



## NSA Official Notices Wednesday, May 20, 2026

### NSA Hearing, Review, and Appeals Committee Ruling

#### The Appeal of Joseph Davies, Trainer

This matter comes before the NSA Hearing, Review, and Appeals Committee (hereinafter Committee) on an appeal by NSA licensed trainer, Joseph Davies, from a ruling of the NSA Stewards issued on April 11, 2026 with respect to the first race at the My Lady's Manor Races on that date. The said ruling followed a decision by the NSA Stewards, on duty on race day, to disqualify the horse Bogey's Image for weighing in after the race carrying less than the proper weight. A hearing before the Committee was held, via Zoom, on May 15, 2026. Committee member Albert A.J. Young recused himself from this matter citing a conflict of interest, did not attend the hearing, and took no part in the proceedings. The President of the NSA, Alfred C. Griffin, Jr., appointed Russell B. Jones, Jr. to act as an alternate Committee Member in this matter.

#### Findings of Fact

1. Prior to the first race at the My Lady's Manor Races on April 11, 2026 jockey Teddy Davies, who was scheduled to ride the horse Bogey's Image, in that race, weighed out at 167 pounds. With the two pound allowance for his safety vest he was exactly on the 165 pounds that he was required to carry.
2. After winning the race Mr. Davies mounted the scale to weigh in but, according to the testimony of the Clerk of Scales, he was visibly shaking, either from fatigue, dehydration, or nervousness and was unable to stand still on the scales. His weight, on the digital read-out was fluctuating between 165.4 and 165.9. At no point did his weight register higher than 165.9 pounds. This weight was, at least, 1.1 pounds below the weight that he was required to carry.
3. The clerk of the scales reported this finding to the Stewards on duty that day.
4. After deliberation among the Stewards, the decision was taken to disqualify Bogey's Image from the race and to award the race to Uco Valley.
5. On April 15, 2026 the Stewards Advisory Committee (SAC) met, as it routinely does, to review the previous week's races.
6. The SAC Member Greg Morris recused himself from the deliberations as he was one of the stewards at My Lady's Manor. The SAC heard testimony from Mr. Morris in which he described the events which led up to the above disqualification.
7. After deliberation, the SAC decided to support the decision of the Stewards.
8. Mr. Davies, as trainer of Bogey's Image, appealed the disqualification to the Hearing, Review, and Appeals Committee.

## Conclusions of Law

1. NSA Rules of Racing 7.8 After the Running of the Race states in section C as follows:  
“Each rider of a horse which finishes a race shall weigh in with the Clerk of Scales at no less than the same weight at which he/she weighed out, and if under that weight, and after consideration of mitigating circumstances by the Stewards, his/her mount may be disqualified from any placing and any portion of the purse money, and the rider may be fined and/or suspended.”
2. If a rider weighs in under the prescribed weight it is clearly a discretionary decision on the part of the Stewards whether to disqualify the horse ridden by the offending rider in the presence of mitigating circumstances.
3. The testimony clearly showed, and the Appellant admitted, that Mr. Davies weighed in at least 1.1 pounds below the required weight.
4. In this matter, the Stewards, who were present on the day decided that no mitigating circumstances existed that would have warranted Bogey’s Image **not** being disqualified.
5. Absent an abuse of discretion, the Hearing, Review and Appeals Committee is reluctant to substitute its judgment for that of the Stewards who were present on the day.

## ORDER

AND NOW, this 19<sup>th</sup> Day of May, it is the order of the Hearing, Review, and Appeals Committee of the National Steeplechase Association that the Ruling of the NSA Stewards at the My Lady’s Manor Races on April 11, 2026 and concerning the first race on that day is **UPHELD**.

Richard D Abbott

Cuyler H. Walker

Russell B. Jones, Jr.