

**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Date of decision:</b>          | 26 March 2026   |
| <b>Decision-makers:</b>           | Senior Inspector Flett Turner<br>Senior Inspector Pete Austin   |
| <b>Name of relevant person:</b>   | <b>Katherine Vella</b>  |
| <b>Track:</b>                     | N/A   |
| <b>Date:</b>                      | 26 March 2026   |
| <b>Rule no.:</b>                  | Rule 156  |
| <b>Charge(s):</b>                 | <b>Charge 1 – R156(f)(ii)</b><br>Ms Vella has acted improperly, by failing to check-in or provide end of life or retirement notifications for her greyhounds.<br><b>Charge 2 – 156(h)</b><br>Ms Vella, when directed to complete overdue eTrac Check-ins for greyhounds in her care failed to comply with this direction.                                   |
| <b>Plea:</b>                      | <b>Charge 1 – No plea entered.</b><br><b>Charge 2 – No plea entered.</b>  |
| <b>Disciplinary action taken:</b> | <b>Charge 1 – To issue a suspension until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.</b><br><b>Charge 2 – To issue a suspension until such time as her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.</b> |

**DECISION**

1. Ms Vella was at all relevant times, a registered Owner Trainer with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. At all material times the greyhound, the subject of the charges was registered in Ms Vella's ownership.
3. On Thursday, 26 February 2026, following an investigation by the Commission, a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action ("Notice") was issued to Ms Vella. The Notice issued two charges under the Greyhound Racing Rules alleging a breach of the following:

**Charge 1: Rule 156(f)(ii)**

**156 General offences**

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;

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper;

**Charge 2: Rule 156(h)**

**156 General offences**

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;

4. The Notice invited Ms Vella to make submissions in relation to the charges and penalty. The penalties proposed in the notice were:

**Charge 1** - To suspend Ms Vella until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

**Charge 2** - To suspend Ms Vella until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

5. Ms Vella failed to respond and make submissions in relation to the charges or penalties by Thursday, 5 March 2026.

6. The decision makers imposed the following penalties:

**Charge 1** - To suspend Ms Vella until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

**Charge 2** - To suspend Ms Vella until such time her greyhounds are checked-in or the relevant end of life or retirement notifications are completed and submitted.

7. This matter remains under investigation, and this decision will be updated when the relevant greyhound/s are checked-in in accordance with GWIC’s Check-In Policy and/or appropriate notifications are provided.

.....End.....