



*INQUIRY & HEARING OF CHARGES ISSUED AGAINST LICENSED TRAINERS MR GORDON YORKE AND MR GARRY WORSNOP FOLLOWING AN INQUIRY IN RELATION TO AN INCIDENT ON SATURDAY 31 JULY 2021.*

**Albury Racing Club**

**03 September 2021**

**Stewards: J A Shultz (Chairman)  
S G Railton  
L J Martin**

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Racing NSW Stewards today continued an inquiry that was opened on Tuesday 17 August 2021 in relation to complaints lodged by licensed trainers Norman Loy and Gordon Yorke relative to an alleged incident at the registered training location of 28 Racecourse Road Albury on the morning of Saturday 31 July 2021. Evidence was taken from licensed trainers Gordon Yorke, Norman Loy, Martin Stein, Kym Davison, Garry Worsnop and licensed stable hands Brian Stein, Joshua Loy and Ray Steer. As a result of the evidence presented during the inquiry, Stewards on 24 August 2021, issued the following charges and today heard the charges detailed below.

## **Charges**

### **Mr. Gordon Yorke**

**AR 228(b) – Misconduct** - On the morning of Saturday 31 July 2021 at 28 Racecourse Road Albury, he did become engaged in a verbal argument with Mr Norman Loy during which time he did aggressively confront Mr Loy whilst he was contained within a horse walker which also contained a number of horses including the 4YO mare FUNKY BELLA which Mr Loy was in the process of removing from the walker.

During this confrontation with Mr Loy, FUNKY BELLA became very fractious at which stage he did forcibly hold shut the gate in a deliberate act to prevent Mr Loy from exiting the horse walker, such actions having the potential to cause serious injury to Mr Loy and FUNKY BELLA. As a result of becoming fractious FUNKY BELLA kicked out on a number of occasions resulting in the mare dislodging the walker gate and sustaining injuries to her near hind leg including a fracture to the lateral splint bone.

**Plea: Guilty**

**Finding: Guilty**

## **Penalty**

In assessing penalty Stewards considered the following matters.

1. Guilty plea.
2. Licensing history and disciplinary record.
3. Seriousness of the breach and the potential of his conduct to compromise the safety of Mr Loy and FUNKY BELLA.

Stewards determined the appropriate penalty be a period of 6-month disqualification. Having regard to Mr Yorke's guilty plea and cooperation with Stewards, a period of 4 ½ month disqualification was issued to commence immediately and to expire on 17 January 2022 on which day he may reapply for a licence. Mr Yorke was advised the period of disqualification would be deferred under subrule 7 to allow him to care for and make arrangements for horses under his care, however he must not start a horse in this period.

## **Garry Worsnop**

**AR 228(b) - Improper Conduct** - When giving evidence at the aforementioned Stewards Inquiry on Tuesday 17 August 2021 he did improperly conduct himself by making an inappropriate comment to Mr Yorke.

**Plea: Guilty**

**Finding: Guilty**

**Penalty: \$400**

Mr Yorke and Mr Worsnop were advised of their right of appeal.

## **Relevant Rules**

### **Division 3 – Conduct detrimental to the interest of racing**

#### **AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing**

*A person must not engage in:*

*(b) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour*

### **Division 4 – Penalties**

#### **AR 283 Penalties**

*(8) Notwithstanding that the commencement of a period of disqualification may be deferred under subrule (7), a trainer must not start a horse in any race from the time of the decision to disqualify that trainer until the expiration of the period of disqualification*

**J A Shultz  
Chief Steward  
Southern District Racing Association**