

## Appeal decision

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**Date:** 2 April 2014

**Code of racing:** Thoroughbred

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**Appeal panel:** Judge W Carter (chair), Mr B Miller and Mr G Casey.

**Appearances:** Mr S Scriven, jockey advocate, appeared on behalf of apprentice jockey Geoffrey Goold.

Mr J Williamson, stipendiary steward, appeared on behalf of the stewards.

**Decision being appealed:** Suspension of licence to ride in races for a period covered by seven race meetings – AR137(a).

**Appeal result:** Appeal dismissed.

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### **Extract of proceedings – in the matter of Race 6, the Cystic Fibrosis CG&E Class 3 Plate over 1200 metres at Caloundra on 21 March 2014. Apprentice jockey: Geoffrey Goold**

THE CHAIRMAN: This appeal by apprentice Goold arises out of an incident which occurred at the Sunshine Coast race meeting at Caloundra on 21 March 2014. As a result of a stewards' inquiry into aspects of the race, the appellant, apprentice Geoffrey Goold, was charged by stewards with a breach of Rule 137(a) of the Australian Rules.

That well known rule is concerned, amongst other things, with allegedly careless riding. It is alleged by the stewards in this instance that when leaving the 800-metre mark apprentice Goold, who had been prior to that racing his horse some horses off the fence with apprentice Jamieson to his inside, moved further towards the fence and in the course of that manoeuvre allegedly and carelessly was not sufficiently clear of the rider to his inside and therefore she was required to take hold of her horse. It is suggested from the film also that jockey Browne immediately to her rear had to steer clear.

It is unnecessary I'm sure for this board to emphasise how important it is that jockeys avoid carelessness. There are rules and there are unwritten rules, but it is well established that there needs to be an appropriate clearance of two lengths before a jockey so intending can cross safely and take, as it were, the line of the other horse.

We are satisfied that in this case jockey Goold's riding was in breach of the rule. We are satisfied that he crossed into Ms Jamieson's line, or approximately into that line, at a time when it was inappropriate for him to do so, particularly when he assumed that her horse was or may have been over-racing. The simple fact is that that was one of the circumstances of the race and a further reason why he ought not to have moved into the position which he did at the relevant time.

We are totally satisfied that in this case the stewards' ruling was correct, and we therefore would dismiss the appeal.

We are comfortable with the seven meeting suspension imposed by the stewards and we dismiss the appeal against penalty.

Further right of appeal information: The appellant and the stewards may appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) within **14 days of the date of this decision**. Information in relation to appeals to QCAT may be obtained by telephone on (07) 3247 3302 or via the Internet at [www.qcat.qld.gov.au](http://www.qcat.qld.gov.au)