



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

**Date of decision:** 11 June 2021

**Decision-makers:** A/Senior Legal Officer, Alice Stafford, Chief Inspector, David OShannessy and Senior Steward, Dean Degan

**Name of relevant person:** Mr Vincent Cassar

**Track:** N/A – non meeting

**Date:** 14 December 2020

**Rule no.:** Rule 86(ag)

**Charge:** Mr Cassar failed to comply with clauses 2 and 4 of the *GWIC Greyhound Re-homing Policy* dated 1 December 2019 (and amended 16 April 2020)

**Disciplinary action taken:** To suspend Mr Cassar’s Owner Trainer registration for a period of 12 weeks, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that Mr Cassar does not breach Rule 86(ag) or similar rules during that 12-month period

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Cassar was, at all material times, a registered greyhound owner trainer.
2. Mr Cassar was, at all material times, the owner and trainer of the greyhound ‘Saint Storm’ (“**Greyhound**”).
3. On 14 December 2020, the Greyhound was retired to a non-greyhound racing industry participant.
4. Prior to re-homing, Mr Cassar did not provide the Greyhound with a ‘wind down’ period of at least 30 days before being rehomed in accordance with clause 2 of the *GWIC Greyhound Re-homing Policy* dated 1 December 2019 (and amended 16 April 2020) (“**Policy**”).
5. At the time of re-homing, the Greyhound was not desexed in accordance with clause 4 of the Policy.
6. The Commission charged Mr Cassar under Rule 86(ag) which reads:

**Rule 86(ag), Rules**

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

...

(ag) fails to comply with a policy adopted by a Controlling Body;

[A “**person**” is defined in Rule 1 as any person or body corporate whether registered by the Controlling Body or not.]

7. Mr Cassar admitted the charge, provided written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceeding conducted in writing.

8. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Cassar:

To suspend his trainer registration for a period of 12 weeks, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that Mr Cassar does not breach Rule 86(ag) during that 12-month period;

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:

- The objective seriousness of Mr Cassar’s conduct;
- Mr Cassar has held a trainer registration in the greyhound racing industry since 2009, approximately 12 years;
- Mr Cassar has no prior matters in his disciplinary history;
- Mr Cassar’s admission of the charges at the earliest opportunity; and
- Mr Cassar’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, in particular in relation to the circumstances of his offending and his remorse.

.....End.....