

MR DEAN ATKINSON - INQUIRY COMMENCED

31 Jul 2026

Harness Racing New South Wales (HRNSW) Stewards commenced an Inquiry yesterday into a report received from the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory (ARFL) that Cocaine was detected in the post-race urine sample taken from KAIRAKI DELIGHT NZ following its win in race 5, the WOODLANDS STUD - YOUR GENETIC EDGE PACE (1730 metres) conducted at Bathurst on Wednesday 27 August 2025.

The reserve portion and control solution were confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in Victoria.

Trainer Mr Dean Atkinson and his legal representative Mr Peter Morris (Jnr) appeared at the Inquiry by way of audio/visual technology.

Mrs Nicole Atkinson, the Managing Owner of the horse KAIRAKI DELIGHT NZ, was also in attendance at the Inquiry.

Mr Atkinson provided evidence in relation to his registered training establishment and the horse KAIRAKI DELIGHT NZ.

General Manager of the ARFL Mr John Keledjian and Professor Shelli McAlpine attended and provided evidence to the Inquiry.

In addition, the certificates of analysis in relation to the urine sample and exhibits obtained from Mr Atkinson's registered training establishment were entered into evidence. HRNSW Regulatory Veterinarian Dr Martin Wainscott also provided evidence to the Inquiry.

HRNSW Stewards have adjourned the Inquiry to a date to be determined so that further analysis of the subject urine sample can be conducted by ARFL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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