

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	30 October 2025
Decision-makers:	Acting Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel and Steward Shannon Kearney
Name of relevant person:	Zahra Levin
Rule no(s):	Clause 10 of Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019 (NSW), Rule 34(1), Rule 156(h), Rule 165(c)(i)
Charge(s):	Charge 1 –Clause 10(3) Ms Levin failed to comply with clause 10(3) of the <i>Greyhound Racing Regulation 2019</i> (NSW) Charge 2 – R34(1) Ms Levin did something, which in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by allowing greyhounds in her custody to be kept at the premises of an unregistered person in circumstances not approved by the Controlling Body Charge 3 – R156(h) Ms Levin did something, 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 Charge 4 – R165(c)(i) Ms Levin did something, which in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by engaging in improper, insulting and offensive conduct towards the Controlling Body Charge 5 – R165(c)(i) Ms Levin did something, which in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by engaging in

improper, insulting and offensive conduct towards the Controlling Body

Charge 6 – R156(h)

Ms Levin did something, 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.

Disciplinary action taken:

Charge 1 – To suspend Ms Levin for 2 months;

Charge 2 – To suspend Ms Levin for 6 months;

Charge 3 – To disqualify Ms Levin for 6 months;

Charge 4 – To suspend Ms Levin for 12 months;

Charge 5 – To suspend Ms Levin for 12 months;

Charge 6 – To disqualify Ms Levin for 6 months;

With the penalties to be served cumulatively;

With the period of disqualification period commencing 30 October 2025 and expiring on 30 October 2026; and

With the period of suspension to commencing 30 October 2026 and expiring on 30 June 2029.

DECISION

1. Ms Zahra Levin was, at all relevant times, a registered Owner with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission ("**Commission**").
2. On Monday 3 March 2025 a greyhound in Ms Levin's care died. Ms Levin did not notify the Controlling Body of this event until Thursday 7 August 2025.
3. On Tuesday 9 September 2025 an Officer of the Controlling Body attended Ms Levin's address. Two greyhounds ("**Greyhounds**") in Ms Levin's ownership were not present at the address and were instead in the care of an unregistered person. Ms Levin refused to comply with a direction from an Officer of the Controlling Body to supply details of the Greyhounds location. On Wednesday 24 September 2025 Ms Levin was served with a further formal direction by an Officer of the Controlling Body to supply details of the Greyhounds location, which Ms Levin failed to comply with.
4. Between Thursday 18 September 2025 and Tuesday 23 September 2025, and separately between the above dates, Ms Levin exchanged SMS messages with Officers of the Controlling Body in which she engaged in improper, insulting and offensive conduct towards the Controlling Body.

5. On Thursday 23 October 2025, Ms Levin was issued with a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action (“**Notice**”). In the Notice, decision makers issued Ms Levin with five charges under the Rules of Racing and one charge under the Greyhound Racing Regulation, which read:

Clause 10(3), Greyhound Racing Regulation

- (1) A greyhound racing industry participant who owns or keeps a greyhound must, in accordance with this clause, provide the following information to the Commission-

...

- (e) if the greyhound dies – details relating to the date, time and location of the death and circumstances surrounding the death (including the cause of death, if known)

...

- (2) If the Commission approves a manner or form for providing information required by this clause, the information must be provided in the approved manner or form.

- (3) A greyhound racing industry participant who is required to provide information to the Commission under this clause must do so-

...

- (b) in the circumstances referred to in subclause (1)(e) – not more than 2 days after the death of the greyhound...

Rule 34(1), Rules

- (1) Except in the circumstance stated in subrule (7) of this rule or unless permission is granted otherwise by a Controlling Body, a greyhound must at all times be kept at the registered address of its trainer or owner.

...

- (7) If a trainer or owner proposes to leave a greyhound trained by that person in the control of another trainer or attendant (who must not be a minor) for any period:

- (a) the trainer or owner must in writing seek permission from a Controlling Body to leave a greyhound trained or owned by that person in the control of a person nominated by the trainer or owner, and specify the period during which the person seeks permission for the greyhound to be left with that person

Rule 156(h), Rules

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

- (h) disobeys or fails to comply with a lawful order of a Controlling Body, the Stewards, or another person authorised by a Controlling Body with official duties in relation to greyhound racing.

Rule 165(c)(i), Rules

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

- (c) engages in contemptuous, improper, insulting, and offensive conduct in any manner or form towards, or in relation to:

(i) a Controlling Body

6. The Notice invited Ms Levin to attend a hearing on Thursday 30 October 2025, at which time she would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges and proposed penalties.
7. On Thursday 30 October 2025 Ms Levin failed to appear at the scheduled hearing. Decision makers made attempts to contact Ms Levin but were unsuccessful. Accordingly, the hearing was conducted in her absence.
8. In lieu of having the opportunity to consider a plea or any submissions from Ms Levin 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 Ms Levin the following penalties:
 - Charge 1** – To suspend Ms Levin for 2 months;
 - Charge 2** – To suspend Ms Levin for 6 months;
 - Charge 3** – To disqualify Ms Levin for 6 months;
 - Charge 4** – To suspend Ms Levin for 12 months;
 - Charge 5** – To suspend Ms Levin for 12 months;
 - Charge 6** – To disqualify Ms Levin for 6 months
9. 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 30 October 2025 and to expire 30 October 2026. At such point Ms Levin will serve a 32 month suspension, commencing from 30 October 2026 and to expire midnight 30 June 2029.
10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers had regard to all relevant evidence and material, including:
 - Ms Levin's failure to attend the hearing on Thursday 30 October 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.....