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APPEAL DECISION

CLAYTON DOUGLAS and

RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

Date of Hearing: 12 April 2017

Heard By: Judge Bowman (Chair).

Appearances: Mr Rob Montgomery appeared on behalf of the stewards.

Mr Douglas appeared on his own behalf, assisted by Matt Hyland.

At Bendigo on Tuesday 11 April 2017, jumps jockey Clayton Douglas pleaded guilty to a charge under LR 62(9)(a) which relevantly states that:

The rider of a horse in a hurdle or steeplechase race or official trial must retire the horse from the race or official trial immediately where: (ii) the horse is not in contention and is fatigued.

The particulars of the charge are that Mr Douglas failed to retire his mount, *Oregon's Girl*, out of the race when it was out of contention and jumped the second last obstacle before retiring the mare from the event.

Mr Douglas had his permit to ride in jumps/highweight races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Tuesday, 11 April 2017 and to expire at midnight on Saturday, 15 April 2017 – a total of 2 jumps races.

In assessing penalty Stewards took into account his guilty plea and record.

A Notice of Appeal against **the severity of the penalty** was lodged on Wednesday, 12 April 2017. A stay of proceedings was not required.

DECISION: Appeal dismissed. Penalty to remain standing.