

APPEAL RESULT

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FROM: Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

DATE: 5 March 2013

SUBJECT: **APPEAL HEARING RESULT – JOCKEY: STEPHEN BASTER**

Panel Judge Russell Lewis (Chair), Mr Darren McGee, Mr Ron Taylor.

Appearances Mr Baster appeared on his own behalf.
Mr Terry Bailey appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

At Flemington on Saturday 2 March 2013, jockey Stephen Baster was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on his mount *Ferlax* in Race 7 the *Australian Guineas* (1600m, G1).

The careless riding being that approximately 150m after the start he permitted his mount to shift in when not clear of *High Esteem*, which was taken in onto *Albrecht* which was tightened for room and made contact with the hindquarters of *Grand Emperor* and then had to be checked.

Stephen Baster had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Sunday, 3 March 2013 and to expire at midnight on Thursday, 14 March 2013 - a total of 12 race meetings (3 city, 9 country). In assessing penalty Stewards took into account that it was a Group 1 event, S Baster's record and that the careless riding was in the mid-range.

A Notice of Appeal against **the decision and severity of the penalty** was lodged on Sunday, 3 March 2013.

A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: Appeal dismissed. Penalty to remain standing.

**TRANSCRIPT OF
PROCEEDINGS**

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE R.P.L. LEWIS, Chairman
MR D. McGEE
MR R. TAYLOR**

EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

DECISION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN GUINEAS (GROUP 1)
OVER 1600 METRES AT FLEMINGTON ON 2/3/13**

JOCKEY: STEPHEN BASTER

MELBOURNE

TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2013

MR T. BAILEY appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR S. BASTER appeared on his own behalf

CHAIRMAN: This is an appeal where unfortunately the transcript of the proceedings before the Stewards was not available. The Board has had to do its best to gain an idea of what occurred in the Stewards' room, but have of course the advantage of seeing film of the relevant incident.

That said, the Board notes that where this incident occurred was only a short distance after the start, about 150 metres from the 1600-metre barrier at Flemington. It was a Group 1 race where, at the point where the incident occurred, all riders were attempting to obtain what they would regard as a favourable position in the race.

Stephen Baster was one of those riders and after jumping from barrier 8, his mount was on an inward course, moving forward with a number of horses inside him. Stephen Baster's obligation was to ensure that he did not cause interference to horses on his inside.

As the race progressed, Stephen Baster knew that the situation inside him was becoming tight. In the Board's view, he failed to take evasive action earlier than he did. The Board rejects the claim that Glen Boss contributed towards the situation in any meaningful way or that Stephen Baster's mount's racing manners were wholly or partly to blame for what occurred.

In all the circumstances, the Board has no option but to dismiss the appeal.

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