



INQUIRY INTO THE ANALYSTS' FINDING OF LIGNOCAINE AND ITS METABOLITES IN A POST-RACE URINE SAMPLE TAKEN FROM AMARANTZ AFTER THE FILLY STARTED IN RACE 2 – MAIDEN PLATE 1400M, CONDUCTED AT THE NEWCASTLE RACE MEETING ON SATURDAY 2 JULY 2022

**Racing NSW Offices
Druitt Street, SYDNEY**

Thursday, 15 September 2022

STEWARDS: **D L Carr (Chairman)**
 S G Railton
 T T Cameron

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry into the analyst's finding of lignocaine and its metabolites in a post-race urine sample taken from Amarantz after the filly won Race 2 (Maiden Plate, 1400m) conducted at the Newcastle race meeting on Saturday, 2 July 2022.

Evidence was today taken from trainer of Amarantz, Mr John O'Shea, licenced stablehand Ms Jennifer Righton, Racing NSW Chief Veterinarian Dr Peter Curl and ARFL Science Manager Dr Adam Cawley.

Charge

Mr O'Shea pleaded guilty to a charge under AR240(2) in that, as the trainer of the racehorse Amarantz at all relevant times up to and including Saturday, 2 July 2022, he did bring that filly to Newcastle Racecourse on Saturday, 2 July 2022 for the purpose of participating in Race 2 (Maiden Plate, 1400m) when a prohibited substance on Prohibited List B, namely lignocaine and its metabolites, was detected in the urine sample taken from Amarantz following the race.

Penalty

The following matters were considered in respect to penalty:

1. Guilty plea & co-operation during the investigation and inquiry
2. Mr O'Shea's good disciplinary record
3. Low level of lignocaine detected
4. Failure to record relevant administrations in treatment records

Mr O'Shea was fined \$4000, reduced from \$6000 for his guilty plea and other considerations including his good record.

Amarantz

In accordance with the provisions of AR240(1) Amarantz was disqualified from its first placing in Race 2 (Maiden Plate, 1400m) conducted at the Newcastle race meeting on 2 July 2022 and the placings amended as follows:

No 8. Midnightinmontreal	1st
No 2. The Replicant	2nd
No 1. Buoyant	3rd
No 7. Passion Play	4th

Relevant Rules:

AR 240 Prohibited substance in sample taken from horse at race meeting

- (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.*
- (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.*

SCHEDULE 1 – PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES LISTS AND EXEMPTIONS / THRESHOLDS

Division 1 – Prohibited List B

The substances set out below in this Division 1 are specified as prohibited substances.

- 1. Substances capable at any time of causing either directly or indirectly an action and/or effect within one or more of the following mammalian body systems:
 - (a) the nervous system;**
- 2. Substances within, but not limited to, the following categories:
 - (i) anaesthetic agents;**

**D L Carr
Stipendiary Steward
Racing NSW**