

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	17 October 2024
Decision-makers:	Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch
Name of relevant person:	Katherine Vella
Track:	N/A
Date:	10 October 2024
Rule no.:	Local Rule 34B
Charge(s):	Charge 1 – LR34B Ms. Vella, when directed to complete overdue eTrac Check-ins for greyhounds in her care failed to adequately account for the whereabouts of the greyhounds
Plea:	Charge 1 – No plea entered.
Disciplinary action taken:	Charge 1 – To Issue a Suspension until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

DECISION

1. Ms. Vella was at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. At all material times the greyhounds were registered in Ms. Vella's ownership.
3. On Tuesday 1 October 2024, following an investigation by the Commission, a Notice of Charge and proposed disciplinary action was issued to Ms. Vella. The Notice issued one charge under the Greyhound Racing Rules alleging a breach of the following:

LR34B Provision of information relating to a greyhound

- (1) When directed to do so by the Controlling Body, a person must present a greyhound to a specified place for the purposes of accounting for the greyhound.
- (2) Where a greyhound owner or trainer has received a direction to present a

greyhound or greyhounds to a specified place for the purposes of accounting for the greyhound but has failed to comply with that direction, the Controlling Body may refuse to allow nomination of a greyhound kept by that owner or trainer until the greyhound subject to the direction is accounted for.

(3) An offence is committed if a person fails to adequately account for the whereabouts of a greyhound.

4. The Notice invited Ms. Vella to provide a response and make submissions in relation to the charge by Tuesday 8 October 2024.
5. Ms. Vella failed to respond and make submissions by Tuesday 8 October 2024.
6. The decision maker found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action;

Charge 1 - To suspend Ms. Vella until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

7. The Commission's inquiries into the matter remain ongoing.

.....End.....