

# Stewards' Report

## Stewards Report: Nozi Tomizawa

**Date: 14/09/2020**

**Panel: R Hitchener & J Childs**

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards today resumed and concluded the inquiry into Jockey Nozi Tomizawa's riding of THE GROUSE in Race 5 at the Toowoomba Turf Club meeting on 8 August 2020.

On 8 August 2020, the inquiry into the ride was commenced and after taking evidence from Jockey Tomizawa and THE GROUSE'S trainer Mr Gary Stephens the inquiry was adjourned to allow Stewards to give consideration to the evidence tendered and to obtain a betting report into the race.

The betting report with respect to this race was presented at today's inquiry where no abnormalities were detected. Further evidence was also taken from Jockey Tomizawa and Mr Stephens.

Subsequently Jockey Tomizawa was issued with a charge under AR 129(2) which reads-

*A rider must take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that the rider's horse is given full opportunity to win or to obtain the best possible place in the field*

The particulars of the charge were-

1. From near the 350m he failed to ride with sufficient purpose and vigour, to take advantage of a clear run which presented between SEIBER and YANKEE SANG when reasonable and permissible to do so, until electing to shift to the inside near the 250m.
2. Further from the 250m until a point near the 70m he failed to ride with sufficient purpose and vigour to take advantage of a clear run which presented between JUST RAFFERTY and MARCOOLA when it was reasonable and permissible to do so.

These actions as particularised in the opinion of Stewards failed to ensure THE GROUSE was given full opportunity to win or to obtain the best possible place in the field.

Jockey Tomizawa pleaded not guilty to the charge and made submissions in defence of the charge.

After considering the evidence in its totality Stewards found Jockey Tomizawa guilty of the charge.

When considering the matter of penalty, Stewards were mindful of Jockey Tomizawa's disciplinary record in relation to matters such as these having not faced a charge of this nature during his riding career of twenty years. Stewards also considered Jockey Tomizawa's personal circumstances. The Stewards panel recognised a need for a penalty to reflect that his riding fell well short of a reasonable standard. Stewards were also mindful of the penalty precedents and the negative impact such actions have on the perception of the industry and the serious connotations that flow from a breach of this rule.

After considering all the above-mentioned matters Jockey Tomizawa's licence to ride in races suspended for a period of six weeks to commence on midnight 19 September 2020 and expire on midnight 31 October 2020.

Jockey Tomizawa was advised of his rights regarding an Internal Review.