



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	30 September 2024
Decision-makers:	Senior Steward Kevin Adams and Steward Peter Phillips
Name of relevant person:	Barry Howell
Rule no(s):	R156(w), R156(h)
Charge(s):	Charge 1 – R156(w) Mr Howell did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with Standard 5.5 of the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice. Charge 2 – R156(h) Mr Howell did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with a lawful order of a person authorised by the Controlling Body.
Plea:	Guilty to both charges
Disciplinary action taken:	Charge 1 - To issue a suspension of 6 months. Charge 2 - To issue a suspension of 2 months.

With the two penalties to be served cumulatively, totalling 8 months commencing 30 September 2024, and expiring 30 May, 2025

DECISION:

1. Mr Howell was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 23 November 2023 Mr Howell, at his registered kennel address, was found to be housing greyhounds in a transport trailer, in contravention of Standard 5.5 of the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice. Mr Howell was given a verbal direction by an Officer of the Controlling Body to no longer house greyhounds in the trailer and a written work direction to ensure the kennels at the property were maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
3. On 31 January 2024 Mr Howell, at his registered kennel address, was found by an Officer of the Controlling Body to have greyhounds again housed in the transport trailer and the kennels at the property to be not maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

4. On 16 September 2024 Mr Howell was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”). The Notice issued two charges against him for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

R156(w), Greyhound Racing Rules

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

(w) fails to comply with a policy or code of practice adopted by a Controlling Body

Rule 156(h) Greyhound Racing Rules

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

(h) disobeys or fails to comply with a lawful order of a Controlling Body, the Stewards, or another person authorized by a Controlling Body with official duties relating to greyhound racing

5. The Notice invited Mr Howell to attend a hearing on 30 September 2024, and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges and proposed penalties. The penalties decision makers proposed were:

Charge 1 Rule 156(w) – To issue a suspension of 12 months

Charge 2 Rule 156(h) – To issue a suspension of 3 months

6. On Monday 30 September 2024 Mr Howell attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
- Entered a plea of Guilty to both charges; and
 - Provided verbal and written submissions

7. Following consideration of Mr Howell’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(w) – To issue a suspension of 6 months

Charge 2 Rule 156(h) – To issue a suspension of 2 months

With the two penalties to be served cumulatively, totalling 8 months commencing 31 September 2024, and expiring 31 May, 2025

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers considered all evidence, including:
- Mr Howell’s guilty plea to both charges;
 - Personal and professional circumstances;
 - Principles of specific and general deterrence and what message is sent to the industry in respect to such conduct;

.....End.....