

**DECISION**  
**Of**  
**Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards**  
**Regarding**  
**Ms Minonette Kennedy**

**Delivered on:** 2 October 2025

**Panel:** Mr J Williamson (Chairperson), Ms A Schofield, Ms H Matthews.

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission stewards commenced inquiries on August 8, 2025 into a complaint lodged by Trackwork Rider Ms Jana Piper regarding the conduct of licensed jockey Ms Minonette Kennedy during a Jumpout, held at the Sunshine Coast Turf Club on 5 August 2025. Stewards conducted individual interviews with witnesses. After taking evidence and viewing recordings of the alleged incident stewards preferred the following charge.

**Charge 1**

Australian Rule of Racing 228(b):

A person must not engage in misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour

The particulars of Charge 1 being that:

*On 5 August 2025, you, Minonette Kennedy, licensed jockey, engaged in improper conduct in that you verbally abused trackwork rider Jana Piper using offensive and foul language whilst riding in Heat 2 of the jumpouts at the Sunshine Coast Turf Club training precinct.*

**Plea:** Not Guilty

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In defence of this charge Ms Kennedy made the following submissions:

1. Denial of the alleged conduct.
2. Sighted contradiction between witnesses
3. Suggested that, the comment did not happen as other riders in the jumpout did not hear anything; and
4. That she would not make any comments toward Ms Piper due to concerns this may antagonise Ms Piper.

After considering the evidence and submissions by Ms Kennedy, stewards found Ms Kennedy guilty as charged as it was accepted on the balance of probabilities that the charge was supported by the evidence.

## **Penalty Submissions:**

Stewards heard submissions from Ms Minonette Kennedy in relation to the Charge which were the same as the submissions in defence of the charge.

## **Stewards Finding on Penalty:**

Stewards find that the conduct undertaken by Ms Kennedy was offensive. Stewards considered that, this was a short interaction between the two parties and therefore this offence should be considered at the lower end of verbal assault, that constitutes improper conduct.

The penalty issued by steward must act as both a general deterrence for the industry and as a specific deterrence for Ms Kennedy.

Ms Kennedy's not guilty plea and conduct during the inquiries was considered, along with her personal circumstances and disciplinary history. Relevant Precedents were also considered particularly matters that were similar in nature, being: Racing NSW Decision Troy Thompson 12/1/15. Racing NSW Decision D Hoad 24/10/15. Racing NSW Decision S Quinn 7/10/14.

The *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld) was also taken into account and the impact these incidents have on the affected participants along with the impact that any penalty may have on an individual.

Ms Kennedy's record shows one offence relating to conduct:

1. **11 August 2019 (Sunshine Coast):** Fined and suspended under AR 115(1)(a) Misconduct during apprentice school \$1000 - \$500 suspended for one year and 2-week suspension – 1 week suspended for one year.

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## **Penalty:**

Charge 1: Stewards are of the view that a fine is warranted in the circumstances. A fine of \$500. Stewards further order that acting under the provisions of AR 283(5) that \$300 of this fine be suspended for a period of two (2) years on the condition that Ms Kennedy does not reoffend similarly during this period.

Against this Stewards decision Ms Minonette Kennedy is advised of her rights to appeal this decision to the Racing Appeal Panel.