

INQUIRY INTO LICENSED STABLEHAND MS JENNIFER FLOOD'S ALLEGED COMMENTS TOWARDS LICENSED STABLEHAND MS MEREDITH WILSON AT ROSEHILL STABLES ON 28TH JANUARY 2022

21 February 2022

Rosehill Stewards Room

Stewards: C L Albrecht (Chairman)

J J E Earl

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry in relation to the alleged comments of licensed stablehand Ms Jennifer Flood towards licensed stablehand Ms Meredith Wilson at trainer Mr Chis Waller's Rosehill stables during trackwork on 28th January 2022.

Evidence was taken from licensed stablehands, Ms Jennifer Flood, Ms Meredith Wilson, Ms Brooke Jenkins and Ms Jodie Mahoney, Stewards also considered a brief of evidence provided by Racing NSW Investigators.

Ms Flood was charged with the following offence under the Australian Rules of Racing

Charge: AR228(e) Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing

As a licensed stablehand, Ms Jennifer Flood did engage in conduct which threatens, by directing threatening comments towards licensed stablehand Ms Meredith Wilson on the morning of 28th January 2022 at trainer Mr Chris Waller's Rosehill stables.

Plea: Not Guilty

After hearing brief submissions from Ms Flood in defence of the charge. Stewards were of the view that the charge could be sustained and formally found Ms Flood guilty.

Penalty: \$800, with \$400 suspended for a period of two (2) years

When determining penalty, Stewards believed the appropriate penalty for the offence was a fine of \$800, acting under the provisions of AR283(5) suspended \$400 of the fine on the basis that Ms Flood does not breach any similar conduct related rule for a period of two (2) years.

Penalty

The Stewards considered the following matters when determining an appropriate penalty.

- 1. Ms Flood's 34 years' experience in the industry
- 2. Her personal circumstances
- 3. Ms Flood's disciplinary history

Ms Flood was advised of her rights of appeal.

Relevant Rules

AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing

A person must not engage in:

(e) conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person ("other person") on any basis, including but not limited to, a person's race, religion, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, or sexual orientation, preference or identity, while the other person is acting in the course of his or her duties in the racing industry.

AR 283 Penalties

(5) Any person or body authorised by the Rules to penalise a person may in respect of any penalty imposed in relation to the conduct of a person and other than in relation to a period of disqualification or a warning off, suspend the operation of that penalty either wholly or in part for a period not exceeding 2 years, on terms they think fit

C L Albrecht Stipendiary Steward Racing NSW