

Canterbury R 26 June 2021 - R 6 - Chair, Mr R McKenzie

Rules:

[649\(3\)](#)

Name(s):

K Asano
Licensed Apprentice Jockey (Class B)
M R Pitman
Licensed Trainer (Class A)
D M Walsh
Apprentice Jockey mentor
G Rowland
Clerk of the Scales

Charge:

Facts:

admitted

Following the running of Race 6, Smiths Hire Open Handicap, an Information was filed by Chief Stipendiary Steward, Mr J P Oatham, against Licensed Apprentice Jockey (Class B), Mr K Asano, alleging a breach of Rule 649 (3) in that he "weighed in 0.75 kg underweight on his mount SABER which was subsequently disqualified from 4th placing".

Mr Asano was present at the hearing of the Information and he indicated that he understood the charge and that he admitted the breach. He was assisted at the hearing by Licensed Trainer (Class A), Mr M R Pitman, Trainer of SABER. Apprentice Jockey Mentor, Mr D M Walsh, was also present at the hearing.

Rule 638 provides as follows:

(3) A Rider must not weigh-in at a weight that exceeds or is less than the proper weight as is defined in and with the allowance permitted by Rule 648 (3).

Mr Oatham recapped on the facts presented at the earlier request for a ruling hearing.

He said that when it was put to Mr Asano that he had weighed in light, he said "60.5", as though that was the weight the horse should have carried.

Mr Oatham said that the Clerk of the Scales weigh sheet shows Mr Asano as having been weighed out at the correct weight of 61.5 kg and the Clerk of the Scales maintains that that was the case.

Mr Pitman, co-Trainer of SABER, said that after the race, he entered the Stewards' Room. Mr Asano was there questioned as to the gear he had weighed out in which had not changed. There had obviously been an error by Mr Asano and the Clerk of the Scales, Mr Pitman said. He said that Mr Asano must have weighed out at 60.5 kg and not 61.5 kg, if there had been no change to any of the gear after weighing out. He accepted that the ultimate responsibility rested with Mr Asano but some blame must lie with the Clerk of the Scales, he submitted.

Mr Oatham accepted that such situations were always "difficult" because it is impossible to know the exact reason for what had happened. So many things can occur, he said. Mr Asano had been straight up from the start and all his gear had been present. It was always the Jockey's responsibility to ensure that he weighs out at the correct weight, Mr Oatham said.

Decision:

Mr Asano has admitted the breach and, accordingly, the charge is found proved.