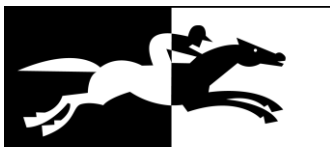


RACING VICTORIA LIMITED
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RACING APPEALS AND
DISCIPLINARY BOARD



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APPEAL RESULT

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FROM: Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

DATE: 10 February 2010

SUBJECT: **APPEAL HEARING RESULT – JOCKEY: CRAIG WILLIAMS**

Panel Judge Russell Lewis (Chair), Mr Geoff Ellis, Mr Ron Taylor

Appearances Mr Terry Bailey, Chairman of Stewards, appeared on behalf of the Stewards.
Mr Des O’Keeffe appeared on behalf of Craig Williams.

At Caulfield on Saturday, 6 February 2010 jockey Craig Williams was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on his mount *Carbon Trader* in Race 1 the *Selangor Turf Club Handicap* (2000m).

The careless riding being that passing the 300m he permitted his mount to shift in whilst riding along with the whip when not clear to a point near the 250m where *Old Jock* clipped the heels of *Carbon Trader* and almost fell.

Craig Williams had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight Monday, 8 February 2010 and to expire at midnight Friday, 19 February 2010 - a total of 12 meetings, (3 metropolitan, 9 provincial). In assessing penalty, Stewards were of the view that the carelessness qualified for the mid-range category and made some allowance for the shift from *No Jurisdiction* prior to the incident occurring. As a result of this incident, *Capecover* which was following, was inconvenienced and had to be steadied to avoid *Old Jock*.

A Notice of Appeal against **the decision and severity of the penalty** was lodged on Sunday, 7 February 2010. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: Appeal allowed.

Georgie Curtis
Registrar - Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE R.P.L. LEWIS, Chairman
MR G. ELLIS
MR R. TAYLOR**

EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

DECISION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SELANGOR TURF CLUB HANDICAP
OVER 2000 METRES**

JOCKEY: CRAIG WILLIAMS

MELBOURNE

WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2010

MR T. BAILEY appeared on behalf of the Stewards

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

CHAIRMAN: The key to this appeal is how one interprets the films, in particular the head-on view. There is no doubt that Danny Nikolic's mount, No Jurisdiction, shifted out slightly, thereby causing a narrowing of the gap between Craig Williams' mount and No Jurisdiction. Jason Maskiell's mount was in that gap, and at that point in time, the Board is of the opinion that Maskiell's mount was under pressure and was not racing generously. What happened after that is the nub of the appeal.

The Stewards' case is that Maskiell was entitled to keep going forward and that Craig Williams caused Maskiell's mount to clip his heels because Williams permitted his mount to shift in. The appellant's case is that Old Jock was in the run between Carbon Trader and No Jurisdiction but was in the situation where there was nowhere to go; that is, there was not a run between Carbon Trader and Bolle.

The Stewards carry the onus of satisfying the Board on the balance of probabilities that Craig Williams' mount shifted, thereby contributing substantially to Old Jock clipping heels. The Board is of the opinion that not only did Danny Nikolic contribute to the incident but that Maskiell put himself into a situation where there was a real risk that his mount would suffer interference. The circumstances are such that the Board has been left in a position where it is not satisfied to the requisite standard that Craig Williams' mount did shift in. Accordingly, the appeal is allowed.

END OF EXTRACT
