

Ashburton RC 18 September 2020 - R 3 (instigating a protest) Chair, Mr S Ching

Rules:

[642\(1\)](#)

Name(s):

Mr R Mildon - Licensed Stablehand representing Trainer Ms T Rae

Mr K Chowdhury - Class B Rider of MISS TYCOON ROSE

Ms K Williams - Class A Rider of STELLA CREEK

Facts:

Following the running of Race 3, the Dave & Jill Quigley Maiden, Trainer, Mr MR Pitman, filed an Information instigating a protest, under Rule 642(1) in that STELLA CREEK, ridden by Ms K Williams, placed first by the Judge, interfered with the chances of MISS TYCOON ROSE, ridden by Mr K Chowdhury, placed second by the Judge, alleging interference over the concluding stages. The official margin was 1¼ lengths.

The Judges placings in this race were as follows.

1st - STELLA CREEK (9)

2nd - MISS TYCOON ROSE (10)

3rd - MERITORIOUS (3)

4th - GOOSE BAY (1)

5th - IZZY HOUDINI (15)

6th - STREET FIGHTIN MAN (13)

The connections of STELLA CREEK were represented at this hearing by rider, Ms K Williams and Licensed Stablehand, Mr R Mildon for Licensed Trainer, Ms T Rae, with Trainers MR & M Pitman and rider Mr K Chowdhury, representing the connections of MISS TYCOON ROSE.

Decisions:

Informant, Mr Pitman, using the available films, both head on and side on, showed the alleged interference near the 150m by pointing out STELLA CREEK, ridden by Ms Williams, who was leading at the time, positioned 3 off the rail with MISS TYCOON ROSE, ridden by Mr Chowdhury, racing in the trail. He showed the lead horse, STELLA CREEK, shift inwards when MISS TYCOON ROSE was making a run to improve through on STELLA CREEK's inside. Mr Pitman pointed out MISS TYCOON ROSE having to check and change ground to go to the outside of STELLA CREEK, which he stated cost his horse momentum and 2 lengths. Mr Chowdhury stated that the interference cost his mount at least 2 lengths.

Ms Williams stated that STELLA CREEK was racing for the first time in front and had got a fright and ducked outwards. She said she straightened her mount and that the films showed that there was always room for MISS TYCOON ROSE to improve through to her inside. She added that her mount was travelling comfortably in front but had to be ridden hard as she was green and still learning.

Mr Mildon stated that, as Ms Williams had said, STELLA CREEK was always in control of the race and was never going to be challenged. He added that Mr Chowdhury may have stopped using the whip for a stride but did keep riding the horse out, despite changing ground.

Mr Davidson, as officiating Stipendiary Steward, was asked for his interpretation of the incident. He stated that it was clear that STELLA CREEK shifts out with Ms Williams straightening her mount and that by straightening STELLA CREEK, has inconvenienced MISS TYCOON ROSE. Mr Davidson showed the back straight film to which he pointed out the distance between STELLA CREEK and MISS TYCOON ROSE at the point of alleged interference, to be in his opinion, 1¼ lengths. He added that Mr Chowdhury does have to change ground but given the fact that the margin between 1st and 2nd was 1¼ lengths, he stated that in his opinion he could not be satisfied that MISS TYCOON ROSE would have beaten STELLA CREEK.

We carefully considered the evidence presented and the video coverage of the incidents. The Committee was satisfied that near the 150m STELLA CREEK had shifted ground outwards and was straightened by rider, K Williams. We were also satisfied that the trailing

horse, MISS TYCOON ROSE had to change ground when attempting to improve past STELLA CREEK. We found that STELLA CREEK was clear of MISS TYCOON ROSE when STELLA CREEK was straightened and into the path of MISS TYCOON ROSE, who had to change ground in order to find clear running. The Committee find that although MISS TYCOON ROSE did suffer interference to a degree, that interference was at best, an inconvenience.

Taking all factors into consideration, we were not satisfied, that but for the alleged interference received, MISS TYCOON ROSE would have finished ahead of STELLA CREEK. We were more than satisfied that the alleged interference to MISS TYCOON ROSE by STELLA CREEK was no more than an inconvenience. We therefore determined that this protest is dismissed.

The protest against STELLA CREEK is dismissed.

It was ordered that dividends and stakes be paid in accordance with the official judges placings.