

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

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

Date of decision:	24 April 2023
Decision-makers:	Chief Operating Officer, Wade Birch, Steward Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person:	Mr Troy Robinson
Track:	N/A
Date:	June 2022
Rule no.:	Rule 156(f)(i), Rule 156(g)(iv), Rule 156(h), Rule 21(1)(c), Rule 151(2)
Charges:	<p>Charge One (Rule 156(f)(i))</p> <p>Mr Robinson provided false or misleading information to a staff member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Charges Two and Three (Rule 156(g)(iv))</p> <p>Mr Robinson threatened and abused a staff member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Mr Robinson willfully obstructed and impeded a staff member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Charge Four (Rule 156(h))</p> <p>Mr Robinson failed to comply with a lawful order of a member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Charges Five and Six (Rule 156(g)(iv))</p> <p>Mr Robinson threatened and abused a staff member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Mr Robinson threatened and abused a staff member of the Controlling Body;</p> <p>Charge Seven (Rule 21(1)(c))</p> <p>Mr Robinson failed to maintain clean and sanitary kennels;</p> <p>Charge Eight (Rule 151(2))</p> <p>Mr Robinson failed to produce written treatment records when requested by an authorised person.</p>

Plea:

Charge 1:	Guilty
Charges 2-5:	Not guilty
Charge 6:	Guilty
Charges 7-8:	Not guilty

Disciplinary action taken:

Charge One (Rule 156(f)(i)):	3-month disqualification
Charge Two (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	3-month disqualification
	Penalties for Charges One and Two to be served concurrently
Charge Three (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	3-month disqualification
Charge Four (Rule 156(h)):	4-month disqualification
	Penalties for Charges Three and Four to be served concurrently
Charge Five (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	8-month disqualification
Charge Six (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	5-month disqualification
	Penalties for Charges Five and Six to be served concurrently
Charge Seven (Rule 21(1)(c)):	3-month suspension
Charge Eight (Rule 151(2)):	Fine of \$400

Decision makers determined that the penalties imposed for Charges One and Two, Charges Three and Four and Charges Five and Six were to be cumulative, totaling to a disqualification period of 15 months commencing from the date of this decision and expiring at 11:59pm on 18 August 2024, and a fine of \$400.

DECISION:

1. Mr Robinson was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer with the Commission.
2. On 6 February 2023 Mr Robinson was issued with a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action (“**Notice**”). The Notice issued eight charges against him for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

Rule 21(1)(c)

(1) A person must ensure that any greyhound in the person's care or custody, is at all times provided with:

...

(c) kennels constructed and of a standard approved by a Controlling Body which are adequate in size and which are kept in a clean and sanitary condition;

Rule 151(2)

1) The person in charge of a greyhound must keep and retain written records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitic and treatments administered to the greyhound:

- (a) from the time the greyhound enters their care until the greyhound leaves their care; and
- (b) for a minimum of two years.

2) If requested by a Controlling Body, a Steward, or an authorized person, the record/s of treatment referred to in subrule (1) of this rule must be produced for inspection.

Rule 156(f)(i), (g) and (h)

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:

- (i) is corrupt, fraudulent, or dishonest;
- (g) wilfully assaults, obstructs, impedes, abuses, interferes with, threatens or insults:

...

(iv) a Steward or any other official of a Controlling Body or a Club;

in or at any place, including at or in the vicinity of the place where an inquiry, other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding is to take place, is taking place or has taken place.

(h) disobeys or fails to comply with a lawful order of a Controlling Body, the Stewards, or another person authorized by a Controlling Body with official duties in relation to greyhound racing;

3. A summary of the charges issued against Mr Robinson are as follows:

Charge 1 – Rule 156(f)(i)

On 1 June 2022 Mr Robinson dishonestly reported to multiple GWIC staff that the greyhound 'Gagan Stacey Lee' as deceased by snake bite, when the greyhound was neither deceased and remained in his care and control.

