

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
RACING APPEALS TRIBUNAL**

RAT 3/2023

DATE OF HEARING: FRIDAY 28 APRIL 23
DATE REASONS PUBLISHED: TUESDAY 2 MAY 23
TRIBUNAL: PRESIDENT: MR. TIM ANDERSON, KC
ASSESSOR: MR. GLYNN PRETTY

IN ATTENDANCE:

MR. PETER RYAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS, RACING SA LTD
MR. LACHLAN NEINDORF, APPELLANT
MR. BAREND VORSTER, (Assisting Appellant)

IN THE MATTER of an Appeal by **MR. LACHLAN NEINDORF** against a decision of 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 5 MEETINGS

DETERMINATION

Mr. Neindorf is a licensed apprentice jockey in South Australia. He appeals against a decision made by the Stewards on 15 April 2023. He was suspended for five meetings for careless riding in race 9 at Morphettville.

The careless riding is alleged to have taken place near the 1500m and Mr Neindorf was charged under AR131(a). Mr. Neindorf accepted that he was guilty of careless riding and pleaded guilty before the Stewards.

After interviewing the relevant jockey's involved, including Mr. Neindorf, the Stewards determined that this was severe interference as it caused a severe impact on **Savsonic (NZ)** ridden by Mr. Tourneur and an impact on **More Reward** ridden by Mr. Pannell. The Stewards then determined that Mr. Neindorf be suspended for six meetings; however, they gave him a discount of one meeting for his guilty plea, which brought the suspension back to five meetings.

The Stewards could not consider the possibility of reducing that suspension further in relation to Mr. Neindorf's riding record. Unfortunately his riding record speaks for itself and does not assist him at all.

The record shows that between the 22 October 2022 and the date of this offence, he had been suspended six times for careless riding, mostly for shifting in at an inappropriate time.

At the hearing Mr. Neindorf asked that his record be looked at in view of the state of mind he was in during that period. He said that he had to do some work on his mental state and that he was not at his best during that period. He also accepted with some humility that he needed to ride with more caution. He pointed out that he had had 190 rides since the suspension on 16 December 2022.

He is obviously a jockey who is in demand, a popular jockey and a successful one.

The fact is that the guilty plea to an incident which was regarded as severe interference did not leave the Stewards with much room to move.

In my view it was appropriate to start with six meetings for this interference. The vision of the race, played several times to the Tribunal, shows clearly how the severe interference to **Savsonic (NZ)** occurred with a resulting interference to **More Reward**. It shows that the horse ridden by Mr. Neindorf literally cut across and impeded the running of **Savsonic (NZ)**.

The reduction of one meeting for Mr. Neindorf's guilty plea was appropriate and the refusal of the Stewards to reduce it further because of his bad riding record was again, in the view of the tribunal, correct.

The Stewards were correct in their reasoning and in my view the appeal should be dismissed.

After dismissing the appeal and in the course of discussing when the suspension should take place it was revealed by the Stewards that Mr. Neindorf was currently the subject of another suspension for four meetings which commenced on 29 April 2023 and finishes on 7 May 2023.

Mr. Neindorf pleaded with the Tribunal in relation to the severity on him, in particular because of his successful riding career and the fact that the Adelaide Carnival involved "Black Type" races including four Group 1's, in which he was likely to be retained.

The Tribunal expresses the view that whilst it feels extremely sympathetic towards Mr. Neindorf for missing these meetings, it is unfortunately a consequence of his poor riding on this occasion.

The suspension of five meetings will therefore commence at midnight on 7 May 2023 and conclude at midnight on 19 May 2023.

In all the circumstances I order that the applicable portion of the bond lodged with the appeal be refunded.