

Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board 400 Epsom Road Flemington VIC 3031 Telephone: 03 9258 4260 Fax: 03 9258 4848

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## **APPEAL DECISION**

## JAMES WINKS and RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

**Date of Hearing:** 10 October 2017

**Heard By:** Judge Bowman (Chair)

**Appearances:** Wade Hadley appeared on behalf of the stewards.

John Didham appeared on behalf of James Winks.

At Seymour on Sunday 8 October 2017, jockey James Winks was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on his mount *Shauquin (NZ)* in Race 9 the *Seymour Toyota BM6 Handicap* (1200m).

The carelessness being near the 200m he permitted his mount to shift out when insufficiently clear of *Lycka Till* which as a result was tightened and brushed, before being carried out onto the heels of *Tax Free* and clipping that gelding's heels, blundering and being severely checked.

Mr Winks had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Sunday, 8 October 2017 and to expire at midnight on Thursday, 19 October 2017 – a total of 12 race meetings (2 metro, 10 provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards deemed the incident to be in the mid-range and took into account his good record.

A Notice of Appeal against conviction and penalty was lodged on Monday, 9 October 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 midnight on

Monday, 16 October 2017 (9 race meetings).