



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 18 September 2020

Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind

Name of relevant person: Miss Donna Grech

Track: Richmond

Date: 11 April 2019, 16 April 2019 and 2 May 2019

Rule no.: Rule 28(4) x 5

Charge(s): (1)-(5) On 11 April 2019, 16 April 2019 and 2 May 2019, Miss Grech handled greyhounds presented for a trial at the Richmond Greyhound Racing Club in circumstances where she was not registered to do so.

Disciplinary action taken: Warning off periods to be served concurrently:

Charge 1 (R28(4), 11 April 2019):	9-week warning off
Charge 2 (R28(4), 11 April 2019):	9-week warning off
Charge 3 (R28(4), 16 April 2019):	9-week warning off
Charge 4 (R28(4), 16 April 2019):	9-week warning off
Charge 5 (R28(4), 2 May 2019):	9-week warning off

DECISION:

The Commission has finalised its investigation into allegations that Miss Donna Grech handled greyhounds at Richmond on various dates in April and May 2019, without being registered by the Commission to do so:

1. Unregistered participant, Miss Donna Grech, was observed to handle and trial greyhounds on five (5) occasions between 11 April 2019 and 7 May 2019 at Richmond when she was not registered by the Commission as an Attendant at a minimum.
2. After considering the evidence following completion of the Commission's investigation, the Commission charged Miss Grech under Rule 28(4) x 5 in writing. Rule 28(4) reads:

A person shall not handle a greyhound presented for an Event unless he is an owner, trainer, attendant or a registered person authorised by the Stewards to handle a greyhound for the Event.

3. Miss Grech admitted all five (5) of the charges, provided written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceeding conducted in writing.
4. The Commission found the charges proven and took the following disciplinary action against Miss Grech:
 - Charge 1 (Rule 28(4)): To warn Miss Grech off for a period of 9 weeks;
 - Charge 2 (Rule 28(4)): To warn Miss Grech off for a period of 9 weeks;
 - Charge 3 (Rule 28(4)): To warn Miss Grech off for a period of 9 weeks;
 - Charge 4 (Rule 28(4)): To warn Miss Grech off for a period of 9 weeks;
 - Charge 5 (Rule 28(4)): To warn Miss Grech off for a period of 9 weeks, with the periods of warning off to be served concurrently.
5. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty precedents;
 - The length of time that Miss Grech has previously held a trainer registration with predecessors of the Commission, being for approximately 3 years;
 - Miss Grech has no matters in her disciplinary history;
 - Miss Grech's admission of the charges at the earliest opportunity;
 - The need for general deterrence;
 - That Miss Grech was previously suspended by the previous regulator during which time Miss Grech's registration lapsed, with Miss Grech failing to re-apply for any new registration;
 - Miss Grech's submissions in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to her personal circumstances.

.....End.....