

## Taranaki RC 3 February 2018 - R 7 - Chair, Mr T Utikere

### Rules:

[Rule 638\(1\)\(d\)](#)

### Name(s):

Mr T Johnson - Apprentice Jockey

Mr N Harris - Apprentice Jockey Mentor

### Charge:

### Facts:

admitted

Following the running of Race 7 (PLATINUM HOMES TARANAKI CUP), Information A8815 was filed with the Judicial Committee. It alleged a breach of Rule 638(1)(d) by Apprentice T Johnson. The Information stated: "T Johnson (HEAVENS KEEP) allowed his mount to shift in passing the winning post when not clear of AUTHENTIC PADDY which was tightened on the first round."

Rule 638(1)(d) states:

*"A Rider shall not ride a horse in a manner which the Judicial Committee considers to be: ... (d) careless."*

Mr Johnson was assisted at the hearing by Apprentice Mentor Mr Harris. Mr Johnson confirmed to the committee that he understood Rule 638(1)(d), and that he admitted the breach.

Using the head-on film, Mr Goodwin identified that racing into the first turn there were several horses vying for good positions near the rail. At that point, Mr Johnson had allowed his mount to shift in when not the required distance clear. As a result, Ms Thornton was required to take a hold of her mount (AUTHENTIC PADDY) and steady out of her rightful line. He observed that there was no obvious outwards movement from runners to the inside. Mr Goodwin identified Mr Johnson as being only  $\frac{3}{4}$  Length clear. Ms Thornton had told stewards that she originally thought there had been outwards movement from the inside runners, but Mr Goodwin submitted that the films did not substantiate that.

Mr Johnson said that the carelessness was obvious on the films, but that his trainer had instructed him to lead at all costs. He had tried to be careful, but was simply not the required distance clear and that it did cause some difficulty when he travelled into that bend. He said that two strides after the incident, he was aware of what had happened and tried to take corrective action at that point.

Mr Harris concurred with Mr Goodwin's interpretation. He reiterated that Mr Johnson was a young rider, and that the head-on film showed that there were six runners to his inside. He believed that Mr Johnson was conscious and aware of those racing to his inside and was trying to give them room, but that this was a misjudgement on the apprentice's part and at the point of the turn it was very difficult to judge how much space there was.

### Decision:

As the charge was admitted, the Committee deemed the charge proved.