



APPEAL RESULT

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FROM: Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

DATE: 14 September 2012

SUBJECT: **APPEAL HEARING RESULT – JOCKEY: RHYS MCLEOD**

Panel Judge Russell Lewis (Chair), Professor Raymond Harbridge, Mr Graeme Ward.

Appearances Mr Des O’Keeffe appeared on behalf of Mr McLeod.
Mr Robert Cram appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

At Flemington on Saturday, 8 September 2012 jockey Rhys McLeod was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on his mount *Right to Roam* in Race 2 the *Henry Bucks Best Dressed Stakes* (1400m).

The careless riding being that near 700 metres he directed his mount out when insufficiently clear of *Awesome Bro* and as a result hampered that horse and forced it wider on the track.

Rhys McLeod had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Saturday, 8 September 2012 and to expire at midnight on Sunday, 16 September 2012 - a total of 8 race meetings (2 metro, 6 country).

In assessing penalty Stewards were of the view that the incident qualified for the low range category of carelessness and took into account his good record.

A Notice of Appeal against **the severity of the penalty** was lodged on Tuesday, 11 September 2012. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: **Appeal allowed.**

Penalty varied – the period of suspension to now expire at midnight on Friday, 14 September 2012 (6 race meetings).

**TRANSCRIPT OF
PROCEEDINGS**

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE R.P.L. LEWIS, Chairman
PROF R. HARBRIDGE
MR G. WARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HENRY BUCKS BEST DRESSED PLATE
OVER 1400 METRES**

JOCKEY: RHYS McLEOD

MELBOURNE

FRIDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

MR R. CRAM appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR D. O'KEEFFE appeared on behalf of the Appellant

CHAIRMAN: This is a case where the vexed question of what is meant by "low range" has been raised again. The Board has tackled this on a number of occasions over the years and has been satisfied that the low range has been categorised as in the range of seven to 10.

That being the case, the Board is not of the view that this was at the top of the low range and, further, that although Mr McLeod reserved his plea, the transcript clearly shows that he made an admission that he was careless, even on page 2 of the transcript.

In all the circumstances, the Board feels that it is only appropriate that the penalty be varied. The Board is prepared to vary the suspension to expire at midnight this day.
