

DECISION

Tasracing Integrity Unit (TIU)

and

Liandra Gray

Date of Decision:	12 September 2025
Decision Makers:	Ms Neil Finnegan, Mr Jason Lincoln, Mr Gavin Griffin
Respondent:	Ms Liandra Gray
Rules:	AR231(1)(a), AR228(a)
Charge One:	<p>AR 231(1)(a): <i>A person must not commit or commission an act of cruelty to a horse, or be in possession of any article or thing which, in the opinion of the Stewards, is capable of inflicting cruelty to a horse.</i></p> <p>The particulars being:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You were at all relevant times, on 13 July 2022, a licensed thoroughbred trainer and trackwork rider, licensed by the Office of Racing Integrity in Tasmania (licence number 4100545) and a person bound by the Australian Rules of Racing.2. On Wednesday, 13 July 2022, whilst lunging the registered thoroughbred, THEBOLT, in the sand roll at Spreyton Racecourse at 13 Racecourse Road in Spreyton, you committed an act of cruelty on that gelding, by striking it with a racing whip, in excess of forty (40) times.
Plea:	Guilty
Penalty:	2 years' disqualification
Charge Two:	<p>AR 228(a): <i>A person must not engage in conduct prejudicial to the image, interests, integrity, or welfare of racing, whether or not that conduct takes place within a racecourse or elsewhere.</i> The particulars being:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You were at all relevant times, on 13 July 2022, a licensed thoroughbred trainer and trackwork rider licensed by the Office of Racing Integrity in Tasmania (licence number 4100545) and a person bound by the Australian Rules of Racing.

2. *Your actions on 13 July 2022 constituted an act of cruelty to a horse and this was prejudicial to the image, integrity and welfare of racing*

Plea: Guilty

Penalty: 6 months' disqualification

Penalty Order: The penalties are to be served concurrently, backdated to 28 May 2025 (the date on which Ms Gray's licences were suspended). The period of disqualification will expire on 28 May 2027.

Decision:

1. Ms. Gray was at all relevant times a licensed thoroughbred trainer and track rider.
2. On 13 July 2022, Ms. Gray took the thoroughbred racehorse *Thebolt* into the sand-roll at the Spreyton Racecourse. While lunging the gelding, she struck it with a race whip on more than forty (40) occasions. This conduct was captured on CCTV. The Office of Racing Integrity subsequently referred the matter to the RSPCA Tasmania.
3. On 28 May 2025 Tasracing Integrity Unit (TIU) suspended Ms. Gray's licenses on an interim basis.
4. On 6 August 2025 at the Devonport Magistrates Court, Ms. Gray was convicted and fined \$2,000 having been found guilty of an offence under the *Animal Cruelty Act 1993*.
5. On 25 August 2025, Ms. Gray attended a TIU inquiry. She was served a Notice of Charge under the Australian Rules of Racing (AR), entered guilty pleas and provided submissions.
6. In relation to charge one Ms. Gray was disqualified for two years. In relation to charge two AR 228(a) she was disqualified for six months. The penalties were ordered to be served concurrently.
7. In arriving at Penalty, the Decision Makers considered all available evidence including:
 - the guilty pleas;
 - Ms. Gray's prior disciplinary history;
 - her written and verbal submissions;
 - her personal and professional circumstances;
 - her demonstrated lack of remorse;
 - the widespread negative media coverage of the industry;
 - the objective seriousness of the offence;
 - the need to maintain public confidence in the integrity and welfare standards of the industry.
8. Further, Ms. Gray
 - 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.

Dated: 17 September 2025