

Stewards' Report

Stewards Report: Chris Mclver

Date: 8th February 2021

Panel: J Adams, C Allison and E Suli

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) stewards inquired into an incident which occurred prior to the running of race 6, the Rocky Racecourse Markets – Every Sunday Benchmark 58 Handicap at the Rockhampton Jockey Club on 23 January 2021. Video evidence of the incident was tendered by stewards and evidence was taken from Jockey Chris Mclver.

After considering all the evidence, Jockey Mclver was issued with a charge under the provisions of AR228(b), which reads:

A person must not engage in misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour.

The specifics of the charge being that Chris Mclver, a licenced jockey with the QRIC, did prior to the running of race 6, the Benchmark 58 Handicap, on 23 January 2021 at the Rockhampton Jockey Club, conducted himself in an improper manner; during the loading process, dismounted on the side partition of the barriers and did forcibly stomp on the hindquarter of OR ELSE twice.

Jockey Mclver pleaded not guilty and made submissions in defence of the charge.

After considering these submissions, Jockey Mclver was found guilty.

When considering an appropriate penalty, Stewards view breaches of this kind very seriously as any behaviour involving the mistreatment of a thoroughbred racehorse must meet with a significant penalty. The penalty must not only deter Mr Mclver but must also illustrate to the entire racing industry that these actions cannot be condoned. Stewards also considered previous penalties for breaches of this rule and the fact that Jockey Mclver had two recent breaches under this rule in August 2019 and April 2020.

Stewards imposed a twelve (12) month disqualification of Chris Mclver to commence on 8 February 2021, and to conclude on 8 February 2022.

Chris Mclver was advised of his rights of appeal.