Charge 2 – Rule 156(g)(iv)

On 1 June 2022 Mr Robinson verbally abused a GWIC Inspector in a telephone conversation.

Charge 3 – Rule 156(g)(iv)

On 2 June 2022, Mr Robinson did wilfully obstruct, impede and interfere with officials of the Controlling Body by refusing entry to, and preventing the inspection of, his registered kennels by two GWIC Inspectors.

Charge 4 – Rule 156(h)

On 2 June 2022 Mr Robinson failed to reply to a lawful order from a GWIC Inspector by refusing to answer questions regarding the alleged death of the greyhound ‘Gagan Stacey Lee’.

Charge 5 – Rule 156(g)(iv)

On 30 June 2022 Mr Robinson did threaten and abuse a GWIC Inspector by calling him a ‘grub’ and a ‘*little fuckwit terrorist*’ and saying words to the effect of “*you’ll get turned upside down if you come in here*’.

Charge 6 – Rule 156(g)(iv)

On 30 June 2022 Mr Robinson did threaten and abuse a second GWIC Inspector by calling him words to the effect of ‘*fuckin grub*’ and ‘*simpleton*’ and by saying ‘*You scared...what a bunch of fuckin’ poofters*’.

Charge 7 – Rule 21(1)(c)

On 2 June 2022 Mr Robinson’s kennels were not kept in a clean and sanitary condition. On 30 June 2022, Mr Robinson had failed to rectify the deficiencies identified on 2 June 2022 and his kennels were again not kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

Charge 8 – Rule 151(2)

On 30 June 2022 Mr Robinson failed to produce treatment records for the greyhounds in his care and control when requested to do so by a GWIC Inspector.

4. On 24 April 2022 Mr Robinson was represented at a hearing, where a plea to each Charge and verbal submissions in respect to whether the Charges should be found proven and what the appropriate penalties would be were entered on his behalf.
5. The Commission considered all available material and found the Charges proven. The decision makers determined to take the following disciplinary action against Mr Robinson:

Charge One (Rule 156(f)(i)):	3-month disqualification;
Charge Two (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	3-month disqualification;
	With the penalties for Charges One and Two to be served concurrently.
Charge Three (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	3-month disqualification;
Charge Four (Rule 156(h)):	4-month disqualification;
	With the penalties for Charges Three and Four to be served concurrently.
Charge Five (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	8-month disqualification;
Charge Six (Rule 156(g)(iv)):	5-month disqualification;

With the penalties for Charges Five and Six to be served concurrently.

Charge Seven (Rule 21(1)(c)):

3-month suspension; and

Charge Eight (Rule 151(2)):

Fine of \$400,

Decision makers determined it appropriate that the penalties imposed for Charges One and Two, Charges Three and Four and Charges Five and Six be cumulative. Accordingly, the penalties against Mr Robinson totals a period of a 15-month disqualification commencing from the date of this decision and expiring at 11:59pm on 18 August 2024.

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

- Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW and the Commission’s Penalty Guidelines;
- The length of time Mr Robinson has held a registration, being since 2021, a period of approximately 2 years;
- Mr Robinson’s pleas of not guilty to Charges 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8;
- Mr Robinson’s pleas of guilty to Charges 1 and 6, which afforded him a 25% reduction that is granted in such circumstances;
- Mr Robinson’s submissions in mitigation relation to the Charges;
- Mr Robinson’s penalty history; and
- The objective seriousness of the conduct as a greyhound industry participant.

7. The Commission has previously made it very clear that any abusive conduct directed at Commission staff will be treated very seriously. Commission staff perform an important role in ensuring the welfare of greyhounds and the integrity of the industry is preserved and accordingly, must be protected from conduct from participants such as in the present case. Conduct that directs abuse and threats of violence towards Commission staff will always result in significant periods of disqualification.

8. The Commission has provided warnings in previous disciplinary matters that such conduct against Commission employees will result in significant penalties.

.....End.....