



HEARING AND DETERMINATION OF CHARGES ISSUED AGAINST LICENSED TRACK WORK RIDER DANIEL GOOLEY

**Racing NSW Offices
Druitt Street, Sydney
Via videoconference**

27 November 2024

**Stewards: D R Hadley (Chair)
M W Cleaver
J B Marshall**

On 22 November 2024, Racing NSW Officials attended Gosford Racecourse for the purpose of obtaining participant human urine samples. About 7:20am, Mr Daniel Gooley who was riding track work, dismounted a horse, walked away out of view of Officials and removed his riding gear at which time he attempted to conceal it.

Racing NSW Officials observed Mr Gooley acting suspiciously and asked him to provide his particulars. Mr Gooley provided the name of "Ryan" before walking away. Mr Gooley then started to run away towards the Faunce Street entrance. Racing NSW Officials directed Mr Gooley to stop, to which he complied.


Mr Gooley was again asked to provide his particulars and provided the name "Ryan". Mr Gooley was further questioned as to his real identity and eventually conceded his name was Daniel and that he misled Officials as he didn't want to provide a urine sample.

Mr Gooley was directed to provide a sample of his urine at which time he refused, stating, "*You can't tell me what to do, I am quitting racing*".

Racing NSW Officials directed Mr Gooley a second time to provide a urine sample to which he refused. Mr Gooley made admissions to consuming prohibited substances in the days prior before walking away.

On 22 November 2024, Racing NSW issued two charges against Mr Gooley under AR232(i) and AR139(1)(b). Mr Gooley was stood down from his duties pending the hearing and determination of charges. Mr Gooley was directed to attend the hearing and determination of charges scheduled for 25 November 2025.

On 25 November 2024, Stewards conducted a hearing and determination of charges issued against Mr Gooley. Mr Gooley failed to attend as directed to do so. Stewards adjourned the hearing and issued a further charge under AR232(h) against Mr Gooley. Officials issued Mr Gooley a direction to attend the hearing and determination of charges scheduled for 27 November 2024.



Racing NSW today conducted a hearing and determination of charges issued against Mr Gooley. Mr Gooley failed to attend as directed to do so and the matter was heard ex parte.

Charges issued against Mr Daniel Gooley

Charge 1: AR232(i) Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

The details of the charge being that on 22 November 2024, licensed track work rider, Mr Daniel Gooley, when asked to provide his particulars by Racing NSW Officials, gave misleading evidence during an investigation by providing a false name on two occasions.

Finding: Guilty

Charge 2: AR139(1)(b) Offences where riders used banned substances

The details of the charge being that on 22 November 2024, licensed track work rider, Mr Daniel Gooley, when directed by Racing NSW officials to provide a sample of his urine, did refuse on two separate occasions.

Finding: Guilty

Charge 3: AR232(h) Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

The details of the charge being that on 25 November 2024, licensed track work rider Mr Daniel Gooley, did fail to attend a hearing when directed by the Stewards.

Finding: Guilty

Penalty

The following penalty considerations were taken into account -

- The lack of cooperation from Mr Gooley during the investigation and Stewards inquiries
- Previous offending
- Precedent penalties
- Objective seriousness of the breaches
- Mr Gooley's personal and professional circumstances,
- Purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image, interests and welfare of the thoroughbred racing industry.

Charge 1: AR232(i) – 3 months disqualification of licence (to be served wholly concurrently with Charge 2)

Charge 2: AR139(1)(b) – 12 months disqualification of licence

Charge 3: AR232(h) – 6 months disqualification of licence

Having regard to the principles of totality of penalty, in addition to the orders in respect of concurrency for charges 1 & 2 as set out above, the Stewards ruled that the total period of disqualification is 18 months to commence on 22 November 2024, being the date that Mr Gooley was stood down from his duties and to expire on 22 May 2026 at which time he may reapply for a licence.

Mr Gooley was advised of his appeal rights.

Relevant Rule:

AR232(i) Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

- (i) give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.*

Division 6 – Banned substances offences for riders and horse handlers

AR139 Offences where riders used banned substances

(1) A rider breaches these Australian Rules if:

- (b) the rider refuses or fails to deliver a sample as directed by the Stewards, tampers with, adulterates, alters, substitutes, or in any way hinders the collection of, a sample or attempts to do any of those things.*

AR232(h) Failure to observe processes and directions of PRAs or Stewards

A person must not:

- (h) refuse or fail to attend or give evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing or appeal when directed or requested to do so by a PRA, the Stewards or a person authorised by a PRA or the Stewards;*

**D R Hadley
General Manager – Investigations
Racing NSW**