

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	26 May 2023
Decision-makers:	Chief Operating Officer, Wade Birch and Steward, Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person:	Mr Daniel Flanagan
Date:	Various dates across 2021 and 2022
Rule no:	Rule 164(a), Rule 86(o), Rule 156(f)
Charge(s):	(1) Mr Flanagan knowingly made false or misleading statements to representatives of the Controlling Body; (2) Mr Flanagan placed various bets on behalf of a minor between 7 January 2022 and 30 April 2022; and (3) Mr Flanagan placed various bets on behalf of a minor between 1 May 2022 and 7 July 2022.
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	Charge One – Three-month disqualification Charge two – Five-month disqualification Charge Three – Five-month disqualification All three charges are to be served concurrently, commencing Monday 29 May 2023 and ending 12.01am Sunday 29 October 2023.

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. On 25 October 2022 Mr Flanagan was interviewed by representatives of the Controlling Body in relation to these races.
3. On 6 April 2023, the Commission charged Mr Daniel Flanagan with three breaches of the Greyhound Rules of Racing.

4. The charges were as follows:

Charge 1 - Rule 164(a)

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

(a) makes a false or misleading statement in relation to or during an investigation, inspection, examination, test or inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) or makes or causes to be made a falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound.

1. Mr Daniel Flanagan was, at all material times, a Public Trainer and Breeder registered with the Commission;
2. On 25 October 2022 Mr Flanagan was interviewed by representatives of the Controlling Body in relation to activities related to races under investigation; and
3. During the course of the interview Mr Flanagan knowingly made statements which he knew to be false.

Charge 2 - 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 Daniel Flanagan was, at all material times, a Public Trainer and Breeder registered with the Commission;
2. On a number of dates between 7 January 2022 and 30 April 2022, Mr Flanagan placed various bets on behalf of a minor; and
3. Mr Flanagan was aware that the relevant person was, at the time of placing the bets, under the age of 18.

Charge 3 - 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 Daniel Flanagan was, at all material times, a Public Trainer and Breeder registered with the Commission;
2. On a number of dates between 1 May 2022 and 7 July 2022, Mr Flanagan placed various bets on behalf of a minor; and
3. Mr Flanagan was aware that the relevant person was, at the time of placing the bets, under the age of 18.

5. The decision makers proposed a total penalty of a twelve-month disqualification and invited Mr Flanagan to a hearing to be held on 24 April 2023. Mr Flanagan pleaded guilty to the three charges as particularised above and made submissions in relation to them.
6. 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 Flanagan’s plea of guilty to the three charges, resulting in a 25% discount being afforded to the initially proposed penalty of a 12-month disqualification;
 - The submissions made by Mr Flanagan;
 - Mr Flanagan’s contrition; and
 - The totality of the offending behaviour.

.....End.....