



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 26 August 2024

Decision-makers: Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch and Associate Director Investigations and Compliance Michael Cooper

Name of relevant person: Jamie Bush

Rule no(s): R156(f)(ii) & R164(a)

Charge(s): **Charge 1 – R156(f)(ii)**
Mr. Bush did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by scratching a greyhound in an attempt to manipulate race fields.

Charge 2 – R164(a)
Mr. Bush did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by making a statement to an officer of the Controlling Body when it was known to be false.

Plea: Charge 1 – Not Guilty
Charge 2 – Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: **Charge 1** - 4-month disqualification; and
Charge 2 - 4-month disqualification;

With the penalties to be served concurrently; and
With the disqualification period to commence on Friday 6 September 2024 and expire on Sunday 5 January 2025.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Bush was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 6 March 2023, Mr Bush nominated the greyhound “Turbo Worm” (“**Greyhound**”) for the Dubbo meeting on 11 March 2023.
3. On 10 March 2023 Mr Bush scratched the Greyhound, with injury cited as the reason. Subsequent analysis of Mr Bush’s phone record data identified that Turbo Worm was nominated and then scratched for the purpose of influencing race fields.

4. On 27 September 2023, during an interview with officers of the Controlling Body, Mr Bush stated that the Greyhound had been injured by another dog whilst kennelled at another participant's property. Later in the same interview Mr Bush confirmed that this statement was false, and the greyhound had not been attacked and injured as previously stated.
5. On Friday July 19, 2024, Mr Bush was issued a notice of Steward Inquiry. On Wednesday 24 September 2024 Mr Bush attended a Stewards Inquiry held at the Mercure Hotel, Tamworth.
6. On Wednesday 24 July 2024 a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**"), was issued to Mr Bush. The Notice issued two charges, alleging breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

Rule 156(f)(ii), Rules

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

...

(f) has, in relation to a greyhound or greyhound racing, done something, or omitted to do something, which, in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards:

...

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper.

Rule 164(a), Rules

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

...

(a) makes a false or misleading statement in relation to or during an investigation, inspection, examination, test or inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) or makes or causes to be made a falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound.

7. The penalties decision makers proposed were:

Charge 1 – Rule 156(f)(ii) 6 Month Disqualification; and

Charge 2 – Rule 164(a) 6 Month Disqualification

8. On 18 August 2024 Mr Bush and his legal representative contacted decision makers and;
 - Entered a plea of not guilty to Charge 1;
 - Entered a plea of guilty to Charge 2; and
 - Made written submissions

9. Following consideration of Mr. Bush's pleas and submissions, the decision makers found the charges proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him:

Charge 1 – Rule 156(f)(ii) 4-month disqualification; and

Charge 2 – Rule 164(a)

4-month disqualification

With the penalties to be served concurrently; and

With the disqualification period to commence on Friday 6 September 2024 and expire on Sunday 5 January 2025.

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers had regard to all relevant evidence and material, including:

- Mr Bush’s pleas to both charges;
- Mr Bush’s disciplinary history; and
- Decision makers took into account subjective factors related to personal and professional circumstances

.....End.....