



HEARING RESULT

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FROM: Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

DATE: 10 May 2016

SUBJECT: **HEARING RESULT – APPRENTICE JOCKEY: LIAM RIORDAN**

Panel Judge Bowman (Chair).

Appearances Mr Corie Waller appeared on behalf of the stewards.
Mr Des O’Keeffe appeared on behalf of Mr Riordan.

Charge 1 Breach of AR 86(c)

Every jockey or apprentice may be penalised: (c) If he bet, or facilitates the making of, or has any interest in a bet on any race or contingency relating to thoroughbred racing, or if he be present in the betting ring during any race meeting.

Charge 2 Breach of AR 175(g)

The Principal Racing Authority (or the Stewards exercising powers delegated to them) may penalise: (g) Any person who gives at any interview, investigation, inquiry, hearing and/or appeal any evidence which is false and/or misleading in any particular.

The particulars of the charge being that Mr Riordan placed a \$20 bet at the Woolamai picnic race meeting on Saturday 9 April 2016 and gave false or misleading evidence during a stewards’ inquiry.

Plea Charge 1 – guilty.
Charge 2 – guilty.

Decision Charge 1 – Mr Riordan convicted and suspended for 4 weeks.
Charge 2 – Mr Riordan convicted and suspended for 4 weeks.

The period of suspension for each charge to be served concurrently – a total period of suspension for 4 weeks, commencing at midnight tonight, 10 May 2016.

**TRANSCRIPT OF
PROCEEDINGS**

RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

HIS HONOUR JUDGE J. BOWMAN, Chairman

EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

DECISION

APPRENTICE JOCKEY: LIAM RIORDAN

MELBOURNE

TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2016

MR C. WALLER appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR D. O'KEEFFE appeared on behalf of Mr L. Riordan

CHAIRMAN: Mr Liam Riordan, you have pleaded guilty to two charges. One is pursuant to AR 83, that being as an apprentice jockey at Woolamai races on 9 April 2016, you placed a bet of \$20 on a horse, namely Meet Me In Paris, in race 4. The other charge to which you have pleaded guilty is that when initially interviewed by Stipendiary Steward, Mr Leon Koch, at the same race meeting, you gave a false name when asked to identify yourself, and this is a breach of AR 175(g). Neither are minor offences. They each attract a sizeable penalty. If anything, the second charge is more serious than the first.

In relation to your plea of guilty, Mr O'Keeffe pointed out a number of things in your favour, and Mr Troy Corstens made a very helpful statement. I note that you are 18 years of age and you are apprenticed to Messrs Leon and Troy Corstens. You have had a limited number of rides, some 29, but had only commenced riding on 1 March last.

I take into account that after your initial mistakes, you pleaded guilty. I also take into account that you have had this matter hanging over you for more than a month. I accept what Mr Corstens said, namely that there has been a change in your attitude since these events. I also accept that you are remorseful. You made a well-prepared statement in which you apologised to all concerned.

The rules that you breached are very important rules. I agree with Mr Waller that a message must be sent that they are not to be treated lightly and are not to be breached. If it had just been a matter of the bet, I may well have considered a fine to be appropriate. However, giving the false name to Mr Koch makes

the whole affair considerably more serious.

Basically I agree with Mr Waller's observations on penalty, to the effect that disqualification or a fine are not appropriate. Despite Mr O'Keeffe's persuasive submission, I am of the view that an immediate period of suspension from race riding is appropriate. I fix the term of that suspension at four weeks from this day. Thus, on each charge, you are suspended from race riding for four weeks from this day, the two periods of suspension to be served concurrently. You can continue with the other duties of your apprenticeship. I trust you realise that you are on your last chance. But I share the general confidence which has been expressed today that you will not offend in this way again. The period of suspension is to start at midnight, 10 May 2016.
