



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Warning: This report contains language which some readers may find offensive.

Date of decision:	22 October 2021
Decision-makers:	Director Compliance, Policy & Legal, Matthew Tutt, A/Deputy Chief Inspector, Shaye Barrow and Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Wade Birch
Name of relevant person:	Mr Edward Sanchez
Date:	30 June 2021
Rule no.:	Rule 86(f)(iv)
Charge:	(1) On 30 June 2021 Mr Sanchez made a comment to a staff member of Greyhound Racing NSW including contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting or offensive language.
Disciplinary action taken:	4-month suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months.

DECISION:

1. At all relevant times, Mr Sanchez was a registered greyhound Public Trainer.
2. On 30 June 2021, Mr Sanchez spoke to the Manager Racing Operations (Chief Grader) of Greyhound Racing NSW ("**GRNSW**") over telephone in relation to a concern he had about a greyhound trained by him that had been drawn as a reserve.
3. The Chief Grader advised that he would review the Order of Choice and call Mr Sanchez back.
4. The Chief Grader later called Mr Sanchez back and explained the reasoning behind why the Greyhound was drawn as a reserve. Mr Sanchez then made a complaint about the way in which the race was drawn.
5. Mr Sanchez then made comments that the Chief Grader considered threatening, before Mr Sanchez then told the Chief Grader that he was '*nothing but an arsehole*'. Mr Sanchez then continued to engage in abusive conduct, at which point the Chief Grader ended the call.
6. On review of the evidence in this matter, the Commission charged Mr Sanchez with a breach of the Greyhound Racing Rules. This rule reads:

Rule 86(f)(iv). Rules:

A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person:

...

- (f) engages in, publishes or causes to be published, broadcasts or causes to be broadcast, the use of any contemptuous, unseemly, improper, improper, insulting, or offensive language, conduct or behaviour in any manner or form towards, or in relation to:

...

- (iv) any other person having official duties in relation to greyhound racing;

7. Mr Sanchez pleaded guilty to the charge, attended a hearing and provided oral submissions in response to the charge.

8. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Sanchez:

To suspend Mr Sanchez registrations for a period of 4 months, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that he does not breach Rule 86(f)(iv) or any like Rules in that time frame.

9. Mr Sanchez was also directed to contact the Chief Grader and make an apology.

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence and submissions, including:

- The objective seriousness of Mr Sanchez’s conduct;
- The length of time Mr Sanchez has held a trainer registration in the greyhound racing industry, being since 1992, approximately 30 years;
- The lack of any relevant disciplinary history by Mr Sanchez;
- The plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest opportunity;
- Submissions made in mitigation of penalty by Mr Sanchez, in particular in relation to his personal circumstances.

.....End.....