

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 31 July 2025

Decision-makers: Senior Steward Kevin Adams, Steward Maddison Watson and Steward Angus Chippindale

Name of relevant person: Mr Wayne Banfield

Rule no(s): 156(w), 164(b)

Charge(s): Charge 1 – Rule 156(w)
Mr Banfield did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with Clause 10 of the NSW Greyhound Rehoming Policy
Charge 2 – Rule 156(w)
Mr Banfield did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with Clause 10 of the NSW Greyhound Rehoming Policy
Charge 3 – Rule 156(w)
Mr Banfield did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with Clause 10 of the NSW Greyhound Rehoming Policy
Charge 4 – Rule 164(b)
Mr Banfield did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by failing to comply with a lawful order of a person authorised by the Controlling Body with official duties in relation to greyhound racing.

Plea: No plea entered

Disciplinary action taken: Charge 1 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
Charge 2 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
Charge 3 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
Charge 4 – To suspend Mr Banfield for a period of 6 Months

With the penalties to be served cumulatively;

With the period of disqualification to commence 4 August 2025 and expire 4 August 2031; and

With the period of suspension to commence 4 August 2031 and expire 4 February 2032

INVESTIGATION:

1. Mr Banfield was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On 22 November 2024 Mr Banfield arranged for the euthanasia of the greyhound “Lanmor Pick”. The euthanasia of this greyhound did not comply with one of the reasons outlined in Clause 10 of the NSW Greyhound Rehoming Policy
3. On 13 March 2025 Mr Banfield arranged for the euthanasia of the greyhounds “Lanmor Circus” and Unnamed (Left Ear Brand VLXYC). The euthanasia of these greyhounds did not comply with one of the reasons outlined in Clause 10 of the NSW Greyhound Rehoming Policy.
4. On 12 May 2025 Mr Banfield was issued with a direction, in relation to an inquiry, by a person authorised by the Controlling Body with official duties in relation to greyhound racing. Mr Banfield failed to comply with this direction.

DECISION:

5. On Friday 25 July 2025 Mr Banfield was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
6. In the Notice issued on 25 July 2025 the decision makers charged Mr Banfield with four charges under the following NSW Greyhound Racing Rules, which read:

Rule 156(w)

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

(w) fails to comply with a policy or code of practice adopted by a controlling body

Rule 164(b)

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

(b) refuses or fails to attend or to give evidence at an inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) or produce a document or other thing in relation to an investigation, examination, test or inquiry (or other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) pursuant to the Rules when directed by a Controlling Body, the Stewards, or another authorised person.

7. The Notice invited Mr Banfield to attend a hearing on Thursday 31 July 2025, at which time he would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges and proposed penalties.
8. On Thursday 31 July 2025 Mr Banfield failed to appear at the scheduled hearing. Decision makers made attempts to contact Mr Banfield but were unsuccessful. Accordingly, the hearing was conducted in his absence.
9. In lieu of having the opportunity to consider a plea or any submissions from Mr Banfield on the charges and proposed penalties, the decision makers found the charges proven and determined to not reduce the proposed penalties. Accordingly, decision makers imposed upon Mr Banfield the following penalties
 - Charge 1 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
 - Charge 2 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
 - Charge 3 – To disqualify Mr Banfield for a period of 2 Years
 - Charge 4 – To suspend Mr Banfield for a period of 6 Months
10. Decision makers elected to invoke Rule 176 and that the penalties to be therefore served cumulatively, with the net period of disqualification to be served from 4 August 2025 and to expire 4 August 2031. At such point Mr Banfield will serve a six-month suspension, commencing from 4 August 2031 and to expire 4 February 2032.
11. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all relevant material and evidence, including:
 - Mr Banfield's failure to attend the hearing on Thursday 31 July 2025 and the lack of a plea or any submissions in respect of the charges and proposed penalties. This was an important factor in determining not to reduce the penalties below what was initially proposed;
 - Principles of specific and general deterrence, with regard to what message is sent to the industry in respect of conduct such 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.....