



STEWARDS REPORT

Inquiry into analyst's findings relative to a urine sample obtained from Eurosay after it competed in the Glen Mia Act Saddlery Maiden Handicap at Thoroughbred Park, Canberra on Friday 1st February 2019.

South East Region – Racing NSW & Canberra Racing Club
Inquiry conducted at Thoroughbred Park, ACT on 6 June 2019.

Committee of Stewards: J D Walshe (Chairman) and C G Polglase

Stewards today inquired into analysts' findings by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) and Racing Analytical Services (RASL) relative to the detection of metformin and hydrochlorothiazide in a sample obtained from Eurosay following its win in the Glen Mia Act Saddlery Maiden Handicap at Thoroughbred Park, Canberra on Friday 1st February 2019.

Evidence was taken from licenced trainer Mr Todd Smart, licensed stablehands Mr Ben McAlister and Mr Howard Rolfe and evidence was obtained via teleconference from licensed stablehand Ms Sativa-Rose Carnegie, Ms Kelly Head – RNSW/CRC Swabbing Official, Dr Adam Cawley - Science Manager Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, Dr Toby Koenig - Chief Official Veterinarian Racing NSW and veterinarian Dr David Woodward - Young Veterinary Hospital.

The following matters were considered during the inquiry:

- 1) That metformin is an anti-hyperglycaemic pharmaceutical, used predominantly as part of the treatment regimen for type 2 diabetes or prediabetes in human medicine. Hydrochlorothiazide is a diuretic medication, often used to treat high blood pressure and swelling due to the accumulation of fluid in tissues. It is sometimes used as a first-line treatment of high blood pressure in human medicine.
- 2) There are no registered veterinary pharmaceuticals containing either metformin or hydrochlorothiazide.
- 3) Two licensed stablehands employed by Mr Smart during the relevant time leading up to Eurosay competing at Thoroughbred Park on 1 February 2019 were using prescribed medications known to contain metformin and hydrochlorothiazide. Each individual, to varying degrees had direct or indirect exposure to Eurosay on the day that it competed.
- 4) The estimated levels of metformin and hydrochlorothiazide detected by the ARFL in the urine sample obtained from Eurosay after it competed at Canberra on 1 February 2019 were not trace levels, nor were they considered to be very high.
- 5) The inquiry was unable to establish that contamination was the cause of the detection of the two substances, principally because the levels of the two substances detected were not

regarded as being trace levels, however it could also not be ruled out as a possible explanation.

6) The opinion of Stewards that Mr Smart had not taken all reasonable precautions in his stable practices to prevent the possibility of contamination.

7) A report provided by Mr M Reid - Analyst, Betting & Compliance Racing NSW, into the wagering activity on Race 8, Canberra, 1 February 2019, did not reveal any integrity concerns of note.

Mr Smart subsequently pleaded guilty to a charge under AR240(2) of presenting Eurosay at Thoroughbred Park on 1 February 2019 where it competed in Race 8 Glen Mia Act Saddlery Maiden Handicap on that day and that gelding provided a post-race urine sample, which, upon analysis, had detected in it the prohibited substances metformin and hydrochlorothiazide. Mr Smart was fined the sum of \$5000.

Stewards acting under the powers of AR240(1), disqualified Eurosay from its first placing in Race 8 Glen Mia Act Saddlery Maiden Handicap at Canberra on 1 February 2019 and amended the placings to:

- 1st Banja Luka
- 2nd Speed Camera
- 3rd Arithmetic
- 4th Duchess Of Windsor
- 5th Metro Missile
- 6th Major Time
- 7th Tredici
- 8th Shespictureperfect
- 9th Kitty Karine
- 10th Austreet

Mr Smart was advised of his right of appeal to the ACT Racing Appeals Tribunal in respect to the penalty imposed under AR240(2) and being the managing owner of Eurosay, also in respect to the Stewards decision to disqualify the gelding under the provisions of AR240(1).

J D Walshe

Chief Steward

South East Region Racing NSW & the Canberra Racing Club

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.