



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Tuesday 24 October 2023

Decision-maker: Chief Steward Troy Vassallo and A/ Senior Intelligence Analyst – Wagering and Form Chris Psillis

Name of relevant person: Kirstine Langham

Track: Wentworth Park

Date(s): 22 January 2022 - 23 April 2022

Rule no.: GAR86(o)

Charge: Ms Langham, on a number of dates between 22 January 2022 and 23 April 2022, accepted various bets on behalf of her employer, registered Bookmaker Mr Mark Merlino, which had been received by a person who was under the age of 18. Ms Langham negligently failed to ascertain if that person was over the age of 18.

Plea: Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a fine in the sum of \$2,500.

DECISION:

1. Ms Langham was registered at all material times as a Bookmaker Clerk.
2. Ms Langham was employed by registered Bookmaker Mr Mark Merlino (“**Mr Merlino**”).
3. The Commission obtained evidence that between 22 January 2023 and 23 April 2023 Ms Langham accepted multiple bets on behalf of Mr Merlino from a person who was under the age of 18 years old.
4. On Wednesday 30 August 2023 Ms Langham was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice the decision makers charged Ms Langham with an offence under Rule 86(o) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

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, as the case may be, is negligent, dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent or improper, or constitutes misconduct;

6. The Notice proposed a 6-month period of disqualification with respect to the charged conduct, and invited Ms Langham to attend a hearing via Microsoft Teams to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. Ms Langham's legal representative provided written submissions and entered a guilty plea to the charge on Ms Langham's behalf.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Ms Langham's plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms Langham:

To issue Ms Langham a fine in the sum of \$2,500.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Ms Langham's guilty plea;
 - Ms Langham's unblemished disciplinary record, having been registered as a Bookmaker Clerk for a period of approximately 16 years;
 - Principles of specific and general deterrence and what message is sent to the industry in respect to such conduct.

.....End.....