

Geraldine TC 1 February 2020 - R 10 (request for a ruling) - Chair, Mr S Ching

Rules:

[834\(7\) - Request for a Ruling](#)

Stipendiary Steward(s):

Mr S Renault - Stipendiary Steward

Name(s):

Mr R Bromley - Raceday Secretary

Facts:

Prior to the running of Race 10, an information was filed by Stipendiary Steward, Mr S Renault, requesting a ruling under Rule 834(7) to determine whether ARMA TWOSPOONS should be able to start after being scratched on the HRNZ website for a period of time today.

Rule 834 (7) provides as follows:

(7) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the preceding provisions to this rule or elsewhere in these Rules, where, in relation to a horse which has been accepted for a race and which in fact has not been scratched from that race, the Secretary or other official or servant of the Club concerned has notified the New Zealand Racing Board that the horse has been scratched from that race and the Board has acted on that notification, such horse shall be deemed to be scratched from that race and may not be reinstated without the prior permission of the Chairman or his duly appointed deputy.

Decisions:

Mr Renault explained that in Race 10 on today's card, horse number 5 BEAU MAJOR was a late scratching on veterinary advice at approximately 10am. He said Mr Bromley then informed the TAB and also scratched the horse on the system. He informed the TAB that the horse to be scratched was number 5 BEAU MAJOR however when he entered the scratching into the HRNZ system he mistakenly put the scratching next to number 10 ARMA TWOSPOONS and as a result ARMA TWOSPOONS was shown on the HRNZ website as a scratching.

He said that the horse was scratched on the HRNZ site for approximately 20 minutes. Mr Renault said the horse was never scratched from the TAB website and punters were not affected by this mistake. Mr Renault said he was alerted to the situation when Ms E Miller from the TAB received a phone call from TAB headquarters querying the scratching of ARMA TWOSPOONS on the HRNZ website.

Mr Renault said that contact was made with Chief Stipendiary Steward, Mr N Ydgren, who in turn made contact with Mr Peter Jensen, CEO of HRNZ, who gave permission for ARMA TWOSPOONS to be reinstated on the HRNZ website as a starter in race 10.

Mr Bromley explained that the mistake on the HRNZ website was noticed and rectified within 18 minutes at just after 10am in the morning.

After consideration the Committee were satisfied that the scratching of ARMA TWOSPOONS was accidental and the effect on the betting public was minimal, if not negligible, as the HRNZ site was not a betting forum. We were further satisfied that the requirements under the rule were carried out with permission by Mr P Jensen giving his approval of the reinstatement of the horse on the HRNZ website. We therefore ruled that ARMA TWOSPOONS could take its place in race 10 at today's meeting.

The Committee ruled that ARMA TWOSPOONS could start in race 10 at today's meeting.