100', which upon analysis, were found to contain the prohibited substance Stanazolol, which were capable of being administered to a horse, without having a supporting prescription for these drugs.

Mr Weston was fined the sum of \$500 on this charge.

In determining the appropriate penalties, Stewards took into account Mr Weston's frank admissions regarding the horses being treated by him before Stewards arrived at his property on 28 September 2010, his voluntary surrender of the bottles of substances for analysis, the request by Weston to withdraw his 4 horses engaged on 28 September 2010, and his total cooperation during the course of the Inquiry.

Martin Knibbs
Chief Stipendiary Steward (Harness)