

Stewards Decision

Tasracing Integrity Unit

and

Rowan Hamer

Date of Decision Tuesday 21st July 2026

Decision Makers J W Marsh (Chair), T T Styles, A D Hyde

Rule AR 251 (1)(a)(i)

Charge **Possession of prohibited substance/equipment at race meeting**

A person must not, without the written permission of Stewards, have in his or her possession:

(a) On a racecourse where a race meeting is being conducted;

Any prohibited substance, or a syringe, needle, naso-gastric tube or other instrument that could be used:

(i) To administer a prohibited substance to a horse

Plea Guilty

Penalty Fine of \$750

Summary of Facts

1. Mr. Hamer was at all relevant times a Tasracing Licensed Thoroughbred Trainer and as such a person bound by the Australian Rules of Racing.
2. On 5th June 2026 Tasracing Integrity Unit Manager for Investigations and Animal Welfare, Ms. Kylie Batten attended Spreyton Racecourse following information received that medication and associated medical equipment were being stored in an unsecured chest within the tie-up stall area.
3. Ms. Batten found a chest and observed it to be unsecured. The same chest had previously been witnessed unsecured by Steward Mr. David. Luttrell indicating this as not being the first time the chest was left accessible at the racecourse.
4. When examining the chest, Ms. Batten discovered a number of empty bottles of Acepromazine each bearing the name "Hamer" on the label. Additionally, Ms. Batten located equipment used for administration, namely needles and syringes.

5. Mr. Hamer was subsequently interviewed at his property at 17 Reeves Road, Lower Barrington. Mr. Hamer acknowledged that the chest and the contents located at Spreyton Racecourse belonged to him. He stated that he uses Acepromazine on occasions for young horses that require assistance to settle.
6. At an inquiry held on 21st July 2026 Mr. Hamer again confirmed to the panel that the chest and contents belonged to him and had been located at the Racecourse for a period of time which included race days.
7. Mr. Hamer pleaded guilty to a charge issued pursuant to AR 251 (1)(a)(i). The particulars of the charge were that Mr. Hamer did have in his possession at Spreyton racecourse, at times when race meetings were being conducted, syringes and needles that could be used to administer a prohibited substance to a horse.
8. Stewards fined Mr. Hamer \$750 for the breach of AR 251(1)(a)(i).

Penalty Discussion

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

- Mr. Hamer's plea of guilty.
- His disciplinary history particularly no previous breaches of the relevant rule.
- His verbal submissions and personal circumstances.
- That any penalty should be a deterrent both general and specific.
- Penalty precedents for similar breaches.

Mr. Hamer was advised of his right to appeal the Stewards decisions to the Tasmanian Racing Appeal Board.