

## HEARING RESULT

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**Distribution:** Chief Executive  
Group Integrity Services, Group Racing  
Group Racing Development  
Credit Controller  
ATA  
TVN  
Office of Racing  
T Moxon – National Drug Register  
Racing Press

**FROM:** Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

**DATE:** 26 October 2012

**SUBJECT:** **HEARING RESULT – TRAINER: STEPHEN HUTCHINSON**

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**Panel** Judge Russell Lewis (Chair), Mr Joshua Bornstein, Mr Darren McGee.

**Appearances** Mr Hutchinson appeared on his own behalf.  
Ms Jacqui Partridge, RV lawyer, appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

**Charge** Breach of AR 178

The particulars of the charge being that a prohibited substance, ibuprofen, was detected in a urine sample taken from the horse *Debecca* subsequent to it winning Race 2 the *Catanach's Jewellers Handicap* (3000m) at Sandown on Wednesday, 22 August 2012.

**Plea** Guilty

**Decision** Mr Hutchinson convicted and fined the amount of \$3,000 - to be paid on or before midnight on 31 January 2013.

Pursuant to AR 177, *Debecca* disqualified as winner of Race 2 the *Catanach's Jewellers Handicap* (3000m) at Sandown on Wednesday, 22 August 2012 and the places amended accordingly:

1<sup>st</sup> – North Lodge, 2<sup>nd</sup> – White Knight (NZ), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Luxuriate (NZ),  
4<sup>th</sup> – Sunset Sioux.

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**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

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**RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE R.P.L. LEWIS, Chairman  
MR J. BORNSTEIN  
MR D. McGEE**

**EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**DECISION**

**TRAINER: STEPHEN HUTCHINSON**

**MELBOURNE**

**FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2012**

MS J. PARTRIDGE appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR S. HUTCHINSON appeared on his own behalf

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CHAIRMAN: In this case, Mr Hutchinson has pleaded guilty to a charge laid under Australian Rule of Racing 178, the substance being ibuprofen. The Board is satisfied that Mr Hutchinson did not have an adequate system in place in relation to the administration of ibuprofen. Indeed, the Board accepts the Stewards' description of his system as being haphazard; that is, Mr Hutchinson failed in his duty as a trainer to ensure that a safe and appropriate system was in place.

He has provided no credible explanation to account for the positive finding. He was aware of the risks associated with administration of ibuprofen which is an aggravating factor. However, the Board takes into account not only his plea of guilty and the fact that he has no prior convictions but also takes into account Mr Hutchinson's means and ability to pay any financial penalty.

In all the circumstances, the Board is of the opinion that a fine of \$3000 is to be levied and is to be paid on or before 31 January 2013, that is, three months within which to pay the amount. Finally, the Board must disqualify Debecca from the subject race.

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