



## **THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED**

### **STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT – MUJADALE**

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#### **MORPHETTVILLE – THURSDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2013**

##### **MORPHETTVILLE – SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2013**

##### **RACE 6 : SPORTINGBET HANDICAP - 2400 metres**

Stewards concluded an inquiry on Thursday, 31 October 2013 into the running of MUJADALE on 28 September 2013. Stewards received a complaint from the Trainer of the horse, Mr Paul Jones, and part owner Mr M Noske during the week following the event. Concern was expressed in respect to Jason Holder, the rider of the gelding, not complying with the instructions provided on the day.

Evidence was taken from Mr. M Noske and Jason Holder. While arrangements were made to take evidence from Mr Jones, the Trainer of the horse, all reasonable efforts to contact him during the course of the inquiry failed. Consequently Stewards were unable to hear further evidence from him in this matter. Notwithstanding this fact, consideration was given to a verbal report made by Mr Jones to Stewards at an earlier date in respect of the instructions he provided to Jason Holder. Stewards also viewed the race footage of the race in question, viewed other race starts of MUJADALE, considered betting activity in the said race and a subsequent race in which MUJADALE competed, assessed relevant sectional times and took into account the explanation provided by J Holder on the day of the race.

Having regard for the evidence, Stewards were satisfied that J Holder had not been locked into a specific set of instructions and in the circumstances it was open for him to use his initiative and make an election shortly after the start to settle midfield or forward of midfield with cover. Having made that election, his position in running was dictated by the eventual pace and positioning of runners in the event. Stewards also considered whether J Holder had an opportunity to improve his position from in the vicinity of the 1000 metres sooner than he did. It was established that in the vicinity of the 1000 metres J Holder, in an attempt to improve to the outside of LATE NIGHT DRINK (J Kah), shifted out and brushed with BEWARE OF THESTORM (B Claridge) but was unable to persist with his run due to the positioning of BEWARE OF THESTORM and was obliged to ride patiently for a short distance before being able to improve his position.

While not being critical of his riding in the vicinity of the 1000 metres, Stewards noted that J Holder considered, in hindsight, he may have been better served to improve his position earlier than he did. Stewards determined that even if J Holder's riding in the early part of the race and in the vicinity of the 1000 metres was to be considered, on a balance of probabilities, an error of judgment, the error was not to the degree which could be considered culpable under the Rules of Racing.

In all the circumstances Stewards took no further action in the matter.

**J. C. PETZER**

**CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS**

JCP/T/Stewards/StReps/2013/Add Report MUJADALE 311013