

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	12 June 2025
Decision-makers:	Acting Chief Steward Dean Degan
Name of relevant person:	George Borg
Rule no(s):	R156(f)(i), R164(a)
Charge(s):	Charge 1 – 156(x) Withdrawn Charge 2 – R156(f)(i) Mr. Borg did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, is corrupt, fraudulent or dishonest, by booking trials on behalf of a disqualified person. Charge 3 – R164(a) Mr. Borg did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, is false or misleading, by making a statement to an officer of the Controlling Body when it was known to be false.
Plea:	Not Guilty to both charges
Disciplinary action taken:	Charge 1 - To issue a \$1000 fine and a 12-month suspension, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period 12 months subject to Mr. Borg not breaching this or any like rule in this period. Charge 2 - To issue a \$1000 fine and a 12-month suspension, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period 12 months subject to Mr. Borg not breaching this or any like rule in this period.

DECISION:

1. Mr Borg was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. Between December 2022 and January 2023 Mr Borg conducted activities on behalf of a disqualified person, including booking trials on behalf of the disqualified person.

3. On 15 February 2023, during an interview with officers of the Controlling Body, Mr Borg stated that he had no relationship with the disqualified person. During a further interview on 1 March 2023 Mr Borg confirmed the disqualified person was a casual acquaintance of several years.
4. On Tuesday 2 April 2024 Mr Borg was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**"). The Notice issued three charges against him for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

R156(x), Greyhound Racing Rules

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

...

- (x) being a registered person or person associated with greyhound racing, associates with a disqualified or warned off person for the purposes of greyhound racing;

Rule 156(f)(i), Greyhound Racing Rules

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

...

- (f) has, in relation to a greyhound or greyhound racing, done something, or omitted to do something, which, in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards:

- (i) is corrupt, fraudulent, or dishonest;

Rule 164(a)

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

...

- (a) makes a false or misleading statement in relation to or during an investigation, inspection, examination, test or inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) or makes or causes to be made a falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound.

5. The Notice invited Mr Borg to attend a hearing on Wednesday 16 April 2024, at which time he would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the Charges.
6. Decision makers consented to a request to reschedule the hearing made by Mr. Borg's legal representative. On 16 June 2024 Mr Borg and his legal representative attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
 - Entered a plea of not guilty to all charges; and
 - provided verbal submissions in response to the charges
7. On 26 July 2024 Mr Borg's legal representative was provided proposed penalties in respect to the Charges.

8. On 12 December 2024 the decision maker notified Mr. Borg's legal representative of his decision to withdraw Charge 1 and provided him with amended particulars in respect of Charge 2 and Charge 3. At a hearing held on 28 February 2025 Mr. Borg's legal representative entered a plea of not guilty to the amended particulars for Charges 2 and 3 and made verbal submissions on the charges and proposed penalties.
9. On 3 April 2025 the decision maker provided Mr. Borg's legal representative with further amended particulars on Charges 2 and 3. At a hearing held on 2 May 2025 Mr. Borg's legal representative entered a plea of not guilty to the amended particulars for Charges 2 and 3 and made verbal submissions on the charges and proposed penalties.
10. Following consideration of Mr Borg's plea of not guilty to both charges and verbal submissions made on his behalf, the decision maker found the charges proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him;

Charge 1 - Withdrawn

Charge 2 - To issue a \$1000 fine and a 12-month suspension, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period 12 months subject to Mr. Borg not breaching this or any like rule in this period.

Charge 3 - To issue a \$1000 fine and a 12-month suspension, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period 12 months subject to Mr. Borg not breaching this or any like rule in this period.

11. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision maker considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr. Borg's not guilty plea to both charges;
 - Mr. Borg's registration history within the industry with no like prior offences;
 - Personal and professional circumstances; and
 - The length of time between the commencement of the investigation and the finalisation of this matter.
12. Normally a penalty for such an offence would warrant a period of suspension or disqualification. The disciplinary action taken in this decision should not be considered as a precedent for participants in a similar situation to Mr. Borg, due to the unique circumstances of the case and the specific factors that were relevant mitigating factors.

.....End.....