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■ HARVEY SIDELINED, GEHRIG TRAINS WELL: PAGE 54 ■ LAD OF THE MANOR CHASING COX PLATE: PAGE 52

Picture: HEATH MISSEN



BRETT Cavanaugh made a dream start at his new racing home, Albury, yesterday when he saddled up four winners from as many starters at the TAB meeting. Cavanaugh, who has relocated from Tocumwal, won the Gold Cup Prelude with Feed 'N' Water, pictured with Mick Travers in the saddle, and City Hcp Prelude winner Tex Tycoon. Cavanaugh will be now aiming for success at the Albury Gold Cup Carnival which will be held on April 14 and 15. David Johnston's report — Page 52

CLUBS FINED

ABCA delivers on pledge to end bad behaviour

By BRETT KOHLHAGEN



ALBURY and Border officials yesterday delivered on their threat to crack down on poor behaviour by slapping SS and A and North Albury with \$1000 fines over last month's alleged fight between players.

In the stiffest penalty handed out in the competition's history, the ABCA found the clubs had breached the code of conduct during a fiery incident after their clash at Bilson Park on February 26.

No players were reported due to a lack of evidence from witnesses at the

ground including umpires Graeme Coonan and John Bailey.

SS and A president Pat Gilson reacted angrily to the fine, saying the club would take the matter further at tomorrow night's ABCA presidents meeting.

"We are shocked," Gilson said.

"I'm not going to say any more at the moment, but we aren't happy and it will be discussed."

ABCA spokesman Cameron Diffey said the board of management discussed the penalty for two hours after hearing a report from investigations officer Ian McDonald late last week.

"The ABCA will not tolerate any breach of the code of conduct or the laws of cricket and will always take a strong stance against serious breaches such as these," Diffey said.

"We acknowledge that it's a tough penalty, but clubs and players must realise they have a duty to the game.

"People have said that these sort of things happen in football all the time, but this is cricket, not football, and

we aren't going to put up with this sort of behaviour."

North Albury president Rob Williams accepted the fine and immediately ruled out appealing.

"I agree with the ABCA's stance on conduct and behaviour and doing something about it," Williams said.

"I thought the penalty might have been a little harsh, \$500 might have been fairer, but we will accept it.

"The association is trying to clean things up."

Meanwhile, SS and A has been dealt further blows with Sam Jubber and Murray Leahy being suspended

for one match for incidents against St Patrick's in the semi-finals at Alexandra Park on March 19 and 20.

Leahy pleaded guilty to uttering a loud expletive when asked to change position, while Jubber received the penalty for kicking down the stumps.

Their suspensions come after club-mates Brendan Keighran and Jason Pierpoint were outed during the home and away series.

Wodonga Raiders pair Josh Beard and Nathan Salske were also suspended for six and one match respectively in one of the busiest seasons at the tribunal in several years.