



STEWARDS REPORT

HEARING OF CHARGES IN RELATION TO AN INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED
ON FRIDAY, 1 MARCH 2024 BETWEEN APPRENTICE JOCKEY ANGELA COOPER, LICENSED STABLE
HAND CORINNE COOPER AND LICENSED TRAINER CONNIE GREIG AT MS GREIG'S STABLE
PREMISES

Stewards' inquiry room Dubbo Racecourse

24 May 2024

Stewards: **J P W Prior (Chair)**
S D Parkinson
D J Bucknell (Teleconference)

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted a hearing of charges issued against apprentice jockey Angela Cooper and licenced stablehand Corinne Cooper in respect to an incident that occurred between Angela Cooper, Corinne Cooper and licenced trainer Connie Greig at Ms Greig's licenced stable address on Friday 1 March 2024.

Charges issued against Ms Angela Cooper

Charge 1:

LR 16 – *The details of the charge as follows:*

1. Ms Angela Cooper is a licensed apprentice jockey with Racing NSW and is therefore bound by, and required to comply with, the Rules of Racing.
2. On the afternoon of Friday 1 March 2024, in the company of licensed stablehand Mrs Corinne Cooper, she entered upon the stable premises under the control of licensed trainer Ms Connie Greig by scaling the locked gate on the boundary fence of that property.
3. Ms Cooper did enter upon Ms Greig's stable premises without her permission.

Plea: Guilty

Charge 2:

AR 228 (b) – *The details of the charge as follows:*

1. Ms Angela Cooper is an apprentice jockey licenced with Racing NSW and is therefore bound by, and required to comply with, the Rules of Racing.
2. On the afternoon of Friday 1 March 2024, in the company of licensed stable hand Mrs Corinne Cooper, she entered upon the stable premises under the control of licensed trainer Ms Connie Greig by scaling a locked gate on the boundary fence of that property. Ms Angela Cooper entered upon Ms Greig's stable premises without her permission.
3. When entering the premises of Ms Greig, Ms Cooper did so with the intention of confronting an unlicensed person.

4. Ms Cooper subsequently failed to leave the stable premises of Ms Greig despite being told to do so on at least one occasion by Ms Greig.

5. When Ms Cooper entered upon Ms Greig's stable premises her path was blocked by Ms Greig and as she attempted to force her way past Ms Greig, she made physical contact with her which resulted in you both falling to the ground.

6. Ms Cooper's conduct as outlined in particulars 2-5, both collectively and individually, was improper.

Plea: Guilty

Penalty Considerations – Ms Angela Cooper:

In issuing penalty Stewards considered the following relevant matters;

1. Guilty plea for each charge
2. Serious nature of this offence and purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image and integrity of racing
3. Principle of deterrence and what message is to be sent to the industry, and the greater public, in respect of such conduct
4. Precedent penalties
5. First breach of conduct related rules

Penalty – Ms Angela Cooper

Stewards were of the view that the starting point for each offence be a suspension of licence, in full, for a period of three months. However, considering the above matters, Stewards determined that the appropriate penalty for charge 1 and charge 2 each be a suspension of license, in full, for two months. Considering the close relation of each offence, Stewards determined that the penalty for each charge be served concurrently. Acting under AR283(5), Stewards determined that the final month of this penalty be suspended on the basis that Ms Cooper does not breach any conduct related rules for a period of two years. Accordingly, Ms Cooper's licence was suspended, in full, for a period to commence on Sunday 2 June and to expire on Tuesday 2 July on which day she may return to her duties.

Charges issued against Mrs Corinne Cooper

Charge 1:

LR 16 – *The details of the charge as follows:*

1. Mrs Corinne Cooper is a licensed stable hand with Racing NSW and also officiates at race meetings as a Clerk of the Course. Mrs Cooper is therefore bound by, and required to comply with, the Rules of Racing.
2. On the afternoon of Friday 1 March 2024, in the company of apprentice jockey Ms Angela Cooper, she entered upon the stable premises under the control of licensed trainer Ms Connie Greig by scaling the locked gate on the boundary fence of that property.
3. Mrs Cooper did enter upon Ms Greig's stable premises without her permission.

Plea: Guilty

Charge 2:

AR 228 (b) – *The details of the charge as follows:*

1. Mrs Corinne Cooper is a licensed stablehand with Racing NSW and also officiates at race meetings as a Clerk of the Course. Mrs Cooper is therefore bound by, and required to comply with, the Rules of Racing.
2. On the afternoon of Friday 1 March 2024, in the company of licensed apprentice jockey Ms Angela Cooper, Mrs Corinne Cooper entered upon the stable premises under the control of licensed trainer Ms Connie Greig by scaling a locked gate on the boundary fence of that property. Mrs Cooper entered upon Ms Greig's stable premises without her permission.
3. When Mrs Cooper entered the premises of Ms Greig, she did so with the intention of accompanying Ms Angela Cooper who intended to confront an unlicensed person.
4. Mrs Cooper subsequently failed to leave the stable premises of Ms Greig despite being told to do so on at least one occasion by Ms Greig.
5. When Mrs Cooper entered upon Ms Greig's stable premises with Ms Angela Cooper, physical contact occurred between Ms Angela Cooper and Ms Connie Greig which resulted in them both falling to the ground.
6. As Ms Connie Greig was on the ground, Mrs Cooper forcibly placed her foot on Ms Cooper's person.
7. Mrs Cooper's conduct as outlined in particulars 2-6, both collectively and individually, was improper.

Plea: Guilty

Penalty Considerations – Mrs Corinne Cooper:

In issuing penalty Stewards considered the following relevant matters;

1. Guilty plea for each charge
2. Serious nature of this offence and purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image and integrity of racing
3. Principle of deterrence and what message is to be sent to the industry, and the greater public, in respect of such conduct
4. Precedent penalties
5. History in the industry and that this was Mrs Cooper's first breach of the Rules of Racing

Penalty – Mrs Corinne Cooper

Stewards were of the view that the starting point for each offence be a suspension of licence in full for a period of three months. However, considering the above matters, Stewards determined that the appropriate penalty for charge 1 and charge 2 each be a suspension of license, in full, for a period of two months. Considering the close relation of each offence, Stewards determined the penalty for each charge be served concurrently. Acting under AR283(5), Stewards determined that the final month of this penalty be suspended on the

basis that Mrs Cooper does not breach any conduct related rules for a period of two years. Accordingly, Mrs Cooper's licence was suspended in full for a period to commence immediately and to expire on Monday 24 June 2024 on which day she may return to her duties.

Relevant Rules

LR 16 *The Stewards may punish any person who enters upon any stable premises under the control of a trainer without the permission of that trainer.*

AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing

A person must not engage in:

(b) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour;

J P W Prior

Chief Steward -

Hunter North-West Racing Association

Racing NSW