

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 16 March 2025
Decision-makers: Acting Chief Steward Dean Degan and Steward Tora Cavanagh
Name of relevant person: Ms Evelyn Harris
Date: 2 March 2025
Rule no: 25(6)
Charge(s): Ms Harris permitted greyhounds in her custody to compete in an event within five days of the date they were administered a vaccine.
Plea: Not Guilty
Disciplinary action taken: To issue a fine of \$500.

INVESTIGATION:

1. Ms Harris was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer, Studmaster and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 28 February 2025 the greyhounds Lenny Large and Poppy Valentina ("**Greyhounds**") were vaccinated at a veterinary clinic.
3. On 2 March 2025 Ms Harris presented the Greyhounds at the Grafton Greyhound Club for the purpose of competing in race 4 and race 5 respectively.

DECISION:

4. On Wednesday 5 March 2025 Ms Harris was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 5 March 2025 the decision makers charged Ms Harris with an offence under Rule 25(6) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 25(6)

- (6) *Unless a Controlling Body determines otherwise, a greyhound must not compete in any event within five days of the date it was administered a vaccine*

6. The decision makers proposed a total penalty of a \$1,000 fine and to disqualify the Greyhounds from their respective events at Grafton on March 2, 2025, and invited Ms Harris to a hearing to be held on Sunday 9 March 2025 at the Grafton Greyhound Club.
7. On Friday 7 March 2025, owing to the abandonment of the Grafton meeting scheduled for Sunday 9 March 2025, the hearing was rescheduled for Sunday 16 March 2025.
8. On Sunday 16 March 2025 Ms Harris attended the hearing held at the Grafton Greyhound Club and;
 - entered a plea of not guilty; and
 - provided verbal submissions
9. Following consideration of Ms Harris's plea and submissions, the decision makers found the charge proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon her:

Charge 1 – Rule 25(6): To issue a fine of \$500
10. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all relevant material and evidence, including:
 - Ms. Harris' Not Guilty plea; and
 - Ms. Harris' 47-year disciplinary record, with no prior like offences.
11. In addition, Greyhound Lenny Large was disqualified from Race 4 at the Grafton meeting on 2 March 2025 pursuant to Rule 19(v) of the Rules, and Greyhound Poppy Valentina was disqualified from Race 5 at the Grafton meeting on 2 March 2025 pursuant to Rule 19(v) of the Rules.

.....End.....