



**RACING APPEALS
AND
DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

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APPEAL DECISION

BEN THOMPSON
and
RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

Date of Hearing: 9 September 2016

Panel: Judge Bowman (Chair), Mr Chris Fox and Prof Raymond Harbridge.

Appearances: Mr Brett Wright appeared on behalf of the stewards.
Mr Des O'Keeffe appeared on behalf of Mr Thompson.

At Moe on Tuesday 6 September 2016, apprentice jockey Ben Thompson was found guilty of a charge under 137(b) for failing to ride his mount out over the final three strides of the race which, in the opinion of the stewards, affected the finishing position in that he placed third instead of second. The charge relating to Mr Thompson's ride on *Treicheln* in Race 10 the *TAC BM58 Handicap* (1628m).

Mr Thompson had his permit to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Thursday, 8 September 2016 and to expire at midnight on Tuesday, 20 September 2016 – a total of 12 race meetings (2 metro, 10 provincial). In assessing penalty Stewards took into account that he is an apprentice and it was his first charge under this rule.

A Notice of Appeal against **the decision and severity of the penalty** was lodged on Thursday, 8 September 2016. A stay of proceedings was not required.

An application seeking leaving to withdraw the appeal against conviction was accepted by the Board.

DECISION: Appeal against severity of penalty allowed.
Penalty varied to a fine of \$300

Georgie Gavin
Registrar - Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board