



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 29 April 2022

Decision-makers: Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Wade Birch, Senior Steward, Kevin Adams and Legal Officer, Annalese Summerson-Hingston.

Name of relevant person: Mr Steven Kemp

Track: N/A

Rule no.: Clause 15(1)(b)

Charge: On 28 November 2021 Mr Kemp was charged with indictable offences under an Act and failed to notify the Commission, within the required period of 7 days.

Disciplinary action taken: To suspend Mr Kemp's registrations for a period of 3-months, wholly suspended for a period of 12-months conditional to Mr Kemp not breaching Clause 15(1)(b) or any like Clause or Rule in that period.

.....

Decision

1. At all relevant times Mr Kemp was registered with the Commission as a Public Trainer.
2. The Commission commenced an investigation following an anonymous complaint being made in relation to Mr Kemp's criminal convictions.
3. On 13 April 2022 the Commission decision makers issued a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action ("**Notice**") to Mr Steven Kemp, charging Mr Kemp with one charge of breaching Clause 15(1)(b) of the Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 ("**Regulation**"), which reads:

Charge - Clause 15(1)(b) – Regulation

(1) A registered greyhound racing industry participant must, in accordance with this clause, provide the following information to the Commission—

...

(b) if the participant is charged with an animal cruelty offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 or is charged with an indictable offence under another Act—details of the charge.

NOTE: Clause 15(3)(b) states:

(3) A greyhound racing industry participant who is required to provide information to the Commission under this clause must do so-

(b) in relation to a charge referred to in subclause (1)(b) – within 7 days after being charged.

4. The Notice issued a brief of evidence in relation to the Charge and invited Mr Kemp to attend a hearing.
5. On 29 April 2022 Mr Kemp attended the hearing in relation to the Charge. Mr Kemp entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made submissions in relation to the proposed penalty.
6. The Commission, after considering all available material, found the charge proven and issued the following disciplinary action against Mr Kemp:

Charge (Clause 15(1)(b), Regulation): To suspend Mr Kemp’s registrations for a period of 3-months, wholly suspended for a period of 12-months subject to Mr Kemp not breaching Clause 15(1)(b) or any like clause or rule in that period.

7. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all the available evidence, Mr Kemp’s plea and his submissions, taking into consideration the following:
 - Mr Kemp’s plea of guilty at the earliest opportunity;
 - Mr Kemp’s lack of similar disciplinary history;
 - The length of time Mr Kemp has held a registration in the greyhound racing industry, being since 2014, approximately 8 years;
 - That Mr Kemp made an attempt to notify the Commission of the offences in his registration renewal on 29th June 2021, showing no intent to actively mislead the Controlling body nor conceal the offences;
 - His submissions made in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to his personal circumstances and the circumstances surrounding his criminal convictions, and his genuine remorse expressed for his actions.
8. The decision makers note that it is extremely important that the Commission is provided with information in relation to changes in the circumstances of participants, particularly when these circumstances may have an impact on the integrity of the greyhound racing industry. However, in the circumstances raised by Mr Kemp, the decision makers were satisfied that his attempt to advise the Commission in June 2021, combined with his genuine remorse for his actions and the personal circumstances surrounding the criminal convictions, meant that the matter did not warrant a penalty higher than that of a wholly suspended sentence.

.....End.....