



Standardbred Official Ruling

Ruling Number 2473591

Licence No.: HPZ8766

Date: December 19, 2023

The Raceway at Western Fair District

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

On May 2, 2023, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (the "AGCO") was advised of a positive reading for the Class 3 substance cobalt at 158ng/ml, in the urine sample with Test Tag #49 23114 004. The sample was obtained from the Standardbred horse "MANHATTAN ARTIST" (tattoo number 7VN82), which finished second (2nd) in the third (3rd) race, on April 24, 2023, at the Raceway at Western Fair District. The trainer of record for MANHATTAN ARTIST was Anita Ouellette (Licence no. HPZ8766) ("OUELLETTE").

This is a second violation occurring within three (3) years of the first violation but in a different class of drug, and not within Class I and Class II drugs.

On June 25, 2021, the AGCO was advised of a positive reading for the Class 4 substance altrenogest, in the sample with Test Tag # 37 21165 011. The sample was obtained from the Standardbred horse "ABOUT A BOY" (tattoo number 4M570), which finished second (2nd) in the ninth (9th) race, on June 14, 2021, at Grand River Raceway and was subsequently disqualified and penalties were assessed as per ruling number 1262056. ABOUT A BOY was trained by OUELLETTE.

TAKE NOTICE that OUELLETTE and the AGCO have entered into a settlement agreement and agree that OUELLETTE has violated rules 9.09(b), 26.02.01, 26.02.02, and 26.02.03(c) of the Rules of Standardbred Racing (the "Rules"). OUELLETTE has agreed that there shall be no appeal to the Horse Racing Appeal Panel of this Ruling.

In accordance with rule 9.08.02 of the Rules and Policy Directive No. 1-2018, OUELLETTE is hereby fully suspended for a period of sixty (60) days. The first thirty (30) days of the suspension shall be served from December 19, 2023, to January 18, 2024. The remaining thirty (30) days of the suspension shall be stayed for a period of two (2) years commencing on January 19, 2024. OUELLETTE is hereby also issued a monetary penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000), with payment of one thousand five hundred (\$1,500) dollars of that amount stayed for a period of two (2) years commencing on January 19, 2024.

If OUELLETTE commits an equine drug violation in relation to a Class 1, 2 or 3 drug or non-therapeutic substance or TCO2 contrary to the Rules before two (2) years commencing on January 19, 2024, the above-noted stays of thirty (30) days of the suspension and the payment of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) of the monetary penalty will be lifted and OUELLETTE will be required to serve the stayed portion of the suspension and pay the stayed portion of the monetary penalty on dates to be determined by AGCO Race Officials.

If OUELLETTE is compliant with the equine drug Rules and requirements in relation to Class 1, 2 and 3 drugs and non-therapeutic substances and TCO2 before two (2) years commencing on January 19, 2024, the stayed portion of the suspension and stayed portion of the monetary penalty will be waived.

TAKE NOTICE that all horses owned in whole or in part by OUELLETTE are suspended and are not eligible to race during the above-noted suspension period, in accordance with rule 6.13.01 of the Rules. Any horse trained by OUELLETTE may, with the consent of the AGCO Race Officials, be released to another trainer, in accordance with rule 26.08 of the Rules and Policy Directive No. 2-2008.

In accordance with rule 9.13 of the Rules, MANHATTAN ARTIST is hereby declared disqualified from race 3 at the Raceway at Western Fair District on April 24, 2023, for all purposes except for pari-mutuel wagering. The revised order of finish for race 3 at the Raceway at Western Fair District on April 24, 2023, is as follows:

1st #1 ALL ATTITUDE
2nd #4 MORNING WATCH
3rd #3 INKED IN PINK
4th #8 ADMIT ONE
5th #6 HUGH HEFF
6th #2 VALENTINO OF LEDA
7th #7 RANGERS SHADOW

#5 MANHATTAN ARTIST – disqualified

In accordance with rules 9.13 and 18.08.01 of the Rules, all purse monies affected by the disqualification of MANHATTAN ARTIST shall be returned for redistribution within 15 days. In accordance with rule 6.01(a) of the Rules, OUELLETTE is prohibited from accessing association grounds, including the “Winner’s Circle”, with the exception of the grandstand, while her licence is suspended.

In accordance with rule 6.01(a) of the Rules, OUELLETTE is prohibited from accessing association grounds, including the “Winner’s Circle”, with the exception of the grandstand, while her licence is suspended.

OUELLETTE is required to complete the AGCO Equine Medication Use and Awareness Program before reinstatement.

BY ORDER OF

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a cursive 'C' and a long horizontal flourish.

Katherine Cunningham
Deputy Registrar