



*INQUIRY INTO THE ANALYSTS FINDING OF TRIAMCINOLONE ACETONIDE IN A BLOOD SAMPLE TAKEN FROM DARK EURO FOLLOWING IT WINNING THE OPEN HANDICAP 1300M CONDUCTED AT BALLINA RACECOURSE ON 3 OCTOBER 2021.*

**Grafton Racecourse**

**Wednesday 15 December 2021**

**Stewards: M A Holloway (Chairman)  
J T Penfold**

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The Stewards today inquired into two Analysts' finding of, the prohibited substance, Triamcinolone Acetonide in a post-race blood sample taken from *Dark Euro* after that gelding won Race 4 Open Handicap 1300m at Ballina racecourse on Sunday 3 October 2021.

Evidence was taken from the trainer of *Dark Euro*, Mrs Fleur Henley, Racing NSW Veterinary permit holder Dr Alan Giles, Racing NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Toby Koenig and ARFL Science Manager Dr Adam Cawley.

The evidence established that on Saturday 21 September 2021, at the request of Mrs Henley, Dr Alan Giles attended *Dark Euro* and inspected the gelding's front fetlocks. With Mrs Henley's authorisation Dr Giles injected both fetlocks with the corticosteroid triamcinolone acetonide that day. Mrs Henley subsequently raced *Dark Euro* at Ballina racecourse on Sunday 3 October 2021, 11 clear days from such treatment and in accordance with the 8 clear days required under AR87(1).

### **Charge 1**

Mrs Henley pleaded guilty to a charge under AR178. The details of the charge being that she brought *Dark Euro* to Ballina racecourse on Sunday 3 October 2021 for the purpose of participating in Race 4 Open Handicap 1300m and the prohibited substance triamcinolone acetonide was detected in a post-race blood sample taken from *Dark Euro* following the gelding placing first in that event.

### **Charge 2**

Mrs Henley pleaded guilty to a charge under AR104(1). The details of the charge being that she did fail to record the intra articular administration of triamcinolone acetonide to both front fetlocks of *Dark Euro* by midnight on 21 September 2021, the day on which such administration was given.

### **Penalty**

In assessing penalty stewards considered the following matters –

1. Mrs Henley's co operation with the stewards investigation
2. Guilty plea
3. Disciplinary and license history
4. Personal and professional circumstances
4. Precedent Penalties

## RACING NSW – STEWARDS REPORT

5. The nature and circumstances of the matter
6. Principles applied by stewards when issuing penalties

### Penalty

Charge 1: Stewards believe the appropriate penalty be a fine of \$6,000. Allowing for Mrs Henley's guilty plea, mitigating factors and the circumstances of this case a \$3,000 fine was issued.

Charge 2: \$500 fine.

Acting under the requirements of AR240(1), *Dark Euro* was disqualified from its first placing in Race 4 Open Handicap 1300m conducted at Ballina racecourse on the 3 October 2021 and the placing's were amended as follows:

1st *Northern Wilderose*  
2nd *See It Thru*  
3rd *She's Choosie*  
4th *Xanthus*  
5th *Atlantic City*

Racing NSW stewards take this opportunity to remind veterinarians and trainers that the minimum stand down time of 8 clear days, under AR87(1), after an intra-articular injection is intended as a minimum period before participating in a race, official trial or jumpout. This stand down period must not be confused with a recommended withdrawal period required to ensure a horse is presented to race without the presence of a prohibited substance. The recommendation of an appropriate withdrawal time must take into consideration all factors relating to the individual case presentation, including route of administration and substance administered.

The administration of intraarticular corticosteroids is a treatment according to AR 104 and therefore must be recorded in the relevant stable treatment records and veterinary history.

### Relevant Rules

**AR 240 (2)** - 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.

**AR240(1)** – Subject to subrule (3), if a horse is brought to a racecourse 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 horse must be disqualified from any race in which it started on that day.

**AR104(1)** - A trainer must record any medication or treatment administered to any horse in the trainer's care by midnight on the day on which the administration was given.

**M A Holloway**  
**Chief Steward NRRA**