

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 13 August 2025

Decision-makers: Acting Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel and Team Leader
Registration Craig Townsend

Name of relevant person: Mr Scott Knight

Date: 3 June 2025

Rule no: 24(1)

Charge(s): Mr Knight did something, which in the opinion of the Controlling Body constitutes an offence, by retiring, without prior surgical sterilisation, a greyhound in his custody in circumstances not approved by the Controlling Body.

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a 6-month suspension
With the suspension period to commence Thursday 14 August 2025 and expire Midnight Saturday 14 February 2026

INVESTIGATION:

1. Mr Knight was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On Tuesday 3 June 2025 Mr Knight surrendered a greyhound in his custody, that had not been surgically sterilised by a veterinarian, for retirement as a pet in circumstances not approved by the Controlling Body.

DECISION:

3. On Tuesday 12 August 2025 Mr Knight was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
4. In the Notice issued on 12 August 2025 the decision makers charged Mr Knight with an offence under Rule 24(1) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 24(1), Rules

1. *Unless a greyhound is being accepted by an adoption agency approved by a Controlling Body that undertakes sterilisation, the owner or person responsible for the greyhound at the time of such retirement as a pet must ensure that the greyhound has been surgically sterilised by a veterinarian before allowing the greyhound to leave their care and custody, except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of a Controlling Body, that being sterilised would be detrimental to its welfare.*
5. The Notice invited Mr Knight to provide written submissions in relation to the Charge and proposed penalty.
6. On Wednesday 13 August 2025 Mr Knight contacted decision makers and;
 - Provided written submissions
7. Following consideration of Mr Knight's submissions in respect of the Charge and proposed penalty, decision makers found the charge proven and determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him:

Charge 1 – Rule 165(a) – To issue a 6-month suspension

With the suspension period to commence Thursday 14 August 2025 and expire Midnight Saturday 14 February 2026

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all relevant material and evidence, including:
 - Mr Knight's disciplinary record, with no prior like offences; and
 - Principles of general and specific deterrence with regard to what message is sent to the industry in respect of conduct as what occurred in this matter; and
 - The purpose of issuing penalties as a protective measure, in order to promote and protect the welfare of greyhounds.

.....End.....