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**APPEAL DECISION**  
**GEORGINA CARTWRIGHT**  
*and*  
**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

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**Date of Hearing:** 24 January 2017

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

**Appearances:** Mr Robert Cram appeared on behalf of the stewards.  
Mr Matthew Hyland appeared on behalf of Ms Cartwright.

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At Sandown on Wednesday 18 January 2017, apprentice jockey Georgina Cartwright pleaded guilty to a charge of careless riding on her mount *Ajuda* in Race 5 the *Thoroughbred Club Handicap* (1300m).

The carelessness being that near the 400m she attempted a run to the inside of *Hi Suppose* where there was not sufficient room and as a result had to be severely checked and G Cartwright became unbalanced in the saddle and her mount made contact with *Hi Suppose* which unbalanced that filly.

Ms Cartwright had her permit to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Friday, 20 January 2017 and to expire at midnight on Wednesday, 1 February 2017 – a total of 14 race meetings (5 metro, 9 provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards took into account her guilty plea, record, relative inexperience and that the carelessness was in the high range.

A Notice of Appeal against **the severity of the penalty** was lodged on Thursday, 19 January 2017. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

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**DECISION: Appeal dismissed.**  
**Penalty to remain standing.**

**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

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**RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE J. BOWMAN, Chairman**

**EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE THOROUGHBRED CLUB HANDICAP  
OVER 1300 METRES AT SANDOWN HILLSIDE ON 18/1/17**

**GEORGINA CARTWRIGHT**

**and**

**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

**RACING VICTORIA CENTRE, FLEMINGTON**

**TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2017**

MR M. HYLAND appeared on behalf of Ms G. Cartwright

MR R. CRAM appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

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CHAIRMAN: Miss Georgina Cartwright, you have pleaded guilty to a charge of careless riding, in that at race 5 at Sandown on Wednesday, 18 January last, you were riding Ajuda when near the 400-metre mark, you attempted to take a run on the inside of Hi Suppose, ridden by Dean Holland, when there was not sufficient room. It is alleged that as a result, your mount had to be severely checked, you became unbalanced, Ajuda made contact with Hi Suppose and it also became unbalanced. The Stewards imposed a penalty of suspension of 14 meetings, having taken into account your guilty plea, your record, your relative inexperience and the fact that they considered the carelessness to be in the high range.

I have viewed the video of the race. There is little argument that the level of interference was very marked and I can fully understand why the Stewards categorised it as high. As I have said many times, there are categories of interference with carelessness. They are not rules, but assist the Stewards in endeavouring to obtain consistency of outcome and in informing jockeys of possible outcomes.

As stated, the level of interference was high. You were almost dislodged from the saddle. Dean Holland's mount was turned sideways and subsequently found to be lame. You have acknowledged carelessness in your plea of guilty. The next question is whether the level of that carelessness warranted the penalty imposed. Whilst Holland's mount did shift back in, the fact of the matter is that you rode your mount into the closing gap between Holland's mount and the running rail. You persisted in riding into that closing gap.

To my mind, that level of carelessness warranted the imposition of a significant penalty. The penalty of 14 meetings seems to me to be fair and appropriate, also bearing in mind your record which, as described by Mr Cram, could only be called fair. It is your fifth suspension for careless riding in less than a year. You have been previously suspended for 14 and 18 meetings. I repeat that in the circumstances, the penalty of 14 meetings on this occasion seems to me to be appropriate.

You are obviously a very promising apprentice with a bright future. Hopefully you can avoid further suspensions. You have already ridden 34 winners. Your obvious talent should get you many more, but the appeal is dismissed.

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