



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	24 November 2022
Decision-makers:	Deputy Chief Steward, Troy Vassallo & Chief Inspector David OShannessy
Name of relevant person:	Ms Penny Williams
Track:	N/A
Date:	15 November 2022
Rule no.:	Code of Practice, Standards 3.6, 5.11, 5.12, Rule 21(1)(c), Rule 21(1)(d), Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 – Clause 10(1)(e)
Charge(s):	<p>Charge 1 (Code of Practice, Standard 3.6)</p> <p>On 27 July 2022 Ms Williams was found to have not kept written treatment records for the greyhound “Ryder Patrol”, which had recently been administered a course of Amoxyclav antibiotics.</p> <p>Charge 2 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.11)</p> <p>During an inspection conducted on 27 July 2022 Ms Williams premises, the small portable fencing yard that is used as an empty yard did not contain any shelter to protect the greyhounds from the elements of the weather.</p> <p>Charge 3 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.12)</p> <p>During an inspection at Ms Williams premises on 27 May 2022, it was established that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no raised beds provided in the adhoc kennels in the left-hand side of the yard;• There were also no raised beds in the garden shed kennel;• The adhoc kennels and the garden shed kennel had no bedding provided and;• The five kennels on the right-hand side of the property had bedding which was damp and wet.

Charge 4 (Rule 21(1)(c))

During inspections at Ms Williams conducted on 15 November 2021, 23 November 2021, 27 May 2022, 27 July 2022 and 9 August 2022, four kennels were not constructed and of a standard approved by the Controlling Body. The kennels were also not kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

Charge 5 (Rule 21(1)(d))

Ms Williams did fail to seek veterinary attention for the greyhound "Ryder Patrol", which sustained facial injuries after the attack on the greyhound "Look Out" on or around 6 July 2022.

Charge 6 (Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 – Clause 10(1)(e))

Ms Williams did fail to submit a Notification of Euthanasia to GWIC within two days of the greyhound "Look Out" being euthanised on 6 July 2022.

- Disciplinary action taken:**
- (1) To issue a fine of \$200;
 - (2) To issue a fine of \$550;
 - (3) To issue a fine of \$500;
 - (4) To suspend Ms Williams for 2 months
 - (5) To disqualify Ms Williams for 6 months; and
 - (6) To issue a fine of \$200;

Disqualification to commence on 1 December 2022 and expire on 1 May 2023.

INVESTIGATION

1. Between 21 April 2021 and 9 August 2022, GWIC Inspectors conducted several kennel inspections at Ms William's premises and several non-compliance breaches were identified of the Code of Practice, Greyhound Rules of Racing and Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019.
2. GWIC Inspectors issued Ms Williams with 2 (two) GWIC Work Directions dated 21/4/21 and 23/11/21, as a result of the non-compliances detected.
3. On 8 August 2022, GWIC Inspectors commenced an investigation by conducting an interview with Ms Williams into the circumstances surrounding the euthanasia of the greyhound Look Out

DECISION:

4. Ms Williams is a registered owner trainer and was the trainer of the Greyhounds at all material times.
5. On 18 October 2022 Ms Williams was issued with a notice of charge ("**Notice**") The Notice also provided a brief of evidence for the charges.
6. In the Notice issued on 18 October 2022 the decision makers charged Ms Williams with six charges under Code of Practice, Standards 3.6, 5.11, 5.12, Rule 21(1)(c), Rule 21(1)(d), and Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 – Clause 10(1)(e)

Code of Practice, Standard 3.6

Participants must keep a written treatment record for each greyhound or puppy in their care rule 30(2).

Code of Practice, Standard 5.11

While in outdoor yards and other enclosures, greyhounds must have access to shelter from rain, sun and extreme temperatures

Code of Practice, Standard 5.12

5.12 Areas where greyhounds sleep must

- a) include a raised bed or wooden pallet, which is large enough for the greyhound to lay down completely stretched out on;
- b) be equipped with bedding that is warm, soft and dry; and made of materials that are safe for greyhounds and puppies

GR21 Proper care for and welfare of greyhounds

(1) A person must ensure that any greyhound in the person's care or custody, is at all times provided with:

(c) kennels constructed and of a standard approved by a Controlling Body which are adequate in size and which are kept in a clean and sanitary condition

GR21 Proper care for and welfare of greyhounds

(1) A person must ensure that any greyhound in the person's care or custody, is at all times provided with:

(d) veterinary attention when necessary

Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 - Clause 10

(1) A greyhound racing industry participant who owns or keeps a greyhound must, in accordance with this clause, provide the following information to the Commission:

(e) if the greyhound dies-details relating to the date, time and location of the death and circumstances surrounding the death (including the cause of death, if known), not more than 2 days after the death of the greyhound.

7. On 27 October 2022 Ms Williams failed to appear at the inquiry which was being conducted by Microsoft Teams.

8. On 29 October 2022 Ms Williams was served with a notice to attend a reheard hearing to be conducted on 7 November 2022

9. On 7 November 2022 Ms Williams attended the inquiry and made application to have the matter adjourned. The decision makers acceded to her application and rescheduled the hearing for 15 November 2022

10. Ms Williams, who was assisted by GBOTA Metropolitan Director Ray Welsh attended a hearing in relation to the matter. At the hearing, Ms Williams entered the following plea:

Charge 1 – Guilty

Charge 2 – Guilty

Charge 3 – Not Guilty

Charge 4 – Guilty

Charge 5 – Not Guilty

Charge 6 - Guilty

11. The decision makers adjourned the hearing to consider the evidence and submissions and determined to hand down the penalty in writing.

12. Following consideration of the material and submissions, the decision makers found the charges proven and take the following disciplinary action against Ms Williams:

Charge 1 (Code of Practice, Standard 3.6) To issue a fine of \$200;

Charge 2 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.11) To issue a fine of \$550;

Charge 3 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.12) To issue a fine of \$500;

Charge 4 (Rule 21(1)(c)) To suspend Ms Williams for 2 months

Charge 5 (Rule 21(1)(d)) To disqualify Ms Williams for 6 months; and

Charge 6 (Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 – Clause 10(1)(e))

To issue a fine of \$200

Disqualification to commence on 1 December 2022 and expire on 1 May 2023.

13. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:

- Ms Williams' guilty plea to charges 1, 2, 4 and 6;
- Ms Williams not guilty plea to charges 3 and 5;
- Ms Williams' professional and personal circumstances;
- GWIC penalty guidelines;

- Ms Williams' good record, having held a registration in the greyhound racing industry for over 30 years with no prior offences recorded.

.....End.....