



*INQUIRY INTO APPRENTICE JOCKEY ELLEN HENNESSY'S BREACH OF RACING NSW
COVID-19 POLICIES AND NSW HEALTH ORDERS.*

**Racing NSW Offices
Druitt Street
Sydney
(By Video Conference)**

27 September 2021

**Stewards: M F Van Gestel (Chairman)
T P Moxon**

Racing NSW Stewards today conducted an inquiry into apprentice jockey Ellen Hennessy breaching Racing NSW COVID-19 Policies and Protocol's and NSW COVID-19 Health Orders. Evidence today was taken from Ellen Hennessy and her master licensed trainer Ms Theresa Bateup.

Charges – Ellen Hennessy

1. AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing.

Details of the charge being on 18 September 2021 she was away from her place of residence without a reasonable excuse and left Greater Sydney without having registered her travel. Such conduct being in breach of Racing NSW COVID-19 policies and NSW Health Orders and being prejudicial to the interests of racing.

Plea: Guilty

2. AR 233 Breach of Racing NSW Policy

Details of the charge being on 18 September 2021 she was away from her place of residence without a reasonable excuse and left Greater Sydney without having registered her travel. Such conduct being in breach of Racing NSW COVID-19 policies.

Plea: Guilty

Penalty

Stewards considered the following matters in respect to penalty.

1. Guilty Plea at earliest opportunity and contrition displayed.
2. Personal circumstances.

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3. In considering other precedent penalties for COVID-19 breaches, Stewards determined this matter was less serious due to her attendance being at the residence of one person (as apposed to a group of persons) and she was present for a short period of time in a location with low case numbers.
4. Principles applied by Stewards when issuing penalties as a protective order.

App. Hennessy's permit to ride in races was suspended for a period of 9 weeks for both offences, reduced from 3 months for her guilty plea and other objective circumstances. Stewards determined that both penalties were to be served concurrently, backdated to commence on 24 September 2021, the day App. Hennessy was stood down, and to expire on 26 November 2021.

Relevant Rules

AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing

A person must not engage in:

- (a) conduct prejudicial to the image, interests, integrity, or welfare of racing, whether or not that conduct takes place within a racecourse or elsewhere.*

AR 233 Other misconduct offences

A person must not:

- (a) breach a policy, regulation or code of practice published by Racing Australia or a PRA.*

**M F VAN GESTEL
CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS
GENERAL MANAGER - INTEGRITY**