



**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	8 December 2022
<b>Decision-makers:</b>	Director Race Day Operations (Chief Steward), Wade Birch & Deputy Chief Steward, Troy Vassallo
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Ms Amber Capper
<b>Track:</b>	The Gardens
<b>Date:</b>	12 November 2022
<b>Rule no.:</b>	Rule 156(f)(ii)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	Charge 1 (GR156(f)(ii))  Ms Amber Capper, a registered owner-trainer did something, which in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards, constituted misconduct or is negligent or improper, in that on 12 November 2022 at The Gardens Greyhound Club, she used insulting and offensive language toward a representative of the Controlling Body.
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	<b>(1)</b> To issue a fine of \$1500, with \$500 suspended for a period of 12-months subject to Ms Capper not breaching this rule or any like rule in this period.

**INVESTIGATION:**

1. On 12 November 2022 Ms Capper attended the Gardens Greyhound Club.
2. Ms Capper entered the Stewards Room after the running of Race 5 to dispute the boxing of another runner engaged in the race.
3. Ms Capper engaged in improper conduct towards a representative of the Controlling Body upon exiting the steward's room. Upon exiting the Stewards Room, Ms Capper said

words to the effect of *“talk to me like shit, it’s like talking to a fucking paedophile”*.

**DECISION:**

4. At all relevant times Ms Capper was registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer.
5. On 2 December 2022 Ms Capper was issued with a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action (“**Notice**”).
6. In the Notice issued on 2 December 2022 the decision makers charged Ms Capper with one charge under Rule 156(f)(ii).

**Rule 156(f)(ii), Rules**

An offence is committed if a person (including an official):

(f) has, in relation to a greyhound or greyhound racing, done something, or omitted to do something, which, in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards:

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper

7. On 5 December Ms Capper informed the decision-makers that she acknowledged that she was in breach of Rule 156(f)(ii) but challenged the particulars made out in the charge.
8. After hearing further evidence from Ms Capper on 8 December 2022, the decision-makers amended the particulars of the charge. As such, Ms Capper entered the following plea:

**Charge 1 – Guilty**

9. Ms Capper provided the decision makers with written submissions in respect to the matter of penalty and determined to hand down the penalty in writing.
10. Following consideration of the submissions, the decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms Capper:

**Charge 1 (Rule 156(f)(ii))** To issue a fine of \$1500, with \$500 partially and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Ms Capper not breaching this rule or any like rule in this period.

11. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers considered all evidence, including:

- Ms Capper's guilty plea;
- Ms Capper's professional and personal circumstances;
- Ms Capper's cooperation and forthright evidence;
- The contrition shown for her conduct;
- Ms Capper's relatively short registration history, with no history of similar rule breaches.

.....End.....