



**Racing  
Victoria**

Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board  
400 Epsom Road  
Flemington VIC 3031  
Telephone: 03 9258 4260  
Fax: 03 9258 4848  
radboard@racingvictoria.net.au

---

## **APPEAL DECISION**

**NIKITA BERIMAN**  
*and*  
**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

---

**Date of Hearing:** 27 July 2017

**Heard By:** Brian Forrest (Deputy Chair)

**Appearances:** James Hitchcock appeared on behalf of the stewards.  
Des O'Keeffe appeared on behalf of Ms Beriman.

---

At Echuca on 10 July 2017, jockey Nikita Beriman was fined \$300 under AR 145 which provides that:

*If a horse carries more than a half a kilogram in any weight over the weight imposed or declared, the rider and any other person at fault may be penalised.*

The charge relating to Ms Beriman's ride on *Robusta* after its win in Race 6.

A Notice of Appeal against the severity of the penalty was lodged on 11 July 2017.

---

**DECISION: Appeal dismissed. Penalty to remain standing.**

**Georgie Gavin**  
**Registrar - Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board**

**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

---

**RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**MR B. FORREST, Deputy Chairman**

**EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**DECISION**

**NIKITA BERIMAN**

**and**

**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

**RACING VICTORIA CENTRE, FLEMINGTON**

**THURSDAY, 27 JULY 2017**

MR D. O'KEEFE appeared on behalf of Ms N. Beriman

MR J. HITCHCOCK appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

---

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is fundamental to the integrity of racing, of course, that jockeys carry their allotted weight. I have read Mr O'Keeffe's eloquent submission and also the matters that referred to, namely, where reprimands have been imposed, but that is not the end of the story. Mr Hitchcock has also tendered a number where fines have been imposed.

Mistakes have consequences, irrespective of whether they are innocent or deliberate. Whilst I accept that the mistake in this case was a genuine one, I think in all the circumstances that a fine of \$300 cannot be said to be right outside the ballpark and excessive. Consequently, I dismiss the appeal.

---