



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 21 October 2021

Decision-makers: Chief Inspector, David OShannessy, Senior Steward, Dean Degan & Acting Senior Legal Officer, Alice Stafford

Name of relevant person: Mr Robert Stojanov

Date: 30 March 2021

Rule no.: Rule 86(f)(iv)

Charge: (1) On 30 March 2021 Mr Stojanov made a Facebook post referencing Greyhound Racing NSW including contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting or offensive language.

Disciplinary action taken: 3-month suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months.

DECISION:

1. At all relevant times, Mr Stojanov was a registered greyhound Public Trainer.
2. On 30 March 2021, a review of 'TheDogs.com.au' Facebook page showed a published post titled '*They're here!*'. The post was in relation to the fields of the semi-finals of the 2021 Golden Easter Egg greyhound race being released.
3. A comment was made by the user 'Robert Stojanov' when replying to comment made by the user 'Johnny Masters'. The comment made by the user 'Robert Stojanov' read:
"Johnny Masters everyone knows the box draws and fields for all nsw races are rigged nothing short of legitimate criminals like politicians"
4. Mr Stojanov made admissions that he had made the post using the profile named 'Robert Stojanov'.
5. On review of the evidence in this matter, the Commission charged Mr Stojanov with a breach of Rule 86(f)(iv) of the Rules. This rule reads:

Rule 86

A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person-

...

- (f) engages in, publishes or causes to be published, broadcasts or causes to be broadcast, the use of any contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting or offensive language, conduct or behaviour in any manner or form towards, or in relation to-

...

- (iv) any other person having official duties in relation to greyhound racing...

6. Mr Stojanov pleaded guilty to the charge, provided written submissions in response to the charges and elected to have the matter dealt with on the papers.

7. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Stojanov:

To suspend the registration of Mr Stojanov for a period of 3 months, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that he does not breach Rule 86(f)(iv) or any like Rules in that time frame.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence and submissions, including:

- The objective seriousness of Mr Stojanov's conduct;
- The length of time Mr Stojanov has held a trainer registration in the NSW greyhound racing industry, being since 2005, approximately 16 years;
- Mr Stojanov's disciplinary history – he has one prior disciplinary matter in 2018 for posting content on Facebook for which he received a reprimand;
- Mr Stojanov's admission to the charge at the earliest opportunity; and
- The submissions made by Mr Stojanov's in relation to this matter, in particular in relation to his personal circumstances.

.....End.....