



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 12 December 2024

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

Name of relevant person: Teasha Pye

Code of Practice Standard: Standard 5.3, Standard 2.5, Standard 5.10, Standard 5.2, Standard 5.5

Charge(s):

Charge 1 – Standard 5.3, Code of Practice
Ms. Pye, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice by failing to maintain safe enclosures, housing and sleeping areas for greyhounds in her care.

Charge 2 – Standard 2.5, Code of Practice
Ms. Pye, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice by failing to maintain adequate food on site to meet the need of greyhounds in her care in the event of an emergency arising.

Charge 3 – Standard 5.10, Code of Practice
Ms. Pye, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice by failing to maintain adequate protection against environmental conditions for greyhounds in her care.

Charge 4 – Standard 5.2, Code of Practice
Ms. Pye, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice by failing to adequately supervise and confine greyhounds in her care.

Charge 5 – Standard 5.5, Code of Practice
Not Proven

Disciplinary action taken: **Charge 1** – To suspend Ms Pye for 15 weeks

Charge 2 – To suspend Ms Pye for 15 weeks

Charge 3 – To suspend Ms Pye for 15 weeks

Charge 4 – To suspend Ms Pye for 15 weeks

With the penalties to be served concurrently and backdated to the commencement of the existing interim suspension, 28 August 2024, and to therefore expire on Thursday 12 December 2024.

In addition, decision-makers imposed the following conditions on Ms. Pye’s registration pursuant to section 49(4) of the Act;

1. Ms. Pye is to ensure her property, kennels, enclosures, housing and sleeping areas are of a standard that complies with and meets the requirements of the Rules of Racing and the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice.

2. Ms. Pye is to have no more than 5 greyhounds on the property and under her care and/or training at any time.

DECISION:

1. Ms. Pye was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.

2. On 6 February 2024, 14 May 2024, 18 July 2024 and 20 August 2024, Officers of the Controlling Body conducted kennel inspections at Ms. Pye’s registered kennel address. During the inspections several breaches of the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice (“**Code of Practice**”) were observed.

3. On 28 August 2024, Ms. Pye was issued with an Interim Suspension whilst the Commission finalised its inquiry into the observed breaches of the Code of Practice.

4. On Friday 29 November 2024 a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”), was issued to Ms. Pye. The Notice issued five charges, alleging breaches of the following Standards of the Code of Practice:

NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice – Standard 5.3

Standard 5.3 – Construction of housing pens, kennels and yards – All greyhounds enclosures, housing and sleeping areas must be designed, constructed and maintained in a way that is safe and provides for the well-being of greyhounds. Participants must monitor the dental health of all greyhounds in their care, and seek veterinary treatment if required.

NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice – Standard 2.5

Standard 2.5 – Food – Participants must ensure they have adequate food available on site to meet the needs of the greyhound in the event of an emergency such as illness or accident.

NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice – Standard 5.10

Standard 5.10 – Housing and Environment – Greyhound housing areas must provide greyhounds adequate protection against extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, humidity, dampness, persistent loud noises, light pollution, noxious odours and draughts.

NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice – Standard 5.2

Standard 5.2 – Housing and Environment – Greyhounds must be securely confined to prevent their escape from the property at which they are kept and prevent unauthorized persons gaining access to the greyhounds. Unless the greyhound is under supervision there must always be at least two barriers between the greyhound and escape from the property.

NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice – Standard 5.5

Standard 5.5 – Housing and Environment – Vehicles, caravans, trailers, portable crates and the crawl space under any dwelling must not be used as long-term housing for greyhounds.

5. The particulars of the charges were as follows;

Charge 1 – Standard 5.3, Code of Practice

That you, at all relevant times registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer, have failed to comply with a standard of the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice (**Code of Practice**), in circumstances where:

1. On 6 February 2024, 14 May 2024, 18 July 2024 and 20 August 2024, at your registered kennel address, the enclosures, housing and sleeping areas were found not to be maintained in a way that is safe and provides for the well-being of greyhounds, in that, there was observed to be exposed wire creating a welfare hazard to greyhounds.

Charge 2 - Standard 2.5, Code of Practice

That you, at all relevant times registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer, have failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice, in circumstances where:

1. On 6 February 2024, at your registered kennel address, there was not adequate food available on site to meet the needs of the fourteen greyhounds in your care in the event of an emergency such as illness or accident.

Charge 3 - Standard 5.10, Code of Practice

That you, at all relevant times registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer, have failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice, in circumstances where:

1. On 6 February 2024, 14 May 2024, 18 July 2024 and 20 August 2024, at your registered kennel address, the housing for greyhounds under your care was found not to provide adequate protection against extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, humidity, dampness and draught.

Charge 4 - Standard 5.2, Code of Practice

That you, at all relevant times registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer, have failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice, in circumstances where:

1. On 14 May 2024 and 18 July 2024, at your registered kennel address, greyhounds were observed to be unsupervised and kenneled in a manner where there was only one barrier between the greyhounds and escape from the property.

Charge 5 - Standard 5.5, Code of Practice

That you, at all relevant times registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer, have failed to comply with a standard of the Code of Practice, in circumstances where:

1. On 18 July 2024, at your registered kennel address, the greyhound Boots and All was found to have been housed in a trailer at the front of the property for a period of 2 days.

NOTE: This charge was found not proven and was subsequently withdrawn.

6. The Notice invited Ms. Pye to attend a hearing and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges and proposed penalties.
7. At the hearing held on Thursday 12 December 2024, at Taree Greyhound Club, Ms. Pye;
 - a. Entered a not guilty plea to charge 5 and a plea of guilty to charges 1-4; and
 - b. Made verbal submissions
8. Following consideration of Ms. Pye's pleas and submissions, the decision-makers found charges 1-4 proven and determined to withdraw charge 5 against Ms Pye. The decision-makers determined to take the following disciplinary action against Ms. Pye:

Charge 1 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.3) – To issue a suspension of 15 weeks.

Charge 2 (Code of Practice, Standard 2.5) – To issue a suspension of 15 weeks.

Charge 3 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.10) – To issue a suspension of 15 weeks.

Charge 4 (Code of Practice, Standard 5.2) – To issue a suspension of 15 weeks.

With the penalties to be served concurrently and backdated to the commencement of the existing interim suspension, 28 August 2024, and to therefore expire on Thursday 12 December 2024.

Further, decision-makers determined that the following conditions be imposed on Ms. Pye's registration, pursuant to section 49(4) of the Act.

1. Ms. Pye is to ensure her property, kennels, enclosures, housing and sleeping areas are of a standard that complies with and meets the requirements of the Rules of Racing and the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice.
 2. Ms. Pye is to have no more than 5 greyhounds on the property and under her care and/or training at any time.
9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers had regard to all relevant evidence and material, including:
- Ms. Pye's pleas and submissions to all charges;
 - Mr. Pye's registration history; and
 - The objective seriousness of the offence;

.....End.....