

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

- Date of decision:** 28 February 2023
- Decision-makers:** Director of Race Day Operations and Integrity, Wade Birch, Deputy Chief Steward, Troy Vassallo and Senior Steward, Dean Degan
- Name of relevant person:** Mr Allan Ivers
- Date:** Various dates across 2021 and 2022
- Rule no:** Rule 86(c) x 2; Rule 86(o); Rule 156(f)
- Charge(s):**
- (1) Mr Ivers offered to accept money to scratch the dog Battling Mavis from its race on 5 March 2022;
 - (2) Charge withdrawn;
 - (3) Mr Ivers offered to accept money to scratch the dog Redeem Our Cash from its race on 22 June 2022;
 - (4) Mr Ivers placed various bets on behalf of a minor between 21 December 2021 and 30 April 2022; and
 - (5) Mr Ivers placed various bets on behalf of a minor between 1 May 2022 and 6 July 2022.
- Disciplinary action taken:** To disqualify Mr Ivers for a period of 2-years, with the period served on interim suspension from 13 October 2022 taken into account as time served.
- Accordingly, the period of disqualification will end at 11:59pm on 12 October 2024.

DECISION:

1. On 2 August 2022 the Commission received several phone communications between industry participants that raised concern as to the propriety of a number of greyhound races conducted in New South Wales.
2. Based on this information, an investigation was commenced into the relevant races which included a full betting analysis of each of the races.
3. On 13 October 2022, based on the evidence before it, the Commission suspended the registrations of Mr Allan Ivers on an interim basis pursuant to Rule 169(5)(c).

4. On 23 December 2022, the Commission charged Mr Allan Ivers with five breaches of the Greyhound Rules of Racing. Charge Two was withdrawn by the Commission after submissions in relation the charge were made by Mr Ivers legal representative.
5. The remaining charges were as follows:

Charge 1 - Rule 86(c)

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

(c) Corruptly, fraudulently or improperly accepts, or offers to accept, offers to give any money, share in a bet or other benefit to any person, including but not limited to a person having duties in relation to the breeding and/or registration of greyhounds or any person have charge of, or access to, a greyhound, in connection with greyhound racing.

1. Mr Allan Ivers was, at all material times, a Public Trainer and Breeder registered with the Commission;
2. Between 1 February 2021 and 17 October 2022, Mr Ivers was the trainer of the greyhound 'Battling Mavis';
3. On 4 March 2022 Mr Ivers offered to accept money to scratch the dog Battling Mavis from its race on 5 March 2022; and
4. On 5 March 2022 'Battling Mavis' was scratched from race 7 at the Gardens.

Charge 3 - Rule 163 (a)

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

(a) in connection with greyhound racing

- (i) corruptly;*
- (ii) fraudulently; or*
- (iii) improperly,*

accepts, or offers to accept, offers or gives, any money, share in a bet or other benefit to any person, including but not limited to a person having duties in relation to the breeding and/or the registration of greyhounds or any person having charge of, or access to, a greyhound;

1. Mr Allan Ivers was, at all material times, a Public Trainer and Breeder registered with the Commission;
2. Between 8 June 2021 and 17 October 2022 Mr Ivers was the trainer of the greyhound Redeem Our Cash;
3. On 21 June 2022 Mr Ivers offered to accept money to scratch the dog Redeem Our Cash from its race on 22 June 2022; and
4. On 22 June 2022 'Redeem Our Cash' was scratched from race 7 at Wentworth Park.

Charge 4 - Rule 86(o)

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

(o) has, in relation to a greyhound or greyhound racing, done a thing, or omitted to do a thing, which, in the opinion of the Stewards or the Controlling Body, is as the case may be, is negligent, dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent or improper, or constitutes misconduct;

1. Mr Allan Ivers as a registered Public Trainer and Breeder at all material times did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body was improper or constitutes misconduct, in circumstances where:
 - a. On a number of dates between 21 December 2021 and 30 April 2022, Mr Ivers placed various bets on behalf of a minor; and
 - b. Mr Ivers was aware that the relevant person was, at the time of placing the bets, under the age of 18.

Charge 5 - Rule 156(f)

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 the Controlling Body or the Stewards:

(i) is corrupt, fraudulent, or dishonest;

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper

1. Mr Allan Ivers as a registered Public Trainer and Breeder at all material times did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body was improper or constitutes misconduct, in circumstances where:
 - (a) On a number of dates between 1 May 2022 and 6 July 2022, Mr Ivers placed various bets on behalf of a minor; and
 - (b) Mr Ivers was aware the relevant person was, at the time of placing the bets, under the age of 18.
6. Mr Ivers pleaded guilty to the four remaining charges as particularised above. The decision makers proposed a total penalty of a 3-year disqualification. Mr Ivers legal representative made submissions in relation to the proposed penalty.
7. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all relevant material and evidence, including:
 - The Commissions objectives pursuant to the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*, being to:
 - safeguard the integrity of greyhound racing and betting; and
 - maintain public confidence in the greyhound racing industry.
 - The objective seriousness of the conduct;
 - Mr Ivers plea of guilty to the four charges, resulting in a 25% discount being afforded to the initially proposed penalty of a 3-year disqualification;
 - The penalty submissions made on behalf of Mr Ivers by his legal representative;

- The character references provided on behalf of Mr Ivers;
- Mr Ivers time in the industry, having held some form of registration since 1994, a period of nearly 30 years, as well as his disciplinary history in the sport; and
- The totality of the offending behaviour.

.....End.....