



Standardbred Official Ruling

Ruling Number 1583815

Licence No.: HPE2792

Date: January 19, 2022

Flamboro Downs

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *HORSE RACING LICENCE ACT, 2015*,
S.O. 2015, c.38, Sched. 9;
AND IN THE MATTER OF GORDON MCDONNELL**

On September 29, 2021, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario "AGCO" was advised of a positive reading for the Class 1 drug oxymorphone, for the urine sample Test Tag 33 21259004. The sample was obtained from the Standardbred Horse, "LAILA BLUE", (tattoo #5R800), which finished first (1st), in the third (3rd) race on September 16, 2021 at Flamboro Downs Raceway. LAILA BLUE was trained by Gordon McDonnell, "MCDONNELL".

TAKE NOTICE that based on the above MCDONNELL is found to have violated 9.09(b), 26.02.01, 26.02.02 and 26.02.03(c) of the Rules of Standardbred Racing. In accordance with 6.04, 9.08.02 of the Rules of Standardbred Racing and Policy Directive 1-2018, MCDONNELL is hereby fully suspended for ONE YEAR, (February 4, 2022 to February 3, 2023, inclusive) and issued a monetary penalty of TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) dollars.

The suspension of MCDONNELL is effective for horses racing in the Province of Ontario. During the suspension, MCDONNELL is denied access to Association grounds with the exception of grandstand privileges. During the suspension, any horses owned in whole or in part by MCDONNELL, are ineligible to race. Sales or transfers must be met with the Judges' approval. Horses trained by MCDONNELL may be transferred to another trainer in good standing and in accordance with Policy Directive No. 2-2008.

In accordance with 18.08.03 of the Rules of Standardbred Racing, LAILA BLUE is hereby declared disqualified for all purposes with the exception of Pari-Mutuel Wagering and all purse monies must be returned. The revised order of finish for Race 3, at Flamboro Downs Raceway on September 16, 2021 is as follows:

1 st	#2	Esprit Dequipe
2 nd	#6	Temagami Seelster
3 rd	#5	Kounnis
4 th	#3	Casino Classic
5 th	#4	Dream All Night

#1 Laila Blue – disqualified

The following terms are added to MCDONNELL's license: two years of probation commencing (February 4, 2023 to February 3, 2025, inclusive), pursuant to 6.04 of the Rules of Standardbred Racing and Policy Directive No. 3-2008:

1. The Licensee is required to complete the AGCO Equine Medication Use and Awareness Program before reinstatement;
2. The Licensee shall keep the peace and be of good behaviour;
3. The Licensee may be subject to a Notice of Proposed Order in addition to any penalty imposed by the AGCO Racing Officials for any breach of the terms of their license.

BY ORDER OF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Stone", written over a horizontal line.

Brent Stone
Director, Regulatory Compliance Branch