

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

APPEAL DECISION

CRAIG WILLIAMS

and

RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

Date of Hearing: 18 October 2016

Panel: Judge Bowman (Chair), Stephen Curtain, Raymond Harbridge

Appearances:Mr Terry Bailey appeared on behalf of the stewards.Mr Des O'Keefe appeared on behalf of Mr Craig Williams.

At Caulfield on Saturday 15 October Craig Williams was found guilty of a charge of careless riding, pursuant to AR137(a), on his mount *Real Love* in Race 8 the *BWM Caulfield Cup* (Group 1, 2400m).

The careless riding being that a short distance after the start he permitted his mount to shift in causing crowding to Sir Isaac Newton (GB), which shifted in and in turn caused severe crowding to Scottish (IRE) and Sacred Master (NZ).

Mr Williams had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight October 15th and to expire at midnight October 25th, a total of twelve race meetings (two metropolitan, ten provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards took into account the carelessness was in the mid-range and that he did make some effort to straighten, albeit too late.

A Notice of Appeal against **the decision and severity of the penalty** was lodged on Sunday, 16 October 2016.

A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: Appeal dismissed. Penalty to remain standing.

Ashleigh Ellen Acting Registrar - Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board