



**13 July 2022**

**STEWARDS REPORT**

*Inquiry into the condition of stable flooring provided by licensed trainer Mr Peter Korn to horses in his care when visited by Stewards on 24 June 2021, 1 July 2021, 11 January 2022 and 22 June 2022*

**Inquiry conducted at the SERA Offices (Thoroughbred Park)**

**Committee of Stewards: J D Walshe (Chairman) & G E V Hargraves**

Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the care afforded by licensed trainer Mr Peter Korn to horses in his care at his registered stables at Queanbeyan Racecourse, and in particular, the condition of stable flooring, when visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 24 June 2021, 1 July 2021, 11 January 2022 and 22 June 2022.

Evidence was taken from Mr Korn and a number of exhibits including reports prepared by Stewards following their visits on each of the above-mentioned dates were also tendered at the inquiry.

Mr Korn pleaded guilty to the following two charges:

**CHARGE 1 - LR 114(2)(c) – Fail to adequately maintain stables**

Particulars:

- 1) Mr Peter Korn is a licensed trainer with Racing NSW.
- 2) Mr Peter Korn's registered stables are located at 56 Furlong Rd, QUEANBEYAN.
- 3) S 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare states: Appropriate clean bedding must be provided in stables for warmth, insulation and protection from abrasion.
- 4) That when visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 24 June 2021, stable flooring at his registered stable premises failed to meet s 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare in that the flooring in stables was found to have no bedding material with a dirt base that contained holes and was uneven and contained mud.
- 5) That when visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 1 July 2021, stable flooring at his registered stable premises failed to meet s 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare in that the flooring in stables was found to have little or no bedding material, stables with dirt bases that contained holes and were uneven, were muddy and stables that were soiled.

- 6) That when visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 11 January 2022, stable flooring at his registered stable premises failed to meet s 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare in that the flooring in stables was found to contain bog and have next to no bedding material.
- 7) That when visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 22 June 2022, stable flooring at his registered stable premises failed to meet s 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare in that the flooring in stables was found to contain little or no stable bedding and contain wet or moist compressed dirt.

**CHARGE 2 – AR232(b) - Fail comply with direction**

Particulars:

- 1) Mr Peter Korn is a licensed trainer with Racing NSW.
- 2) Mr Peter Korn's registered stables are located at 56 Furlong Rd, QUEANBEYAN.
- 3) On 1 July 2021 he was provided with a Stewards direction to maintain a depth of stable bedding at his registered stable premises and to top up that bedding as necessary.
- 4) That when subsequently visited by Racing NSW Stewards on 11 January 2022 and 22 June 2022 he was found to have failed to comply with the direction issued to him on 1 July 2021 as outlined in particular 3, when stable flooring at his registered stable premises was found to have insufficient bedding material and contain bog or wet or moist compressed dirt.
- 5) That his failure to comply with the Stewards direction resulted in the stable bedding at his registered premises on 11 January 2022 and 22 June 2022 failing to meet s 6.4 of the Racing NSW Minimum Standards & Guidelines of Equine Welfare which states: Appropriate clean bedding must be provided in stables for warmth, insulation and protection from abrasion.
- 6) That he was given a further Stewards direction on 11 January 2022 that he must, after rectifying the stable issues identified by Stewards on that day, continually maintain those satisfactory conditions and that he did fail to comply with that direction when, as identified in particular 5, conditions of his stables on 22 June 22 failed to meet the required Racing NSW standards.

**PENALTY**

Stewards considered that the appropriate penalty to be imposed for charge 1 and charge 2 be a 4-month suspension of Mr Korn's trainers license for each breach. However, taking into account Mr Korn's guilty plea, a 25% discount was applied reducing each penalty to a 3-month suspension. Further, as both charges related to the same matters, Stewards determined that both penalties should be served concurrently. Therefore, Mr Korn's trainers license was suspended for a period of three months to commence immediately and to expire on 13 October 2022.

Other matters considered in the determination of penalty were Mr Korn's training record over a lengthy period, his disciplinary record and personal circumstances. However, weight was also given to Racing NSW's commitment to the appropriate care of thoroughbreds, community expectations concerning the treatment of thoroughbreds, the condition of the

stables on each of the Steward's visits and Mr Korn's failure after repeated directions, to maintain stable flooring to a satisfactory standard.

Stewards acting under AR283(7) deferred the commencement of the suspension for a period of 7 days to allow Mr Korn to facilitate the transfer of racing stock from his care.

Mr Korn was advised of his rights of appeal.

JD Walshe  
Chief Steward  
South East Region – Racing NSW

**Relevant Rules**

**LR 114(2)(c)**

- (1) *The purpose and objective of this Local Rule 114 is to ensure the welfare of thoroughbred horses from birth, during their racing careers and on retirement.*
- (2) *A registered owner, trainer or any person that is in charge of or has in his or her possession, control or custody of any horses (Eligible Horses, Unnamed Horses and Named Horses) must ensure that any such horses are provided at all times with:*
- (a) proper and sufficient nutrition and water;*
  - (b) proper exercise;*
  - (c) stabling and paddocks of a standard approved by Racing NSW, which are adequate in size, which are adequately maintained and kept in a clean and sanitary condition;*
  - (d) veterinary treatment where such treatment is necessary or directed by Racing NSW.*

**AR232(b)**

*A person must not:*

- (b) fail or refuse to comply with an order, direction or requirement of the Stewards or an official.*

**AR283(7)**

*(7) A person or body authorised by these Australian Rules to suspend or disqualify any trainer may defer the commencement of the period of suspension or disqualification for no more than 7 clear days following the day the suspension or disqualification was imposed, and upon terms and conditions considered fit.*