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## **DECISION**

### **RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS *and* BRANDON STOCKDALE**

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**Date of Hearing:** 14 August 2019

**Panel:** Mr Brian Forrest (Deputy Chair)

**Appearances:** Ms Charlotte Landy appeared on behalf of the Stewards.  
Mr Paul O'Sullivan appeared on behalf of Mr Brandon Stockdale.

**Charge 1:** AR 228(b)  
*A person must not engage in:*  
...  
*(a) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour*

**Particulars:** On 12 February 2019, Mr Stockdale entered a training property in Cranbourne and stole horse rugs and headcollars as well as damaging a CCTV camera on the property.

**Charge 2:** AR 232(i)  
*A person must not:*  
...  
*(i) give any evidence at an interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal which is false or misleading.*

**Particulars:** On 25 February 2019, Mr Stockdale attended an interview with the Stewards regarding a report of the incident that occurred on 12 February 2019. Contrary to AR 232(i), some evidence Mr Stockdale gave during the interview was false and/or misleading.

**Plea:** Charges 1 & 2 - Guilty

**Decision:** The Board finds the charges proved.

**Charge 1** - Three months suspension.

**Charge 2** - Three months suspension to be served cumulative to the penalty for Charge 1.

Mr Stockdale convicted and suspended for a total of 6 months, to expire midnight 13 February 2020.

Pursuant to AR 266(1), Mr Stockdale is permitted to ride trackwork from 14 January 2020.

Pursuant to AR 266(2), Mr Stockdale is permitted to work on the ground in a racing stable during the period of suspension.

The decision of the Board was made pursuant to the terms of a consent agreement by the parties as to penalty. Mr Forrest agreed that the Board was satisfied as to the appropriateness of the proposed penalty.

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Grace Gugliandolo  
Registrar - Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board