



**Racing  
Victoria**

**RACING APPEALS  
AND  
DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

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**DECISION**

**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS  
and  
CORY PARISH**

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**Date of Hearing:** 3 April 2018

**Panel:** Judge Bowman (Chair), Mr Brian Forrest (Deputy) and Prof Raymond Harbridge.

**Appearances:** Mr Peter Ryan appeared on behalf of the stewards. Mr Paul O'Sullivan appeared as counsel for Mr Parish.

**Charge** Breach of AR 135(b)

*(b) The rider of every horse shall take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that his horse is given full opportunity to win or to obtain the best possible place in the field.*

**Particulars** The charge relates to Mr Parish's ride on Sonaree in Race 3, the Jayco Maiden Plate over 1000 metres at Bendigo on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Approaching and passing the 200 metres Mr Parish failed to take a run between Lechter and Champagne Scent that presented when there was sufficient room to do so.

From the 100 metres Mr Parish made insufficient effort to shift to the outside of the heels of Lechter to obtain clear running.

Mr Parish failed to ride Sonaree with sufficient vigour and purpose over the final 100 metres.

**Plea:** Guilty.

**Decision:** Mr Parish convicted and his licence to ride in races suspended for a period of 18 days, commencing at midnight on Saturday 7 April 2018.

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Grace Gugliandolo  
Registrar - Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board

**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

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**RACING APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**HIS HONOUR JUDGE J. BOWMAN, Chairman  
MR B. FORREST, Deputy Chairman  
PROF R. HARBRIDGE**

**EXTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**DECISION**

**RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS**

**and**

**CORY PARISH**

**RACING VICTORIA CENTRE, FLEMINGTON**

**TUESDAY, 3 APRIL 2018**

MR P. RYAN appeared on behalf of the RVL Stewards

MR P. O'SULLIVAN appeared on behalf of Mr C. Parish

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CHAIRMAN: Cory Parish, you have pleaded guilty to a breach of AR 135(b), in that in race 3 over 1000 metres at Bendigo on 28 February 2018, you failed to take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout that race in order to ensure that your mount, Sonaree, was given full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible place in the field.

In particular, it is alleged that approaching and passing the 200-metre mark, you failed to take a run between Lechter and Champagne Scent that presented when there was sufficient room to do so and from the 100-metre mark, you made insufficient effort to shift to the outside of the heels of Lechter to obtain clear running and failed to ride your mount with sufficient vigour and purpose over the final 100 metres.

We have viewed the video material. We say one thing at the outset: this is a charge pursuant to AR 135(b). There is no suggestion of dishonesty or anything untoward. The Stewards do not submit that the horse was only being given a trial or deliberately not being allowed to run on its merits. However, as indicated by the plea of guilty, this ride was culpable and fell below the standards expected of a senior rider of your ability and experience. We will not go through the details of your ride, suffice to say that you clearly did not take an available run in the last 200 metres and failed to use any vigour, particularly over the last 50 or more metres.

This was a very poor ride by a jockey as experienced as yourself. Owners, trainers and the public are entitled to expect that every horse would be given

full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible place in the field and this did not happen with Sonaree. It was worse than just an error of judgment, it was well below the standards expected of a jockey such as yourself. When those standards are not met, the possibility exists of the general public speculating as to the honesty of the industry.

We have viewed the penalties handed down in similar cases. We have taken into account the principles of general and specific deterrence. Confidence in the integrity of the racing industry is most important. We have also taken into account your very good record, your plea of guilty and your frankness, but we also take into account the fact that you are an experienced jockey.

Overall, we are of the view that a period of suspension of 18 days is appropriate, commencing midnight, Saturday, 7 April 2018.

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