

THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED

ADDITIONAL STEWARDS' REPORT

TRAINER MR. JON O'CONNOR, JOCKEY RYAN HURDLE & STABLEHAND SAMANTHA CAHILL

MORPHETTVILLE & TRSA OFFICES - THURSDAY 24 JANUARY & MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2019

Stewards inquired into the circumstances surrounding the alleged use of a "rolling spur" at trackwork on Tuesday 15 January 2019 at the Morphettville training facility. The inquiry commenced on Thursday 24 January but was adjourned to 18 February, as Mr. Jon O'Connor was unable to attend on 24 January.

Stewards heard evidence from TRSA Steward Michael Williams and Cadet Steward Tara Vanderstok. In addition, Stewards heard evidence from Trainer Mr. Jon O'Connor, Jockey Ryan Hurdle and Stable Employee Mrs. Samantha Cahill.

After considering the evidence, Stewards issued the following charges:

1. In respect of Jockey Ryan Hurdle;

A charge under AR.88 - the particulars of the charge being that on Tuesday 15/1/19 he had fitted to his left riding boot a rolling spur which rolling spur was not a spur of a type approved by Stewards, during trackwork and while riding the racehorse Louella at Morphettville racecourse. Ryan Hurdle pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$200. He was informed of his right of appeal.

A charge under AR.175(gg) - the particulars of the charge being that on Tuesday 15/1/19, during the course of trackwork at the Morphettville racecourse, at or about 6.30am and after riding the racehorse Louella in trackwork, when asked by Steward Mr Michael Williams, about whether he wore a rolling spur found in the stall area of Trainer Mr Jon O'Connor and whether he handed that rolling spur to Samantha Cahill in the stall area he made a false statement - the statement being to the effect that he had not worn the spur referred to and that he had not handed that spur to Samantha Cahill when by his own admission, at the inquiry he attended on 24/1/19 he had in fact worn the spur referred to, had knowledge of the spur and did hand the spur to Samantha Cahill in the stall area after riding the racehorse Louella. Ryan Hurdle pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$300. He was informed of his right of appeal.

2. In respect of Stable Employee Mrs. Samantha Cahill;

A charge under AR.175(gg) - the particulars of the charge being that on Tuesday 15/1/19, during the course of trackwork at the Morphettville racecourse, at or about 6.30am when attendant to the racehorse Louella after it was ridden in trackwork by Ryan Hurdle when asked by Steward Mr Michael Williams, about whether she was handed a rolling spur by Ryan Hurdle before he dismounted from the racehorse Louella, which spur was found in the stall area of Trainer Mr Jon O'Connor she made a false statement to the effect that she had not been handed the spur referred to when by her own admission at the inquiry she attended on 24/1/19 she had in fact been handed the spur referred to and placed that spur in the stall area. Mrs. Cahill pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$300 which amount was wholly suspended for a period of 12 months provided she does not breach any elements of the relevant rule in that period. She was informed of her right of appeal.

3. In respect of Trainer Mr. Jon O'Connor;

A charge under AR.175(k) - the particulars of the charge being that on Tuesday morning 15/1/19, during the course of trackwork at the Morphettville racecourse his conduct by asking Ryan Hurdle, who was engaged to ride the racehorse Louella, trained by him, in trackwork, to wear a rolling spur while riding the said racehorse led to a breach of the rules - that breach being that Ryan Hurdle rode Louella in trackwork with a spur of a type not approved by Stewards. Mr. O'Connor pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$500. He was informed of his right of appeal.

General comment

In determining the charges and penalties in respect of all three participants, Stewards noted that there was no evidence to suggest that the welfare of Louella had been compromised, however Stewards also noted that in September 2018 a "Notice" was provided to industry participants in "The Races Magazine" in respect of the use and/or possession of spurs which are not approved for use by Stewards.

Johan Petzer
CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS

07 March 2019
