



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Friday 24 November 2023

Decision-makers: Chief Steward Troy Vassallo, Steward Sam Woolaston

Name of relevant person: Chris Cauchi

Rule no.: R156(f)

Charge(s): Charge – 156(f)

Mr. Cauchi did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence by engaging in an activity which constitutes misconduct

Plea: Not Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a \$1000 fine and 3-month suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Mr. Cauchi not breaching this or any like rule in this period.

DECISION:

1. Mr Cauchi was, at all relevant times, a registered Attendant with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On Tuesday 3 October 2023, Mr. Cauchi attended the Gosford Greyhound Club.
3. During the course of the meeting Mr. Cauchi became involved in a physical altercation with another participant in the bar area of the club, resulting in an affray which required the intervention of bystanders to deescalate.
4. On 15 November 2023 Mr Cauchi 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 - Rule 156(f), 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 stewards:

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper

5. The Notice invited Mr Cauchi to attend a hearing on Wednesday 22 November 2023 and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.

6. At the hearing conducted on Wednesday 22 November 2023 Mr Cauchi;

- Entered a plea of not guilty; and
- Made verbal submissions.

7. Following considering of Mr Cauchi's plea and verbal submissions, the decision-makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against him:

Charge – To issue a \$1000 fine and 3-month suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Mr. Cauchi not breaching this or any like rule in this period.

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

- Mr. Cauchi's Not Guilty plea
- Mr. Cauchi's 45-year history in the industry and good record, with no previous charges over any similar matter
- Personal and professional circumstances, and Mr. Cauchi's contrition and remorse for his conduct
- Purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image and interests of the greyhound racing industry
- Principles of specific and general deterrence and what message is sent to the industry in respect to such conduct.

.....End.....