

Appeal decision

Hearing Date: 26 April 2016

Decision Date: 26 April 2016

Code of racing: Thoroughbred

Appeal panel: Mr B. Miller (chair), Mr D. Kays and Mr P. James.

Appearances: Jockey J. Taylor appeared on his own behalf.
Mr A. Reardon, Chairman of Stewards, appeared on behalf of the stewards.

Decision being appealed: Suspension of licence to ride in races for a period of 11 days - AR137(a).

Appeal result: Dismissed. Penalty varied to a 7 days suspension of licence to ride in races.

Extract of proceedings – in the matter of the Hogs Breath Café Benchmark 75 Handicap over 2030 metres at Doomben on 2 April 2016: Jockey J. Taylor

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Taylor, we have viewed film and we have listened to what you have had to say. Can we make the comment that, in the opinion of this Board, there is no doubt that you were in a 4- wide position early and then eased into a position something between 3 and 4 wide. The difficulty there is that whilst you say the video does not give a proper head-on shot, it is difficult if you are in a 3 or 3½ position wide to enable 3 horses inside you to manoeuvre themselves adequately. There has been interference. We believe it is not caused by the horse that is immediately in front of you, and we think whilst it is minimal interference – and we accept that – we believe that the conviction for the charge stands.

On the other hand, we have looked at the penalty of 11 days, and we have considered what you said about your very good record. We agree with that. The stewards identified that they gave you a dispensation of 2 meetings from the standard 13. We are not certain that this interference was to such a magnitude as to warrant 13 or 11 days and we are prepared to reduce it to 7 days.

The penalty therefore is reduced to 7 days. That is the decision of the Board.

Further right of appeal information: The Appellant and the Steward may appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) within **28 days of the date of this decision**. Information in relation to appeals to QCAT may be obtained by telephone on (07) 3247 3302 or via the Internet at www.qcat.qld.gov.au