

RACING APPEALS TRIBUNAL

RAT 14/2020

DATE OF HEARING: TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2020

TRIBUNAL: PRESIDENT: MR T ANDERSON, QC

ASSESSOR: MR G PRETTY

IN ATTENDANCE:

CHAIR OF STEWARDS: MR J PETZER, THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LTD

APPELLANT: MS C JONES

IN THE MATTER of an Appeal by **MS CAITLIN JONES** against a decision of Thoroughbred Racing SA Ltd Stewards.

BREACH OF RULE: AR 131(a)

A rider must not, in the opinion of the Stewards:

(a) engage in careless, reckless, improper, incompetent or foul riding;

PENALTY: SUSPENSION OF LICENCE TO RIDE FOR 3 RACE DAYS

DETERMINATION

Ms Caitlin Jones is a licensed jockey. She was suspended by the Thoroughbred Racing SA Stewards for 5 meetings for careless riding in Race 7 at Morphettville on 12 December 2020.

Ms Jones pleaded guilty at the Stewards Inquiry and now appeals against the severity of the penalty.

The particulars provided by the Stewards in support of the charge were that approaching the 1100 metre mark the horse Savatoxi, ridden by the Appellant, shifted in, tightening the horse Music Addition, resulting in Music Addition having to be steadied, and as a consequence, shifting in onto Li'l Kontra, resulting in that horse being hampered and the jockey having to take hold and lose his position.

The Tribunal viewed the vision of the race in question which clearly shows the incident the subject of the charge.

In the opinion of the Tribunal, it was careless riding on the part of Ms Jones, albeit in the mid to low range of seriousness despite impacting on two other horses.

Ms Jones has a particularly good riding record, and the Tribunal takes this into account.

In determining penalty, the Stewards started at a 7 meeting suspension and reduced that by one meeting for Ms Jones plea of guilty and one further meeting for her previous good riding record.

The Tribunal is of the view in all of the circumstances, that the starting point for the offence should have been 5 meetings. The reductions applied by the Stewards were appropriate. The Tribunal will apply the same reductions.

Therefore, the appeal is allowed, and the penalty reduced to a 3 meeting suspension.

The suspension will begin at midnight on 19 December 2020 and expire at midnight on 26 December 2020.

I order repayment of that portion of the bond to which the Appellant is entitled.