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APPEAL DECISION

NIKITA BERIMAN and RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS

Date of Hearing: 12 April 2017

Heard By: Judge Bowman (Chair).

Appearances: Mr Peter Ryan appeared on behalf of the stewards.

Ms Beriman appeared on her own behalf, assisted by Matt Hyland.

At Echuca on Sunday 9 April 2017, Nikita Beriman was found guilty of a charge of careless riding on her mount *Casino Fourteen* in Race 2 the *Share Media Big Screen Hire Maiden Plate* (1200m).

In that she permitted her mount to shift in near the 900m when insufficiently clear of *Snitzepeg* resulting in that colt being taken in and having to be checked to avoid the heels of *Casino Fourteen*. When being taken in *Snitzepeg* raced tightly to the outside of *All Eez* hampering that colt slightly.

Ms Beriman had her licence to ride in races suspended for a period to commence at midnight on Monday, 10 April 2017 and to expire at midnight on Wednesday, 19 April 2017 - a total of 9 race meetings (2 metro, 7 provincial).

In assessing penalty Stewards deemed the incident to be in the low range and took into account her record and circumstances.

A Notice of Appeal against the **severity of the penalty** was lodged on 10 April 2017. A stay of proceedings was not requested.

DECISION: Appeal dismissed. Penalty to remain standing.

Georgie Gavin Registrar - Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board