

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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	29 July 2019
<b>Decision-maker:</b>	Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Mr Paul Wade
<b>Track:</b>	Richmond
<b>Rule no:</b>	Rule 86(f)(i) x 2; Rule 86(p) x 2
<b>Charge(s):</b>	<p>(2) On 25 May 2019, Mr Wade used contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting or offensive language towards or in relation to a Steward.</p> <p>(3) On 25 May 2019, Mr Wade used contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting or offensive language towards or in relation to a Steward.</p> <p>(4) On 25 May 2019, Mr Wade failed to comply with a lawful order of a Steward.</p> <p>(5) On 25 May 2019, Mr Wade failed to comply with a lawful order of a Steward.</p>
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	<p><b>Charge 2</b> (disqualification of 4 months) &amp; <b>Charge 3</b> (disqualification of 3 months) served concurrently but wholly suspended for 12 months (conditionally); and</p> <p><b>Charges 4 &amp; 5:</b> 4-week suspension for each charge, served consecutively and backdated to 29 May 2019 and to expire on 23 July 2019 due to the period of interim suspension already served</p>

**DECISION:**

The Commission has finalised their investigation into a number of incidents which occurred at Richmond Greyhound Racing Club on 25 May 2019:

1. Registered participant, Mr Paul Wade was handling a greyhound in race 1 when it was incorrectly decided by the Stewards to box the greyhounds in the reduced field in a single line.
2. Mr Wade disagreed with the decision and discussed the matter with Stewards in the Stewards' Room, during which comments were allegedly made and gave rise to Charge 1, subsequently not proven.

3. Later in the race meeting, Mr Wade approached a Steward taking a swab in the yard behind the kennels and used highly inappropriate language determined to breach Rule 86(f). During this time, Mr Wade was given a direction to attend the Stewards' Room; he failed to comply with this direction, in breach of Rule 86(p).
4. On the same day, Mr Wade was contacted by telephone by a Steward, directing him to return to the Club to discuss the incident from earlier that evening; Mr Wade failed to comply with this direction, in breach of Rule 86(p). Mr Wade also used highly inappropriate language determined to breach Rule 86(f)(i) during this conversation.
5. After considering the evidence, the Commission notified Mr Wade of the proposed charges (R86(f)(i) x 3 and R86(p) x 2) in writing. Rule 86(f)(i) and 86(p) read:
 

R86: A person shall be guilty of an offence if the person-

...

(f) engages in, publishes or causes to be published, broadcasts or causes to be broadcast, the use of any contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting, or offensive language, conduct or behaviour in any manner or form towards, or in relation to-

(i) a Steward;

...

(p) disobeys or fails to comply with the lawful order of a Steward or other person or body having official duties in relation to greyhound racing;
6. Mr Wade denied charge 1 and entered a plea of guilty to the remaining 4 charges and provided written submissions in response.
7. The Commission considered all the available material and found:
  - a. Charge 1 (R86(f)(i)) not proven;
  - b. Charge 2 (R86(f)(i)) proven;
  - c. Charge 3 (R86(f)(i)) proven;
  - d. Charge 4 (R86(p)) proven;
  - e. Charge 5 (R86(p)) proven.
8. The Commission took the following disciplinary action against Mr Wade:
 

Charge 2 (R86(f)(i)):	To disqualify his owner and attendant registrations for a period of 4 months;
Charge 3 (R86(f)(i)):	To disqualify his owner and attendant registrations for a period of 3 months;
Charge 4 (R86(p)):	To suspend his owner and attendant registrations for a period of 1 month;
Charge 5 (R86(p)):	To suspend his owner and attendant registrations for a period of 1 month;

with:

1. The penalties for Charges 2 and 3, served concurrently **but wholly suspended** for a period of 12 months on the condition that, within that 12 month period Mr Wade does not breach Rules 86(f) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules, pursuant to Rule 95(3); and
  2. The penalties for Charges 4 and 5 served consecutively, a total of 8 weeks, backdated to 29 May 2019 (from the imposition of the interim suspension) and expired at 11:59pm on 23 July 2019.
9. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
- a. Mr Wade's registration and disciplinary history;
  - b. The period of interim suspension served;
  - c. Mr Wade's admission at the earliest opportunity and submissions in relation to the circumstances surrounding the incident and in mitigation of penalty;
  - d. NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents.

.....End.....