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## **APPEAL DECISION**

**CRAIG WILLIAMS**

*and*

**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

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**Date of Hearing:** 19 April 2017

**Heard By:** Judge Bowman (Chair).

**Appearances:** Mr Robert Cram appeared on behalf of the stewards.  
Mr Matt Hyland appeared on behalf of Mr Williams.

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At Sandown Lakeside on Monday 17 April 2017, jockey Craig Williams pleaded guilty to a charge of careless riding on his mount *Lopartega* in Race 6 the *Ladbroke's Odds Boost Extra Handicap* (1600m).

The carelessness being that he permitted his mount to shift out near the 400m when not sufficiently clear of *Rocbolt* resulting in *Rocbolt* having to be checked to avoid the heels of *Lopartega*.

Mr Williams had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Monday, 17 April 2017 and to expire at midnight on Sunday, 23 April 2017 - a total of 8 race meetings (1 metro, 7 provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards took into account his guilty plea and good record and that the carelessness was in the low range.

A Notice of Appeal against **the severity of the penalty** was lodged on Monday, 17 April 2017. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

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**DECISION: Appeal dismissed.  
Penalty to remain standing.**