

Stewards Decision

Tasracing Integrity Unit

and

Michael Guthrie

Date of Decision	Monday 6 th July 2026
Decision Makers	J W Marsh (Chair), T T Styles, A D Hyde
Rule	AR 228 (b)
Charge	Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing A person must not engage in: (b) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behavior
Plea	Guilty
Penalty	Fine of \$500 and activation of \$500 suspended portion of fine imposed under AR 228 (b) from 11 th May 2025
Summary of Facts	1. Mr. Guthrie was at all relevant times a Tasracing licensed Stable Hand. 2. Prior to the running of race 8 at the Tasmanian Racing Club meeting at Elwick Racecourse on Sunday 21st June 2026, Swabbing Steward Mr. Andrew McDermott witnessed Mr. Guthrie walking towards the horse urinal after collecting a saddle from the weighing area. 3. Mr. Guthrie placed the saddle on the ground prior to entering the horse urinal and moved toward the corner of the stall while undoing his trousers. 4. After exiting the horse urinal, Mr. Guthrie was approached by Mr. McDermott who questioned him as to whether he had just urinated in the stall. Mr. Guthrie acknowledged that he had done so. 5. At an inquiry on Monday 6th July 2026 Mr. Guthrie pleaded guilty to a charge issued pursuant to AR 228 (b) in that as a licensed person he had engaged in unseemly behavior by urinating in the horse urinal prior to the running of Race 8 at the Tasmanian Racing Club meeting on Sunday 21st June 2026.

6. Stewards fined Mr. Guthrie \$500 and activated a \$500 suspended portion of a fine issued for a breach of AR 228 (b) on Sunday 11th May 2025 as the 24 month condition imposed for non-breach of this rule had not been met.

Penalty Discussion

In determining penalty, the Decision Makers carefully considered all available evidence including but not limited to:

- Mr. Guthrie's plea of guilty.
- His genuine remorse for his actions.
- His disciplinary history particularly in misconduct related matters.
- The objective seriousness of the offence including the heightened risk of contamination that may occur from an action such as this.
- The potential damage to the image of racing and the need to maintain public confidence in the integrity standards of the industry.
- That any penalty should be a deterrent both general and specific.

Mr. Guthrie was advised of his right to appeal the Stewards decision to the Tasmanian Racing Appeal Board within 14 days.