APPEAL PANEL OF RACING NEW SOUTH WALES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPEAL OF
LICENSED JOCKEY MATTHEW CAHILL

Heard at Racing NSW Offices

Appeal Panel:	Mr T O'Callaghan – Convenor
	Mr P Losh
	Mr C Tuck
Representatives:	Racing NSW – Mr T Moxon
	Appellant – Mr M Cahill
Date of Hearing:	Tuesday, 24 February 2026

REASONS FOR DECISION

This Hearing of the Appeal Panel involved an appeal by Mathew Cahill against conviction and penalty relating to a charge brought by the Stewards for breach of AR 131(a), Careless Riding, occurring during the running of Race 6 at Wagga on 16 February 2026. Mr. Cahill had ridden the horse, *Dolly*. The other horse involved in the incident the subject of the charge, *Prophet's Daughter*, had been ridden by Mr. Josh Richards.

For the purpose of their applying the *Careless Riding Template -- AR 131(a),* the Stewards had classified the incident as MEDIUM CARELESSNESS as, in the opinion of the Stewards, Mr. Richards' mount had LOST its RIGHTFUL RUNNING; the resultant penalty was a suspension, in Mr. Cahill's particular circumstances, of seven meetings.

The Panel reviewed the video recording of the incident, considered the evidence contained in the transcript of the Stewards Inquiry into the incident, and considered the oral submissions of the parties, as well as the oral submissions of Mr. Glyn Schofield, who appeared as Representative for Mr. Cahill.

Having considered all those matters, given that Mr. Richards' mount was weakening [Transcript, lines 170-171], that the video recording showed that Mr. Richards had had ample room to his outside slightly to change direction, and that the margin of clearance was a widening one and a half lengths, the Panel, while it agreed with the Stewards that there was an element of carelessness on Mr. Cahill's part, decided that the carelessness was of the LOW grade rather than the MEDIUM grade; further, the Panel was of the opinion that the carelessness resulted, not in Mr Richards' mount LOOSING its RIGHTFUL RUNNING, but in a crowding of Mr. Richards' mount.

Accordingly the Panel made the following orders:

1. Appeal allowed, in part.

2. Penalty varied, from a suspension of seven meetings to a Reprimand being issued to Mr. Cahill.
3. Deposit to be refunded.