31 May 2021

**STAY APPLICATION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**CRAIG HOBAN**

**Date of hearing:** 18 May 2021

**Panel:** Judge Graeme Hicks (Deputy Chairperson).

**Appearances:** Mr Brett Day appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

Mr Lance Justice represented Mr Hoban.

**Stay application:** Stewards suspended all licences held by Mr Hoban for a period of nine (9) months which was backdated to commence on 24 April 2021, the day on which he was first stood down.

**DECISION**

On Tuesday, 18 May 2021 the Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Stewards inquired into the circumstances relating to licensed trainer/driver Mr Craig Hoban failing to provide a urine sample as directed at the Tabcorp Park Melton meeting on 24 April 2021, where he performed the duties of a stablehand.

After hearing further evidence from Mr Hoban, he was issued with a charge under Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 250A(1)(b) which states:

*(1) A person carrying on or purporting to carry on an activity regulated by licence at any time or carrying on official duties at a meeting commits an offence if:*

*(b) he or she refuses or fails to deliver a sample as directed by the Stewards, or tampers with, adulterates, alters, substitutes or in any way hinders the collection of such sample or attempts to do any of those things.*

The particulars of the charge are as above.

The stay application in respect of the penalty set out above was temporarily adjourned to allow both parties to discuss the matter.

The stay application was refused by the Tribunal, the parties consented to the following Stay arrangement terms.

Commencing immediately and expiring at the commencement of the hearing on Tuesday, 1 June 2021:

1. Mr Hoban is permitted to assist with the training, management, care and control of horses under the supervision of a licensed person. This activity may only be performed at the property of 466 Ryans Lane, Toolern Vale Victoria;
2. Mr Hoban is not permitted to drive a horse or operate a vehicle which a horse is attached to;
3. Mr Hoban is not permitted to train a horse in his own right;
4. Mr Hoban is not permitted to perform an activity regulated by licence at any property or address other than 466 Ryans Lane, Toolern Vale Victoria.

The appeal is set down for Tuesday, 1 June 2021 starting at 9.30am.

Mark Howard  
Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal