

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 1 February 2019
Decision-maker: A/Chief Steward, Gail Thorsby
Name of relevant person: Mr. Jason Magri
Track: Bulli
Date: 15 December 2018
Rule no: GAR 64(1)
Disciplinary action taken: To disqualify the greyhound with ear-brand NGDJG that raced under the name 'Cop A Hit' in race 2 at the Bulli meeting on 15 December 2018

DECISION:

The Commission has finalised their investigation into the identification of two greyhounds. The investigation determined the following:

1. There were two (2) greyhounds identified from a litter whelped on 2 July 2017. These greyhounds were:
 - (a) Microchip 956000009573457 and ear brand NGDJJ; and
 - (b) Microchip 956000009520481 and ear brand NGDJG.
2. The owner of the greyhound with Microchip number 956000009520481 and ear-brand NGDJG (“**JG**”) took possession of the identifying papers for the greyhound with Microchip number 956000009573457 and ear-brand NGDJJ (“**JJ**”).
3. The owner of JJ took possession of the identifying papers for JG. JJ was inadvertently named 'Cop A Hit'. The identifying papers were provided confirming JJ was named 'Cop A Hit'.
4. The trainer of JG, Mr. Jason Magri, presented the greyhound for a Performance Trial on 1 December 2018. The trainer presented the greyhound with the papers for JJ on the misapprehension that the greyhound was called 'Cop A Hit'.
5. Stewards identified the incorrect documentation but permitted the greyhound to trial. The incorrect identification of the greyhound was brought to the attention of the trainer of JG.

6. The Commission took steps to rectify the incorrect documentation between 4 December and 10 December 2018, including communicating with Greyhounds Australasia to replace the identifying details of JG with the details of JJ.
7. Due to an administrative error, the greyhound JG was able to be nominated for a race on 15 December 2018 at Bulli under the name 'Cop A Hit'.
8. On 15 December 2018 JG raced at Bulli under the name 'Cop A Hit'. The papers presented by the trainer at Bulli on 15 December 2018 contained the endorsement from stewards that there was an anomaly with the identification of the greyhound.
9. The Commission has undertaken an audit of these processes and has now implemented a new procedure to ensure a proper process for correctly identifying all greyhounds presented to race or trial. This procedure includes:
 - (a) Not permitting a greyhound to race or trial on the first occasion without an identification card issued by a controlling body.
 - (b) If an irregularity is identified, the greyhound, the subject of the irregularity, will automatically have their nominations rejected.
 - (c) All greyhounds presented to race or trial are identified by Commission stewards in addition to all other identification procedures.
10. As at 15 December 2018, the greyhound that raced at Bulli (JG) was not correctly named 'Cop A Hit'.
11. Following the investigation, the Commission took the action to disqualify the greyhound from the race at Bulli on 15 December 2018 as the anomaly in the identification of the greyhound had not been rectified.
12. The trainer of the of JG, which raced under the name 'Cop A Hit' at Bulli on 15 December 2018, Mr. Jason Magri, accepted that the incorrect identification had not been rectified when the greyhound was presented to race.
13. Subsequently, the Commission has rectified the incorrect identification of both JG and JJ.
14. The greyhound that raced at Bulli on 15 December 2018 will, in all future races and trials, be named 'Cop A Hit' but as this had not been effected before the race the Commission has determined that the greyhound was not correctly named and identified and accordingly must be disqualified from the race, pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule ("**GAR**") 64(1) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules which reads:
 - (1) Where a greyhound was ineligible to compete in an Event or started from an incorrect box position, it shall be disqualified from the Event and the finishing positions amended accordingly.

15. In all the circumstances, whilst the trainer Mr. Magri who presented the greyhound as 'Cop A Hit' did not ensure he presented the correct greyhound to trial on 1 December 2018 and the subsequent race on 15 December 2018, the Commission is of the view that the administrative error by the Commission contributed to the greyhound being permitted to race.
16. Accordingly, the greyhound was disqualified and no further penalty imposed.
17. In addition, the official result of race 2 at the Bulli meeting on 15 December 2018 is also amended to reflect the disqualification of the greyhound presented as 'Cop A Hit'.

.....End.....