

Counties RC 27 May 2021 – R 3 – Chair, Mr A Smith

Rules:

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

Name(s):

Mr H McNeil –Rider of TAUMALOLO

Mr A Dooley – Stipendiary Steward

Charge:

Facts:

admitted

This charge arises from the running of Race 3, A Maiden Highweight event over 1600m. An Information was filed pursuant to Rule 638(3)(b)(ii) by the Informant, Mr Coles, alleging that Class D Rider, Mr H McNeil used his whip excessively when riding TAUMALOLO prior to the 100 metres.

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

Rule 638(3)(b)(ii) provides:

A Rider shall not strike a horse with a whip in a manner or to an extent which is:

- (i) unnecessary, or*
- (ii) excessive, or*
- (iii) improper*

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

Flat Races

Prior to the 100-metre mark in a race, official trial or jump out:

- (i) The whip should not be used on more than 5 occasions.*
- (ii) The whip should not be used in consecutive strides.*
- (iii) The rider may at their discretion use the whip with a slapping motion down the shoulder, with the whip hand remaining on the reins. In the final 100 metres, the whip may be used at the Rider's discretion.*

Using available race film footage Mr Dooley demonstrated the breach. He identified Mr McNeils's mount, TAUMALOLO, and counted Mr McNeil striking his horse on 7 occasions prior to the 100m

In response Mr McNeil said that he agreed with the number of strikes.

Decision:

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