



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

**Date of decision:** Wednesday 26 July 2023

**Decision-makers:** Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Craig Easey

**Name of relevant person:** Garry Sheather

**Rule no.:** R156(o), Standard 6.1 Code of Practice

**Charge(s):** Charge 1 – 156(o)  
Mr. Sheather did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence by making a statement known to be false to an officer of a Controlling Body  
Charge 2 – Standard 6.1  
Mr. Sheather did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence by transporting greyhounds in a manner likely to cause injury or undue stress to the greyhound.

**Plea:** Charge 1 – Guilty  
Charge 2 – Guilty

**Disciplinary action taken:** **Charge 1** - 3-month disqualification.  
**Charge 2** - 1-month suspension, to be served concurrently with Charge 1  
The period of disqualification will commence midnight Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and expires midnight Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Sheather was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.

2. On 20 July 2023 Mr Sheather was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”). The Notice issued two charges against him for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

**Charge One Rule 156(o), Rules**

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

- o) makes or publishes any statement known by the person to be false where the publication is to:
  - i. a member of a Controlling Body;
  - ii. an officer of a Controlling Body;
  - iii. an employee of a Controlling Body; or
  - iv. an officiating veterinarian or official in the course of them performing their functions.

**Charge Two Standard 6.1, Code of Practice**

Transporting greyhounds;

- 6.1 Greyhounds must not be transported in a manner likely to cause injury or undue stress to the greyhound

3. A summary of the charges issued against Mr Sheather are as follows:

**Charge One – Rule 156(o)**

On April 11, 2023, Mr Sheather attended the Temora Greyhound Track for the purpose of racing three greyhounds, namely ‘Mint Freeze’, ‘Zipping Sheena’ and ‘Tarraganda’ (“Greyhounds”). During an interview with an officer of the Controlling Body Mr Sheather knowingly made a false statement in respect to the manner in which the Greyhounds had been transported to the race meeting.

**Charge Two – Standard 6.1**

On April 11, 2023, Mr Sheather transported the Greyhounds to the Temora Greyhound Track in a manner likely to cause injury or undue stress.

4. The Notice invited Mr Sheather to attend a hearing on Wednesday 26 July 2023 and to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
5. At the hearing conducted on Wednesday 26 July Mr Sheather;

- Entered a plea of guilty to both charges; and
- Made verbal submissions.

6. Following considering of Mr Sheather’s plea and verbal submissions, the decision-makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against him:

**Charge 1** – 3-month disqualification.

**Charge 2** – 1-month suspension, to be served concurrently with Charge 1

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

- Mr. Sheather’s Guilty plea
- Mr. Sheather’s 28-year history in the industry and good record, with no previous charges over any similar matter

.....End.....