

HEARING RESULT

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Racing Press

FROM: Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

DATE: 29 October 2015

SUBJECT: **HEARING RESULT – TRAINER: ROBBIE GRIFFITHS**

Panel Judge John Bowman (Chair), Mr Chris Fox & Dr June Smith.

Appearances Mr Griffiths appeared on his own behalf.
Mr James Ogilvy appeared on behalf of the stewards.

Charge Breach of AR 178

Subject to AR 178G, when any horse that has been brought to a racecourse for the purpose of engaging in a race and a prohibited substance is detected in any sample taken from it prior to or following its running in any race, the trainer and any other person who was in charge of such horse at any relevant time may be penalised.

The particulars of the charge being that a prohibited substance, ibuprofen, was detected in a post-race urine sample taken from the horse *Roman Fizz* following its win in Race 5 the *APM Group Maiden Plate* (1200m) at Pakenham on 17 July 2015.

Plea Mr Griffiths pleaded 'no contest.'

Decision Mr Griffiths convicted and fined \$1,000 - due on or before 12 November 2015.

Pursuant to AR 177, *Roman Fizz* disqualified as winner of Race 5 the *APM Group Maiden Plate* (1200m) at Pakenham on 17 July 2015 and the places amended accordingly.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE J. BOWMAN, Chairman
MR C. FOX
DR J. SMITH**

EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

DECISION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APM GROUP MAIDEN PLATE
AT PAKENHAM OVER 1200 METRES ON 17/7/15**

TRAINER: ROBBIE GRIFFITHS

MELBOURNE

THURSDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2015

MR J. OGILVY appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR R. GRIFFITHS appeared on his own behalf

CHAIRMAN: Mr Robbie Griffiths, you have pleaded no contest in essence to a charge pursuant to Rule 178 when you brought the horse Roman Fizz to Pakenham racecourse on 17 July 2015 to compete in the APM Group Maiden Plate when it had in its system a prohibited substance, ibuprofen, which was detected in the sample taken from it following the running of the race which it won.

Firstly, the horse is disqualified and we order that the placings be amended accordingly. We appreciate that this is a penalty in itself. There are doubtless unhappy owners, and of course there is the financial penalty paid by you.

Other matters which we have taken into account is that you have cooperated fully with the Stewards from the outset and have at no stage contested the charge. Secondly, you have what Mr Ogilvy on behalf of the Stewards described as a terrific record. You have a deservedly high profile in the industry. Next, we accept the opinion of Dr Stewart that this is a case of contamination. Ibuprofen was not administered in any form to Roman Fizz.

However, this is a strict liability situation. Even having an ibuprofen product in the stable is risky. We accept that you have taken appropriate steps in relation to the product and in relation to operations within the stable. In the circumstances, we are of the opinion that a fine of \$1000 is appropriate.

Unless there is something else to be said in relation to payment of the fine, we order that such be paid within 14 days of this date.
