

10 August 2010

The Racing/Sports Editor

PRESS STATEMENT

Amendments to MRA Rules of Racing

Amendments (highlighted in bold) to MRA Rules of Racing for implementation with immediate effect are as follows:

PART III : THE COMMITTEE, LOCAL COMMITTEE AND RACING STEWARDS

Powers and duties of the Racing Stewards

Rule 12(2) [Amend rule]

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the Racing Stewards may exercise all, or delegate where necessary, any of the following powers:

- (z) to suspend or disqualify any person, or any horse, for any period of time and/or to impose any fine not exceeding **\$150,000**.

Decision of Racing Stewards to be final

Rule 18(1) [Amend rule]

The decisions of the Racing Stewards shall be final in all cases where:

- (a) it relates to an objection against placed horses arising from any incident during a race; or

- (b) the penalty imposed is a fine not exceeding **\$150,000** and/or a suspension or disqualification not exceeding three (3) years.

PART IV : OFFICIALS

Powers of the Stipendiary Stewards

Rule 21(2) *[Amend rule]*

When in the opinion of the Stipendiary Stewards:

- (a) there is a reasonable suspicion that any person has committed any breach of the Rules of Racing which in their opinion ought to be considered by the Racing Stewards; or
- (b) any person has committed any breach of the Rules of Racing and in their opinion a fine in excess of **\$100,000** ought to be imposed upon such person and/or be suspended or disqualified for a longer period than one (1) or three (3) years respectively;

they may in their discretion refer the matter to the Racing Stewards, who shall not be bound by any finding of the Stipendiary Stewards.

Rule 21(4) *[Amend rule]*

The Stipendiary Stewards, in any case of a breach or contravention of the Rules or the Regulations, shall have the power, after conducting an investigation or inquiry, to impose any one or more of the following penalties:

- (a) a warning or reprimand;
- (b) a maximum fine not exceeding \$1,000 in respect of any infringement of any Rule and/or Regulation which is punishable by the abovementioned fine where an Admission of Guilt is accepted in writing on the prescribed form;

- (c) a fine not exceeding **\$100,000**;
- (d) a suspension for any term not exceeding twelve (12) months;
- (e) a disqualification for any term not exceeding three (3) years;

Save where expressly provided for, the powers given by this Rule are not, nor are they to be construed as being, in any way limited or excluded where any Rule does not prescribe penalties for its breach.

There shall be no right of appeal against the Admission of Guilt or the penalty imposed under Rule 21(4)(b) once the Admission of Guilt is accepted.

PART VI : RIDERS

Race riding and further responsibilities of jockeys

Rule 44 [Amend rule]

- (8) The jockey of every horse in a race shall take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that his horse is given full opportunity of winning or of obtaining the best possible placing.
 - (a) Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules should the Stipendiary Stewards find any jockey guilty of a charge under Rule 44(7) or 44(8) the Stipendiary Stewards shall disqualify such person. The disqualification shall be for a period of not less than one (1) year and not more than three (3) years. In addition, the Stipendiary Stewards may impose a fine not exceeding **\$100,000**