

RACING APPEALS TRIBUNAL

QUEENSLAND

NOTICE OF DECISION

APPEAL NUMBER: RT018-08
DATE: 27 June 2008
APPELLANT: **Jana PIPER**
RESPONDENT: Queensland Racing
APPEAL FROM: Decision of the Stewards to impose suspension of licence to ride in races for a period of 10 meetings
BREACH OF RULE: Australian Rules of Racing 137(a)
DECISION: The appeal is allowed.
APPEARANCES: The appellant appeared for herself together with her Master, trainer Lloyd Brazier.

REASONS FOR TRIBUNAL'S DECISION

Mr Leo Williams AO – Chairman
Mr Brockwell Miller – Deputy Chairman
Mr Dennis Standfield – Member

This is an appeal by Jockey, Jana Piper, against a conviction by the Stewards of AR173(a) of the Rules of Racing (careless riding) and a suspension of 10 meetings imposed following the conviction.

AR137(a) provides:

“AR.137 Any rider may be punished if, in the opinion of the Stewards,

(a) he is guilty of careless, reckless, improper, incompetent or foul riding.”

The incident occurred at the Sunshine Coast. The evidence is contained in the video footage, both side on and head on. After the start, Piper took her mount out quickly and was 2 lengths clear of the horse to which Stewards found she had caused interference ridden by Jockey Nikolic. There would have been no incident if Nikolic had not continued to urge his horse forward.

It was Nikolic's action which was either the sole or the significant contributing reason for his horse having to be checked and to have stumbled thereby suffering the setback. Piper was sufficiently clear not to be found the cause of the incident.

The appeal is allowed and the deposit is ordered refunded.

Leo Williams AO
Chairman

Brockwell Miller
Deputy Chairman

Dennis Standfield
Member
