



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Tuesday 29 November 2022

Decision-makers: Director Race Day Operations & Integrity Wade Birch and Deputy Chief Steward Troy Vassallo

Name of relevant person: Mr Wolfgang Kraeft

Track: Nowra

Date: 21 November 2022

Rule no.: 165 (a)

Charge(s): That Mr Wolfgang Kraeft engaged in conduct which is detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control or promotion of greyhound racing.

Disciplinary action taken: To suspend Mr Kraeft for a period of two (2) months.

BACKGROUND

Mr Wolfgang Kraeft is a registered Public Trainer. He is the owner and trainer of the greyhound “That’s All Oaks” which was presented for racing at the Nowra Greyhound Racing Club on 21 November 2022.

The Greyhound was presented for racing by Mr John Vertellini. Mr Vertellini is not a registered participant and has not been a registered participant since 13 September 2021. Mr Vertellini therefore was not authorised to handle a greyhound at a race meeting.

DECISION:

1. Mr Kraeft is the owner and trainer of “That’s All Oaks” (“the Greyhound”), which was presented to race in race 7 at Nowra on 21 November 2022.
2. The Greyhound was presented to race by Mr John Vertellini is not registered with the Commission and has not held a registration since 13 September 2021.
3. Mr Kraeft allowed Mr Vertellini to handle the greyhound in circumstances where he knew, or ought to have known, that Mr Vertellini was not a registered participant.
4. On 23 November 2022 Mr Kraeft was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”) in relation to the charge, setting out the proposed

disciplinary action to be taken and the grounds in support of that proposed disciplinary action.

5. In the Notice issued on 23 November 2022 the decision makers charged Mr Kraeft with an offence under Rule 165 (a) of the NSW Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 165(a), Rules

An offence is committed if a person (including an official);

(a) commits or omits to do any act or engages in conduct which is in any way detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control or promotion of greyhound racing.

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6. The Notice invited Mr Kraeft to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge and the proposed penalty.
7. Mr Kraeft contacted the decision makers to advise that he pleaded guilty to the charge.
8. Mr Kraeft attended a hearing on 29 November 2022. Mr Kraeft was represented at the hearing.
9. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Kraef's submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Kraeft:

Charge 1, breach of R165 (a): To suspend Mr Kraeft's registrations for a period of two (2) months.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Kraeft's recent disciplinary history
 - The evidence of Mr. Vertellini that he had advised Mr Kraeft that he held a current registration.
 - Mr Kraeft's explanation and the circumstances surrounding the offence.

.....End.....