

## DECISION

### Tasracing Integrity Unit and Olivia Weidenbach

Date of Decision:	25 August 2025
Decision Makers:	Ms Heidi Lester, Mr Zane Turner, Ms Lisa Boyd
Respondent:	Ms Olivia Weidenbach
Rules:	HRR 243, HRR 209, HRR267(1)
Charge One:	<p>HRR 243. <i>A person employed, engaged or participating in the harness racing industry shall not behave in a way which is prejudicial or detrimental to the industry.</i></p> <p>Not Proven.</p>
Charge Two:	<p>HRR 209. <i>A person employed, engaged or participating in the harness racing industry shall not knowingly or recklessly furnish false information to the Controlling Body, the Stewards or anyone else.</i></p>
Plea:	Guilty.
Penalty:	\$1000 fine, with \$500 conditionally suspended for 2 years.
Disciplinary Action:	<p>HRR 267. Disqualification by Conviction</p> <p><i>(1) Subject to sub-rule (2) the Stewards may for such period and on such conditions as they think fit, disqualify a person who is found guilty of a crime or offence in any State or Territory of Australia or in any country which is punishable by a term of imprisonment.</i></p>
Penalty:	18 months' disqualification backdated to <b>8 May 2025</b> , to expire on <b>8 November 2026</b> .

#### Decision:

1. Ms. Weidenbach was at all relevant times a licensed harness trainer and driver with Tasracing.
2. On 12 April 2025 she was arrested at Sydney Airport and charged under section 193(b)(3) the *Crimes Act 1900 NSW, Money Laundering - Recklessly Deal with Proceeds of Crime*, a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment. On 5 June 2025 she pleaded guilty to the charge and

was convicted and sentenced to a two-year Community Corrections Order.

3. On 20 June 2025, she attended the TIU inquiry. Following the inquiry, she was served a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action. She subsequently entered guilty pleas and provided submissions in respect of two charges under the Harness Racing Rules (HRR), and submissions regarding proposed disciplinary action.

4. In relation to Charge One: HRR 243. *A person employed, engaged or participating in the harness racing industry shall not behave in a way which is prejudicial or detrimental to the industry*

It was determined this charge was not proven.

5. In relation to Charge Two: HRR 209. *A person employed, engaged or participating in the harness racing industry shall not knowingly or recklessly furnish false information to the Controlling Body, the Stewards or anyone else*

Ms. Weidenbach's guilty plea was accepted. She was fined \$1000, with \$500 conditionally suspended for 2 years. Should she reoffend under this Rule within that period, the suspended portion will be activated and payable, in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed.

6. In relation to proposed disciplinary action under HRR 267. *Disqualification by Conviction*

*(1) Subject to sub-rule (2) the Stewards may for such period and on such conditions as they think fit, disqualify a person who is found guilty of a crime or offence in any State or Territory of Australia or in any country which is punishable by a term of imprisonment.*

Ms. Weidenbach was disqualified for 18 months backdated to **8 May 2025**, being the date on which her licences were suspended. The disqualification will expire on **8 November 2026**, at which time she may re-apply for a licence.

7. In arriving at Penalty, the Decision Makers have considered all available evidence including:

- Ms Weidenbach's guilty pleas;
- Ms Weidenbach's disciplinary history, which showed no prior breaches of a similar nature. The decision-makers considered this history to warrant a degree of leniency in the penalties imposed;
- Ms Weidenbach's written submissions in respect of the charges and the proposed disciplinary action;
- Ms Weidenbach's personal and professional circumstances (not detailed here for privacy reasons);
- The principles of general and specific deterrence; and
- The objective seriousness of the offences.

8. Further, Ms. Weidenbach

- was advised of her rights of appeal
- received a notice of the Consequences of Disqualification and the penalty for breaching the terms of disqualification, being an automatic recommencement of penalty from the date of the breach
- was advised of the requirements regarding disposal of her horse ownership interests and the transfer of horses from her care as a disqualified trainer

Heidi Lester  
Chief Racing Integrity Officer  
Tasracing Integrity Unit  
26 August 2025