

Licensee: THOMSEN, PAULA K.  
Date of Birth: 03/29/1973 License Number: 207057

**IN AND BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEWARDS  
AT HARRAH'S COLUMBUS RACES  
NEBRASKA RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION  
STATE OF NEBRASKA**

DATE AUGUST 31, 2024  
RULING; 2024-HCN-01

IN THE MATTER OF PAULA K. THOMSEN (TRAINER)  
4003 5th STREET EAST  
COLUMBUS, NE. 68601  
D.O.B. 03/29/1973

Now on this 29th day of August comes before the Board of Stewards at Harrah's Columbus Races the complaint against TRAINER, PAULA K. THOMSEN. Ms. Thomsen, after having personally notified of a hearing scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at Harrah's Columbus Races in Columbus, Nebraska did appear in person, and was represented by Legal Counsel, Ms. Lynne McNally. Ms. Thomsen requested and was granted that her hearing be held in conjunction with the Hearing for OWNER/TRAINER, RICHARD DEAN BLISS.

After hearing the testimony and viewing the evidence, the Board of Stewards enters the following Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law and Order.

**FINDING OF FACT**

1. Paula K. Thomsen was issued an Trainer License by the Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission on January 11, 2024, valid through December 31, 2024.
2. Paula K. Thomsen was the Trainer of Record for the three year old gelding "ELI THE MAN" on Friday May 3, 2024 at Fonner Park.
3. Paula K. Thomsen did enter and race or cause to be entered and raced, "ELI THE MAN", Third (3rd) place finisher in the Fourth (4th) race at Fonner Park on Friday May 3, 2024.
4. On May 17, 2024, Industrial Laboratories, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, reported in a Certificate of Analysis signed by Petra Hartmann, Director-Drug Testing Services, that Blood Sample E500959, collected at Fonner Park on May 3, 2024, confirmed the presence of the Prohibited substance 7-CARBOXYCANNABIDIOL.
5. On May 22, 2024, Dr. Dave Radechel, State Commission Veterinarian for the Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission, issued a Report of Medication Violation, stating that sample Tag Number E500959, Collected from "ELI THE MAN", Third (3rd) place finisher in the Fourth (4th) race at Fonner Park on Friday May 3, 2024, Trained by, Paula K. Thomsen tested positive for the Prohibited Substance 7-CARBOXYCANNABIDIOL.
6. 7-CARBOXYCANNABIDIOL is commonly called and referred to in the hearing as CBD.
7. An E-mail to Paula K. Thomsen from Daniel Cook at USDA on August 14, 2024 states a single sample of unmarked Hay was analyzed for CANNABINOIDS. It was found to be Positive for CANNABINOIDS.
8. The Testing of the hay sample was not analyzed by a Testing Laboratory approved by the Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission and was not under the supervision of the Nebraska State Racing and Gaming Official Veterinarian.

**CONCLUSION OF LAW**

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The fact that "ELI THE MAN", Plasma or Serum Sample # E500959, Third (3rd) place finisher in the Fourth (4th) race on Friday May 3, 2024 at Fonner Park, Grand Island, Nebraska tested Positive for the Prohibited Substance 7-CARBOXYCANNABIDIOL is a Violation of Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission Rule, Title 294, Chapter 18, Rule Number 18.011 which reads.....

**The trainer is the absolute insurer of the condition of horses entered in an official workout or race and is responsible for the presence of any prohibited drug or medication, or other prohibited substance in such horses. A positive test for a prohibited substance, or the presence of permitted medication in excess of maximum allowable levels, as reported by an official laboratory approved by the commission shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this rule.**

The Board of Stewards at Harrah's Columbus Races does find Trainer Paula K. Thomsen to be in Violation of Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission Rule 18.011 for a horse in her care and custody "ELI THE MAN", sample # E500959, Third (3rd) place finisher in the Fourth (4th) race on Friday May 3, 2024 at Fonner Park testing Positive for the prohibited substance 7-CARBOXYCANNABIDIOL. Trainer Paula K. Thomsen was the Absolute Insurer of the condition of "ELI THE MAN" at Fonner Park on Saturday May 4, 2024.

#### ORDER

Therefore, it is the Order of the Board of Stewards at Harrah's Columbus Races that Trainer Paula K. Thomsen, D.O.B. 03/29/1973 shall be and is hereby fined the sum of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (500.00).

Furthermore, the three year old gelding "ELI THE MAN" is ordered **Disqualified** from Third (3rd) place and shall remain unplaced in the Fourth (4th) race at Fonner Park on Friday May 3, 2024.

The New Order of Finish is as follows:

1st #4 "BEST UP"  
2ND #7 "ROPE BURN"  
3RD #9 "KHOZANTHEDESTROYER"  
4TH #3 "CITY SLICKEN"  
5TH #1 "COLONEL PUNCH"  
6TH #8 "SPARKY TIME"  
7TH #2 "WHEELER COUNTY KID"  
SCRATCHED #6 "WANN BOMBER"  
UNPLACED #5 "ELI THE MAN"

#### RIGHT OF APPEAL

##### 7:00 DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

7.001.01 A person or persons may request review by the Racing Commission when penalized or disciplined under the law or under these rules.

7.001.01A A final appeal in the case of any person penalized or disciplined by the stewards of an association racing under a license issued by the Commission, may be taken to the Commission.

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7.001.01B Such appeal must be filed in writing at the office of the Commission within five (5) days of the date of said penalty or imposition of said discipline.

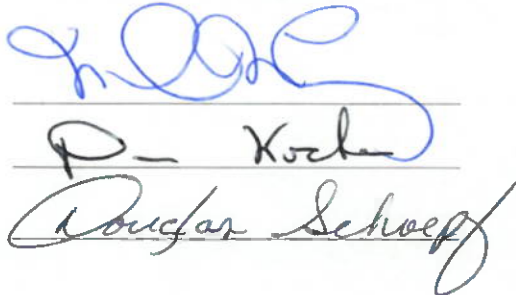
7.001.01C The request shall be signed by the person making it and must set forth reasons why said hearing should be granted.

7.001.01D Any applicant for a hearing will be heard in person or by counsel or the case may be submitted in writing.

7.001.01E All complaints and requests to the Commission must be in writing and all papers filed with the Commission shall become the property of the Commission.

7.001.01F An appeal from a decision of a racing official to the Commission shall not affect such decision until the appeal has been acted upon by the Commission unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction (See Chapter 12-001.02 and Revised Statutes of Nebraska Chapter 2, Article 12).

By Order of  
The Board of Stewards



Douglas Schoep