

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
SUMMARY OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 19 September 2019
Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind
Name of relevant person: Mr Vivian Meredith
Track: N/A – Non-meeting
Rule no: Rule 86(ag)
Charge(s): (1) Mr Meredith failed to ensure six (6) pups in his care were vaccinated in accordance with the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
Disciplinary action taken: Cancellation of breeder registration

DECISION:

The Commission has finalised their investigation into the circumstances which led to the contraction of parvovirus by five (5) pups under the care and control of Mr Meredith under his breeder registration:

1. On 20 October 2018, six (6) pups being four (4) bitches and two (2) dogs, were whelped from the greyhound, 'Serisier Street' under the breeder registration of Mr Meredith.
2. On 7 January 2019, the pups were taken to a local veterinarian after five (5) of the pups became unwell. The pups were examined and after testing, five (5) of the pups tested positive to parvovirus. As a result, the four (4) bitches of the litter died and the two (2) male pups, one of which tested positive to parvovirus, survived. The surviving pups were subsequently vaccinated.
3. At the time that the six (6) pups were presented to a veterinarian they were 79 days old (11.2 weeks).
4. On 24 January 2019, GWIC Inspectors attended Mr Meredith's kennels to conduct an annual kennel inspection where the contraction of the parvovirus by five (5) greyhounds and their subsequent death was brought to the attention of the Inspectors.
5. The Commission conducted an investigation into the matter.
6. After considering the evidence, the Commission notified Mr Meredith of a proposed charge under Rule 86(ag) and proposed disciplinary action in writing. Rule 86(ag), and other relevant Rules, read:

GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules

R86 Offences

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

...

- (ag) Fails to comply with the Policy adopted by a Controlling Body;

Code of Practice for Breeding, Rearing and Education of Greyhounds

15. Disease Prevention

- 15.1 Greyhounds must be vaccinated in accordance with the Greyhound Racing Rules or as directed by the Commission in consultation with a veterinary practitioner. Vaccination against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and canine cough is required (C5). The current vaccination certification (certifying that the vaccination was completed in the preceding 12 months) must be produced for each greyhound before admission.

GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules

R137 Registration of litter

...

- (b) for pups whelped on or after 1 July 2015 a certificate of vaccination against parvovirus, hepatitis and canine distemper (C3) issued by a veterinary surgeon identifying the greyhound by reference to its sex and colour, that indicates that such vaccination was performed upon the greyhound at least between six (6) and eight (8) weeks.
- (c)(i) for pups whelped on or after 1 July 2015, a certificate of vaccination against parvovirus, hepatitis, canine distemper, parainfluenza virus and Bordetella bronchiseptica (C5) issued by a veterinary surgeon identifying the greyhound by reference to its sex, colour, earbranding, and/or microchip identifications, that indicates that such vaccination was performed upon the greyhound between ten (10) and sixteen (16) weeks.

7. Mr Meredith admitted the charge and accepted the proposed disciplinary action at the earliest opportunity.
8. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Meredith:
- To cancel his breeder registration
9. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
- Mr Meredith has held a registration in the greyhound racing industry for over 33 years;
 - Mr Meredith does not have any like matters in his disciplinary history;
 - Mr Meredith's admission at the earliest opportunity and submissions made during the course of the investigation of the matter;

- NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents.

.....End.....