



THOROUGHBRED RACING SA LIMITED
STIPENDIARY STEWARDS' REPORT - Apprentice Jockey Teagan Voorham

TRSA OFFICES - FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2020

On Friday 21 August 2020 Stewards concluded the inquiry into the running and handling of **Dexelation**, which ran in Race 6 at Morphettville on Saturday 18 July 2020. After taking evidence on Saturday 18 July 2020 from Teagan Voorham and Mr. Richard Jolly, the Trainer of **Dexelation**, the inquiry was adjourned to allow Trainer Mr. Leon Macdonald to be present to assist Teagan Voorham.

Stewards heard further evidence from apprentice jockey Teagan Voorham, the rider of **Dexelation**, who was assisted at the hearing on 21 August by Trainer Mr. Leon Macdonald, and TRSA Apprentice Academy Supervisor, Mrs. Briony Moore.

Stewards noted that Teagan Voorham appeared to show no vigour in her riding on **Dexelation** for a short distance from inside the 250 metres until inside the 200 metres, and it is her riding in this part of the race that caused Stewards a level of concern.

In determining the matter Stewards had regard for the instructions provided by Mr. Richard Jolly to Teagan Voorham, which were to not commence her run too early after straightening, and not to find the lead too early, given the manner in which the horse is inclined to finish off its races. Further, Teagan Voorham acknowledged that she may have "over ridden" her instructions and in hindsight could have been more vigorous during that part of the race.

Stewards also had regard for the fact that in determining matters of this kind, that the rule is not designed to punish a rider unless on the whole of the evidence the decision maker is comfortably satisfied that the person's riding was such that, in all the relevant circumstances, the riding fell below the level of objective judgment reasonably to be expected of a rider. The relevant circumstances in such a case may be numerous, and they include the seniority and experience of the rider, the competitive pressure under which a rider was riding in the particular race, and they include any practical necessity for the rider to make a sudden decision between alternative courses of action. The rule is not designed to punish riders who make errors of judgement unless those errors are culpable by reference to the criteria referred to above.

After considering the evidence taken on 18 July 2020 and 21 August 2020, Stewards took no action against Teagan Voorham under the rules of racing. Stewards advised Teagan Voorham that while her riding of **Dexelation** in this event fell short of a breach of Australian Rule of Racing - AR129(2), which states - "*A rider must take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that the rider's horse is given full opportunity to win or to obtain the best possible place in the field.*", she must ride in a manner that does not invite question from Stewards.

J Petzer
CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS
21 August 2020