



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 21 January 2025

Decision-makers: Senior Steward Zane Turner and Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch

Name of relevant person: Mr Shaun Hermon

Date: April and July 2024

Rule no: 156(f)(ii)

Charge(s): **Charge 1 & 2**

Mr. Hermon engaged in improper conduct by submitting applications through the GWIC online portal to name greyhounds that included proposed names of an offensive or sexual nature.

Plea: Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a 1-month suspension per charge, to be served concurrently, with the suspension to commence 22 January 2025 and expire 22 February 2025.

INVESTIGATION:

1. Mr. Hermon was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 22 April 2024, Mr Hermon became a registered owner of a greyhound; “**Greyhound 1**” (ear brand NKGWT).
3. On 26 April 2024 Mr Hermon made application through the GWIC online portal to name Greyhound 1. The application included proposed names of an offensive or sexual nature.
4. On 2 July 2024 Mr Hermon became a registered owner of a greyhound; “**Greyhound 2**” (ear brand NLBNB).
5. On 6 July 2024 Mr Hermon made application through the GWIC online portal to name Greyhound 2. The application included proposed names of an offensive or sexual nature.

DECISION:

6. On Friday 10 January 2025 Mr. Hermon was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
7. In the Notice issued on 10 January 2025 the decision makers issued two charges under Rule 156(f)(ii) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 156(f)(ii)

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;

8. The Notice invited Mr Hermon to attend a hearing and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges. The penalties decision makers proposed were:

Charge 1 Rule 156(f)(ii) – To issue a suspension of 6 months

Charge 2 Rule 156(f)(ii) – To issue a suspension of 6 months

9. On Wednesday 15 January and Thursday 16 January 2025 Mr Hermon contacted decision makers and;

- entered a plea of guilty; and
- entered written submissions

10. At the hearing held on Friday 17 January 2025, Mr Hermon;

- provided verbal submissions

11. Following consideration of Mr Hermon’s plea 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) - 1-month Suspension

Charge 2 – Rule 156(f)(ii) - 1-month Suspension

12. The decision-makers determined that the penalties for both charges be served concurrently, with a total penalty of a 1-month suspension imposed. This penalty is to commence on Wednesday 22 January 2025 and expire on Saturday 22 February 2025.

13. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all relevant material and evidence, including:

- Mr Hermon's Guilty plea;
- Mr Hermon's unblemished disciplinary record;
- Mr Hermon's written and verbal submissions;
- Mr Hermon's contrition and remorse displayed for his conduct;
- The purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure for the image and interests of the greyhound racing industry; and
- Principles of specific and general deterrence and what message is sent to the industry in respect to such conduct.

.....End.....