



DECISION

RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS *and* JOHN SADLER

<u>Date of Hearing</u>	18 December 2017
<u>Heard By</u>	Judge Bowman (Chair)
<u>Appearances</u>	Dr Cliff Pannam QC, instructed by Daniel Bolkunowicz, appeared on behalf of the stewards. Peter Jurkovsky appeared on behalf of Mr Sadler.
<u>Charge</u>	AR 175(q) <i>The Principal Racing Authority (or the Stewards exercising powers delegated to them) may penalise: Any person who in their opinion is guilty of any misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour.</i>
<u>Summary</u>	Mr Sadler pleaded guilty to a charge of improper conduct towards the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Stewards before and after the stewards' decision to withdraw the horse <i>Observational</i> from Race 9, the Eclipse Stakes, at Sandown on 18 November 2017.
<u>Decision</u>	Mr Sadler convicted and suspended for a period of 6 weeks. The Board orders that the commencement of the period of suspension be deferred until midnight Monday 25 December 2017, it being the maximum period of deferral of the suspension as permitted by the rules; see Australian Rule 196(6). Accordingly, the period of suspension will expire at midnight on Monday, 5 February 2018.