



INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATION REGISTERED ATTENDANT MR. JOHN VERTELINNI TRAVELLED WITH A PERSON FROM A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF CONCERN TO THE DAPTO GREYHOUND CLUB ON 5 AUGUST 2021 IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE NSW GOVERNMENT PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS.

By Video Conference

Stewards: Mr. W. Birch (Chairman)

Mr. M. Tutt

Mr. D. OShannessey

13 September 2021

The Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (GWIC) today convened a hearing to consider a charge issued against Registered Attendant Mr. John Vertellini arising from his travel to the Dapto Greyhound Club on 5 August 2021 with Mr. Wolfgang Kraeft, a resident from a Local Government area of concern.

At the hearing today the following charge was considered:

Charge 1 – GAR 86(q) Offences

That on 5 August 2021, Mr. John Vertellini engaged in conduct prejudicial to the control and promotion of greyhound racing by travelling to the Dapto Greyhound Club in a vehicle with Mr. Wolfgang Kraeft, a person who resided in a Local Government Area of Concern, and a person he did not live with, for the purposes of participating in greyhound activities in contravention of the NSW State Government Public Health Orders.

Penalty

Stewards heard submissions from Mr. Vertellini in respect to penalty. In determining penalty, Stewards considered Mr. Vertellini's good record in the industry over a long period of time, guilty plea, and the contrition shown by Mr. Vertellini at today's hearing. Having regard to these matters, Stewards believed a disqualification of 3 months to be appropriate. Stewards ordered the disqualification to expire on 6 December 2021, in consideration of the interim suspension imposed upon Mr. Vertellini on 6 August 2021.

Relevant Rules

Rule 86 Offences

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

(q) commits or omits to do any act or engages in conduct which is in any way detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control, or promotion of greyhound racing.