

## Appeal decision

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**Date:** 4 September 2014

**Code of racing:** Thoroughbred

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**Appeal panel:** Mr B Miller (chair), Mr P James and Mr G Casey.

**Appearances:** Trackwork rider Adam Russo failed to appear.  
Mr I Brown, stipendiary steward, appeared on behalf of the stewards.

**Decision being appealed:** Suspension of licence to ride trackwork for a period of three months – AR81A1(b).

**Appeal result:** Appeal dismissed.

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### **Extract of proceedings – in the matter of the failure to provide a swab sample when directed to do so on 5 August 2014. Trackwork rider: Adam Russo**

THE CHAIRMAN: This is a hearing by the Racing Disciplinary Board in respect of an appeal by Adam Russo against a determination of stewards arising out of an incident that occurred at the Gold Coast during trackwork when Mr Russo failed to provide a specimen as directed by the stewards. Mr Russo was also, it would appear from a reading of the transcript, similarly difficult to contact when he was required to provide a specimen, and he blames that on the fact that he had never got the message.

This (appeal hearing) seems to be somewhat different in that there is on the file notification to Mr Russo advising him in writing of the date and also information advising him of a change in the date from 3 September to today, 4 September.

It is not the intention of this tribunal to allow appellants to cloud the issues by non-appearance.

In the circumstances, in view of Mr Russo's apparent disinterest in pursuing the appeal, we have determined that the appeal be dismissed.

Further right of appeal information: The appellant and the stewards may appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) within **14 days of the date of this decision**. Information in relation to appeals to QCAT may be obtained by telephone on (07) 3247 3302 or via the Internet at [www.qcat.qld.gov.au](http://www.qcat.qld.gov.au)