

Decision

Tasracing Integrity Unit and Ray Pullen

Date of Decision: 15 July 2026

Decision Makers: Ms Barbara Scott, Mr Arnold Hyde, Mr Trevor Styles

Respondents: Mr. Raymond Pullen

Rule: AHRR 190(1), (2), (4).

Charge: Ray Pullen, you were at all relevant times a harness trainer licensed by Tasracing and a person bound by the Australian Harness Rules of Racing.

On 17 April 2026 you presented SWEET DIXIE to race in Race 3, Typeface Pace at the Hobart harness meeting, when a post-race urine sample taken from SWEET DIXIE, upon analysis, was found to contain the prohibited substance Tapentadol.

Plea: To charges AHRR 190(1), (2) and (4) - Guilty

Penalties: AHRR 190(1), (2), (4) – \$2000

Decision:

1. Mr. Pullen was at all relevant times a licenced harness trainer.
2. On 17 April 2026 Mr Pullen presented SWEET DIXIE to race at the Hobart harness meeting.
3. After the race, a urine swab sample was obtained from SWEET DIXIE, which was sent to Racing Analytical Services (RASL) for testing.
4. On 27 May 2026, the TIU were advised by RASL that urine sample contained Tapentadol.
5. On 15 June 2026, the TIU were advised by RASL that Australian Racing Analytical Services had confirmed the presence of Tapentadol in the reserve urine sample.
6. In relation to AHRR 190(1), (2), (4), Mr Pullen was fined \$2000.
7. Following submissions from Mr Pullen, representing the owners of SWEET DIXIE, stewards disqualified the horse from Race 3 at Hobart on 17 April 2026 and amended the placings accordingly.

8. In arriving at Penalty, the Decision Makers considered all available evidence including:
 - the guilty plea for the presentation offence
 - Mr Pullen's prior disciplinary history;
 - his verbal submissions;
 - his personal circumstances;
 - that Tapentadol is a human medication that has no place in the harness racing industry
 - the need to maintain a level playing field.
9. Mr Pullen was advised of his rights of appeal.

Dated: 16 July 2026.