



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Warning: This report contains language which some readers may find offensive

Date of decision: 23 March 2026
Decision-maker: Acting Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel and Steward Geoff Page
Name of relevant person: Robert Hoare
Track N/A
Date: 4 August 2025 & 19 November 2025
Rule no.: 156(b), 156(i), 156(g)(ii)
Charge(s):

Charge 1 – Rule 156(i)

Mr Robert Hoare did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by preventing Officers of the Controlling Body from carrying out an inspection of his registered kennel address.

Charge 2 – Rule 156(g)(ii)

Mr Robert Hoare did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by engaging in threatening and abusive conduct towards Officers of the Controlling Body

Charge 3 – Rule 156(b)

Mr Robert Hoare did a thing which, in the opinion of the Controlling Body, constitutes an offence, by breaching a condition upon their registration.

Plea: Guilty to all charges

Disciplinary action taken: **Charge 1 (Rule 156(i)):** 6 Month Disqualification
Charge 2 (Rule 156(g)(ii)): 6 Month Disqualification
Charge 3 (Rule 156(b)): 3 Month Suspension

With Charges 1 & 2 to be served concurrently, with the disqualification period commencing 23 March 2026 and expiring midnight 22 September 2026; and

With Charge 3 to commence 23 September 2026 and expire midnight 22 December 2026

INVESTIGATION

1. Mr Robert Hoare was, at all relevant times, a registered Public Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On Thursday 6 July 2023 a condition was imposed upon Mr Hoare's registration prohibiting him from more than eight greyhounds under his trainership or under his care, control or supervision at any one time.
3. On Monday 4 August 2025 Officers of the Controlling Body conducted a kennel inspection at Mr Hoare's registered kennel address ("**Property**"). During the inspection 13 greyhounds were identified as being under Mr Hoare's trainership or supervision.
4. On Wednesday 19 November 2025 Officers of the Controlling Body conducted a kennel inspection at the Property. During the inspection Mr Hoare refused to allow Officers of the Controlling Body to examine greyhounds on the premises whilst they were exercising their powers under section 75(2)(a) of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017. Further, during the inspection Mr Hoare engaged in conduct that was threatening and abusive towards Officers of the Controlling Body, telling them to '*fuck off*'.

DECISION:

5. On Tuesday 10 March 2026, Mr Hoare was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**"). In the Notice, the decision makers charged Mr Hoare with two offences under the Greyhound Racing Rules, which read:

Rule 156(i), Rules

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

(i) prevents, attempts to prevent, interferes with or attempts to interfere with the carrying out of any identification, examination, test, necropsy, analysis, inquiry, investigation or inspection (including a kennel inspection) pursuant to the Rules. For the purpose of this subrule:

- i. A test includes, but is not limited to, the collection of a sample; and
- ii. removing, or allowing to be removed, hair from a majority of a greyhound, or any part of the tail of a greyhound, and preventing the collection of a sample will amount to a breach of this rule

unless a person has obtained the permission of the Stewards

Rule 156(g)(ii), Rules

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

...

(g) wilfully assaults, obstructs, impedes, abuses, interferes with, threatens or insults:

...

(ii) any officer, employee or member of a Controlling Body;

6. On Friday 13 March 2026, Mr Hoare was issued with a further notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Second Notice**”). In the Second Notice, the decision makers charged Mr Hoare with an offence under the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 156(b):

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

...

(b) fails to comply with any conditions:

- i. Of the person’s registration or license as an owner, trainer, attendant or any other category of registration or license;
- ii. To which the registration of any greyhound owned by the person or under the person’s care or custody is subject

7. The Notices invited Mr Hoare to attend a hearing on Monday 23 March 2026, at which time he would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charges.
8. On Monday 23 March 2026, Mr Hoare attended a hearing held via Microsoft Team where he:
- Entered a plea of guilty to all charges; and
 - Provided verbal submissions
9. Following consideration of Mr Hoare’s plea and submissions, decision makers found the charges proven. Decision makers provided Mr Hoare with a Notice of Proposed Penalty, which outlined the penalties that they were considering imposing in relation

to the offences. Mr Hoare was invited to make submissions in respect of the proposed penalties to the offences.

10. Following consideration of Mr Hoare's submissions in respect of the proposed penalties, decision makers determined to impose the following disciplinary action upon him:

Charge 1 (Rule 156(i): 6 Month Disqualification

Charge 2 (Rule 156(g)(ii)): 6 Month Disqualification

Charge 3 (Rule 156(b)): 3 Month Suspension

With Charges 1 & 2 to be served concurrently, with the disqualification period commencing 23 March 2026 and expiring midnight 22 September 2026; and

With Charge 3 to commence 23 September 2026 and expire midnight 22 December 2026

11. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all the material and evidence before them, including:

- Mr Hoare's guilty pleas (25% reduction);
- Mr Hoare's verbal submissions;
- Mr Hoare's personal and professional circumstances;
- Principles of specific and general deterrence; and
- The objective seriousness of the offences

.....End.....