



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Wednesday 28 August, 2024

Decision-makers: Steward Jason Hodder and Manager Racing Integrity, Chris Psillis

Name of relevant person: Mark Gatt

Rule no.: LR166A

Charge(s): Charges 1 - LR166A

That Mr. Gatt, as a registered Public Trainer, engaged in conduct of lay betting against a greyhound that he trained.

Plea: Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a four week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Mr Gatt not breaching this or any like rule in this period, and a \$1000 fine, \$500 of which is wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Gatt was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer, Studmaster and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. Analysis of betting records indicated that on 6 July 2024, Mr. Gatt engaged in lay betting against a greyhound that he trained.
3. On 14 August 2024 Mr. Gatt was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**"). The Notice issued a charge against him for breach of the following Greyhound Racing Rule:

Charge 1– Local Rule 166A Rules

(1) A person, being a trainer, will be guilty of an offence if the person:

(a) places a bet on a greyhound, other than a greyhound trained by that person, in a race in which they have a starter;

(b) places any type of bet on a greyhound, other than a greyhound trained by that person, in a race to finish ahead of a greyhound they train in the race.

4. The Notice invited Mr. Gatt to attend a hearing on 28 August 2024 and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
5. At the hearing held on Wednesday August 28, 2024, Mr Gatt and his representative;
 - Entered a plea of guilty; and
 - Made verbal submissions.
6. After considering Mr. Gatt's plea and written submissions, the decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against him:

Charge – To issue a four week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Mr. Gatt not breaching this or any like rule in this period, and a \$1000 fine, \$500 of which is wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months.

7. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr. Gatt's Guilty plea
 - Mr. Gatt's registration history, with no prior offences for a similar matter
 - In assessing penalty, the decision makers considered the overall performance of Mr. Gatt's greyhound in relation to the above bet, which did not identify any integrity concerns.

.....End.....