Harness Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

Media Release Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

20 June 2018

HRV RAD Board Hearing - Kieran O'Keeffe

On 18 June 2018, the Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Racing Appeals and Disciplinary (RAD) Board considered a charge issued by HRV Stewards under Australian Harness Racing Rule (AHRR) 267(1) against Mr Kieran O'Keeffe.

AHRR 267(1) reads as follows:

Subject to sub-rule (2) the Stewards may for such period and on such conditions as they think fit, disqualify a person who is found guilty of a crime or an offence in any State or Territory of Australia or in any country.

The matter was heard by the HRV RAD Board upon the referral by the Controlling Body, following a recommendation by the HRV Stewards.

The charge relates to Mr O'Keeffe being convicted on appeal in the County Court at Geelong on 10 April 2018, of two charges which related to Mr O'Keeffe's driving of a motor car in October 2017.

Mr O'Keeffe pleaded guilty to the charge prior to the HRV RAD Board hearing submissions on penalty from HRV Stewards and Mr O'Keeffe.

When assessing penalty the HRV RAD Board took into account Mr O'Keeffe's guilty plea, his cooperation, his remorse, his age and the circumstances of the offence.

Mr O'Keeffe was disqualified for a period of 10 days with the HRV RAD Board ordering that the period of disqualification be back dated to 27 November 2017.

HRV RAD Board Panel: John Doherty (Chair), John Kearney, John Denahy

The Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board (RADB) is established under section 50B of the Racing Act (1958). The RADB is an independent Board established to hear and determine appeals in relation to decisions made under the rules to impose penalties on persons and to hear and determine charges made against persons for serious offences.