

RACING NSW – STEWARDS REPORT



STEWARDS INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER NORWEGIAN BLISS SHOULD BE DECLARED AS A BLEEDER UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF AR79.

**Racing NSW Offices
(by Tele Conference)**

2 May 2022

**Stewards: M F Van Gestel (Chairman)
S G Railton**

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry to ascertain if Norwegian Bliss should be declared a bleeder, following the mare having the appearance of blood at both nostrils after winning Race 10 – Benchmark 78 Handicap at the Hawkesbury Race Meeting on Saturday 30 April 2022. Evidence today was taken from trainer Mr N Doyle, stable veterinarian Dr G Doherty and Racing NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Dr P Curl.

The evidence disclosed the following

- After being presented to the swabbing stall the mare was found to have the appearance of blood at both nostrils.
- The mare was found to have fresh abrasions to its forehead, in addition to several old healing abrasions.
- An endoscopic examination performed by Dr Doherty at approximately 9:30pm on return to Mr Doyle's stable did not reveal evidence of exercise induced pulmonary haemorrhage, however Dr Doherty did report there was some evidence of blood emanating from the nasal passage. Photographic evidence of the endoscopic examination did not identify any blood to be present in the mare's trachea.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards determined that Norwegian Bliss not be declared a bleeder on the basis that, on the balance of probabilities, the appearance of blood at both nostrils was due to external trauma.

However, Stewards determined that Norwegian Bliss must gallop or barrier trial to the Stewards satisfaction and be subject to a satisfactory endoscopic examination after the gallop or trial, before racing again.

Relevant Rule

AR 79 Horses with bleeding

(1) The appearance of blood at both nostrils, irrespective of quantity, is deemed to constitute an attack of bleeding unless, in the opinion of the Stewards, that bleeding was caused by external trauma.