

# Additional Stewards Report



Stewards: - M. Santoro (Chairman), P. Ryan, E. Scott and H. Matthews

**Tuesday, 19 December 2023**

## Ryan Balfour

Stewards concluded an inquiry into the circumstances relating to alleged conduct on the part of licensed trainer Mr. Ryan Balfour on Saturday, 9 December 2023 at the Morphettville Racecourse.

Stewards considered evidence from Racing SA Compliance Officer, Mr. Andrew Hayles, relating to Ryan Balfour's alleged conduct. Ryan Balfour did not contest any submissions and/or allegations contained therein.

After considering the evidence Stewards charged Ryan Balfour under the rules of racing with the following;

**Charge:** Under Australian Rule of Racing - AR228(b) - a rule which deals with misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour. The particulars of the charge being;

"That Mr. Ryan Balfour, a licensed racehorse Trainer with Racing SA for the racing season 2023/24 on Saturday, 9 December 2023, at the Morphettville Racecourse, and while present in the "tie up stalls" prior to the running of Race 4, engaged in improper conduct by directing expletives at Andrew Hayles, the Racing SA Compliance Officer, in a loud, abusive and aggressive manner, in the presence of, but not limited to, other racing participants/officials."

**Plea:** Ryan Balfour pleaded guilty to the Charge.

In determining penalty Stewards had regard for Ryan Balfour's record in regard to breaches of rules relating to conduct, and noted that he had prior offences. Stewards also took into account the seriousness of the offence, individual and general deterrence and the need for strong penalties for breaches of this type. Stewards further considered his guilty plea, forthrightness, personal circumstances. Stewards also noted his contrition for his conduct, including an apology to Andrew Hayles.

In all the circumstances Stewards imposed the following penalty;

**Penalty** - A suspension of Ryan Balfour's license for a period of 3 months and a fine of \$1500. Stewards ordered, acting under AR283(5), that the 3 month suspension imposed be wholly suspended for a period of 2 years (to apply to the period in which Ryan Balfour holds a license) provided he is not found guilty of a conduct related matter during this period. Ryan Balfour was also advised that a suspended fine of \$1000 from a penalty imposed on 23 July 2022 is now activated and becomes payable.

Ryan Balfour was informed of his right of appeal.

M Santoro  
Chairman of Stewards