



APPEAL DECISION

CRAIG WILLIAMS and RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

Date of Hearing: 8 November 2017

Heard By: Judge Bowman (Chair)

Appearances: Terry Bailey appeared on behalf of the stewards.
Mr Damien Sheales of Counsel appeared on behalf of Mr Williams.

At Flemington on Tuesday 7 November 2017, Craig Williams pleaded not guilty to a charge of careless riding on his mount *Ozi Choice* in Race 3, the *Lavazza Short Black* (1400m).

The Stewards found Mr Williams guilty of a charge of careless riding under the provisions of AR137(a), the carelessness being that approaching the 800m he permitted his mount to shift in when not fully clear of *Snipfit*, resulting in *Snipfit* having to be checked. Craig Williams had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight 9 November 2017 and to expire at midnight 17 November 2017, a total of eleven race meetings (two metropolitan, nine provincial). In assessing penalty Stewards took into account the carelessness was in the mid-range.

A Notice of Appeal against **the conviction and the penalty** was lodged on Wednesday, 8 November 2017. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: Appeal against conviction dismissed.
Appeal against severity of penalty allowed.

Penalty varied so that the period of suspension expires at the conclusion of the day race meeting on 16 November 2017 - a total of 8 race meetings (two metropolitan and seven provincial).

**Acting Registrar
Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board**