



## APPEAL RESULT

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**DISTRIBUTION:** Chief Executive  
Group Integrity Services  
Group Racing and Group Racing Development  
ARB, ATA, VJA  
Office of Racing  
T Moxon – National Drug Register  
Racing Press

**FROM:** Registrar – Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

**DATE:** 30 March 2016

**SUBJECT:** **APPEAL HEARING RESULT – JOCKEY: CHRIS SYMONS**

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**Panel** Judge Bowman (Chair), Mr Brian Forrest (Deputy), Prof Raymond Harbridge.

**Appearances** Mr Rob Montgomery appeared on behalf of the stewards.  
Mr Symons appeared on his own behalf.

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At Ballarat on Tuesday 22 March 2016, jockey Chris Symons was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on his mount *Sea of Tranquillity* in Race 8 the *Porter Plant Series Heat 3 BM64 Handicap* (1600m).

The carelessness being that he permitted his mount to shift in whilst easing near the 1400m when insufficiently clear of *Duke Of Boneo (NZ)* resulting in *Duke Of Boneo (NZ)* having to be checked. In issuing the charge Stewards took into account *Duke Of Boneo's (NZ)* racing manners.

Mr Symons had his licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Thursday, 24 March 2016 and to expire at midnight on Sunday, 3 April 2016 – a total of 11 race meetings (3 metro, 8 provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards took into account Chris Symons overall good record, *Duke Of Boneo's (NZ)* racing manners and that the carelessness was in the mid-range.

A Notice of Appeal against **the decision and severity of the penalty** was lodged on Wednesday, 23 March 2016.

A stay of proceedings was granted effective to midnight Tuesday, 29 March 2016.

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**DECISION:** **Appeal against conviction dismissed.**  
**Appeal against severity of penalty allowed.**

**Penalty varied to a period of suspension for 9 race meetings.**  
**Taking into account the stay of proceedings the suspension will expire at midnight on Tuesday, 5 April 2016.**

**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

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**RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE BOWMAN, Chairman  
MR B. FORREST, Deputy Chairman  
PROF R. HARBRIDGE**

**EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PORTER PLANT SERIES HEAT 3  
BM64 OVER 1600 METRES AT BALLARAT ON 22/3/16**

**JOCKEY: CHRIS SYMONS**

**MELBOURNE**

**WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH 2016**

MR R. MONTGOMERY appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR C. SYMONS appeared on his own behalf

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CHAIRMAN: There are three things to be taken into account which we think warrant a small variation in the penalty. That is, the very good record of Mr Symons, and the evidence of Brad Rawiller about the behaviour of his mount and the behaviour of his horse which we also saw on the film - its racing manners or lack of racing manners - were factors which caused us to think that the penalty should be varied to one of nine meetings, commencing midnight last night. So the appeal on penalty is upheld and the penalty varied to nine meetings.

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