



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

**Date of decision:** Sunday 7 April 2024

**Decision-makers:** Senior Steward Dean Degan

**Name of relevant person:** Garry Sheather

**Rule no.:** R156(w)

**Charge(s):** Charge – R156(w)

Mr. Sheather did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with a policy adopted by the Controlling Body.

**Plea:** Guilty

**Disciplinary action taken:** Suspension of two months, wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Mr. Sheather not breaching this, or any like rule, in the 12-month period.

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Sheather was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On Friday 12 March 2024 Mr Sheather was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”) following the Commission becoming aware that Mr. Sheather had failed to comply with a policy adopted by the Controlling Body by not ensuring a greyhound was desexed prior to retirement as a companion animal. The Notice issued a charge against him for breach of the following Greyhound Racing Rule:

**Rule 156(w), Rules:**

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

...

(w) Fails to comply with a policy or code of practice adopted by a Controlling Body

3. The Notice invited Mr Sheather to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge and proposed penalty;

**Charge (Rule 29(1)) -** To issue a suspension of three months

4. At the hearing conducted via telephone conference on Sunday 7 April 2024, Mr Sheather,

- Entered a plea of guilty to the Charge; and
- Made verbal submissions.

5. Following consideration of Mr Sheather’s plea and verbal submissions, the decision-makers found the charges proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him:

Suspension of two months, wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Mr. Sheather not breaching this, or any like rule, in the 12-month period.

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

- Mr. Sheather’s guilty plea;
- Mr Sheather’s verbal submissions made at the hearing; and
- Mr. Sheather’s registration history with no prior penalties under this rule.

.....End.....