

Stewards Decision

Tasracing Integrity Unit

and

Patrick Dargan

Date of Decision	21/01/2026
Decision Makers	Mr D Tyson (Chairman), Mr T Styles, Mr G Griffin (Panel)
Present	Mr Patrick Dargan
Rule	<i>AR 240(2) Present a Horse to race with a prohibited substance in its system (Arsenic)</i>
Charge	Charge. AR 240(2) That Mr Patrick Dargan trainer of CLIMBEVERYMOUNTAIN did present and race that horse at the TRC meeting on 8 November 2025 when a post-race swab sample taken from it was found to contain a prohibited substance.
Prohibited Substance	Arsenic above the permitted threshold of 0.30 ng/L.
Plea	Guilty
Inquiry Decision	Penalties Imposed
Penalty	Charge under AR 240(2) A \$1000 Fine AR 240(1) as a consequence of CLIMBEVERYMOUNTAIN racing with a prohibited substance in its system it will be disqualified from race 3 at the TRC meeting on 8 November 2025. This will be implemented at the conclusion of any appeal period.
Summary of Facts	Mr. Dargan was the trainer of CLIMBEVERYMOUNTAIN for its preparation leading up to the race at Hobart on 8 November 2025. Mr. Dargan presented the horse to race on that day and was present when the sample was taken and signed the relevant swab documents. At a stable inspection at Mr.Dargans property after the notification of the irregularity in the "A" sample the inspecting stewards noted that posts in its yard were treated and there was evidence that they had been chewed. A certificate from Racing

Analytical Services Limited for the "A" sample and a confirmatory Certificate from The Chem Centre both confirmed the presence of Arsenic in the sample above the permitted threshold. Mr.Dargan although concerned with some circumstances relating to perceived harassment of his stable around the time of the race could not present any facts relating it to this case.

Penalty Discussion

In this matter Stewards take into account Mr. Dargan's forthright evidence and guilty plea. Also taken into consideration is the nature of the substance and the probability of environmental contamination from the Arsenic from the treated posts in the yard. Also considered were Mr. Dargan's personal circumstances both financial as well as his clean record under this rule.

Penalty

\$1000 fine. Mr. Dargan was advised of his right of appeal.

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