

Auckland RC 7 September 2019 - R 8 - Chair, Mr A Dooley

Rules:

[638\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)

Name(s):

Mr S Fannin - Class D Rider

Charge:

Facts:

admitted

Following the running of race 8, Network Visuals Great Northern Steeplechase (Prestige Jumping Race), an Information was filed pursuant to Rule 638 (3)(b)(ii). The Informant, Mr Oatham, alleged that Mr Fannin used the whip excessively when riding WISE MEN SAY prior to the 100 metres.

Mr Fannin said that he understood the Rule and confirmed that he admitted the breach.

Rule 638(3)(b)(ii) provides: A Rider shall not:

(ii) *strike a horse with a whip in a manner or to an extent which is excessive*

The "Guidelines With Respect to Acceptable Use of the Whip" provides:

Without affecting the generality of Rule 638(3)(b) a rider may be penalised if their whip use is outside of the following guidelines:

Inside the final 600 metres of any Race, official trial or jump-out a horse may be struck with the drawn whip up to five times after which the rider must cease their use of the whip for a minimum of five strides before striking the horse again with the drawn whip, with this restriction to apply prior to the final 100 metres. The whip may then be used at the rider's discretion until the winning post is reached.

Prior to the final 600 metres of a race, official trial or jump-out the use of the drawn whip is acceptable if used in moderation and not continually.

Mr Oatham demonstrated the incident using the available video footage. He identified Mr Fannin and showed that he hit his mount 8 times prior to the 100 metres. He said there were pauses but not for the minimum 5 strides.

Mr Fannin said that he accepted the number of strikes and the incident occurred near the end of a long race. He said he thought that he had given his mount the necessary respite of 5 strides.

Decision:

As Mr Fannin admitted the breach the Committee found the charge proved.