



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

**Date of decision:** 8 April 2024

**Decision-makers:** Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Craig Easey and Cadet Steward Zac Vella

**Name of relevant person:** Paul Roach

**Rule no(s):** R148(2), R162(e)

**Charge(s):** **Charge 1 – R148(2)**

Mr. Roach did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by being found in possession of a prohibited substance when an inspection was conducted at his registered kennel premises on 17 October 2023.

**Charge 2 – R148(2)**

Mr. Roach did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by being found in possession of a prohibited substance when an inspection was conducted at his registered kennel premises on 17 October 2023.

**Charge 3 – R162(e)**

Mr. Roach did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by being found in possession of an electronic shock collar when an inspection was conducted at his registered kennel premises on 17 October 2023

**Plea:** Guilty to all charges

**Disciplinary action taken:** **Charge 1 - \$150 fine**

**Charge 2 - \$150 fine**

**Charge 3 - \$500 fine**

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Roach was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 17 October 2023 Mr Roach, at his registered kennel address, was found to be in possession of:
  - a bottle labelled “Muscle Repair” which was found to contain lignocaine;

- a tube labelled “Nitrorain’ which was found to contain ethylestrenol; and
  - an electric ‘shock collar’
3. Both of the above substances are prohibited under Rule 137 of the Greyhound Racing Rules, and it is an offence under Rule 148(2) of the Rules to possess them unless they are labelled, prescribed, dispensed and obtained in accordance with relevant legislation.
  4. It is an offence under the Rules to possess a ‘shock collar’, as it is a device that is capable of inflicting pain or suffering upon a greyhound.
  5. On Friday 22 March 2024 Mr Roach was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”). The Notice issued three charges against him for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

**R148(2), Greyhound Racing Rules**

- (2) A person must not provide, possess, acquire, attempt to acquire, administer, attempt to administer or allow to be administered to a greyhound, any prohibited substance, exempted substance or other substance (including any other medication, medicine, injectable substance, supplement, herbal product or therapeutic good), that is not labelled, prescribed, dispensed and obtained in accordance with relevant Commonwealth, state and territory legislation.

**Rule 162(e), Greyhound Racing Rules**

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

...

- (e) has in their possession any gear, equipment, device, substance or any other thing capable of inflicting pain or suffering on a greyhound;

6. The Notice invited Mr Roach to attend a hearing on 9 April 2024, and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges and proposed penalties. The penalties decision makers proposed were:

**Charge 1 Rule 148(2) – To issue a fine of \$300**

**Charge 2 Rule 148(2) – To issue a fine of \$300**

**Charge 3 Rule 162(e) – To issue a fine of \$1000**

7. On 6 April 2024 Mr Roach provided decision makers with written submissions in which he entered a plea of guilty to each charge. Following consideration of Mr Roach’s pleas and written submissions, the decision-makers found the charges proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him:

**Charge 1 Rule 148(2) – To issue a fine of \$150**

**Charge 2 Rule 148(2) – To issue a fine of \$150**

**Charge 3 Rule 162(e) – To issue a fine of \$500**

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

- Mr. Roach's guilty plea to all charges;
- Mr. Roach's 50-year registration history within the industry;
- Mr Roach's disciplinary history, with no prior penalties for any like offences;  
and
- Previous decisions imposed by the Commission for like offences.

.....End.....