



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 6 February 2023
Decision-makers: Director of Race Day Operations and Integrity, Wade Birch & Deputy Chief Steward, Troy Vassallo
Name of relevant person: Mr. Liam McMillan
Track: N/A
Date: 6 July 2022
Rule no.: 156(h) & 156(f)(ii)

Charge 1: Mr. Liam McMillan, a registered Owner Trainer, failed 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, in that on 6 July 2022 he failed to comply with a lawful order issued by a GWIC Inspector.

Charge 2: Mr. Liam McMillan, a registered owner-trainer did something, which in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards, did something that constitutes misconduct in that on 16 September 2022, at his registered kennel address, he struck the Greyhound "Mellencamp" multiple times with his fists.

Disciplinary action taken: Charge 1 (156(h)) - \$500 fine
Charge 2 (156(f)(ii)) – 18-month disqualification

INVESTIGATION

1. In respect of Charge 1, on 10 June 2022 Mr. McMillan was issued with a work direction relating to the condition of his kennels by Senior Inspector Tony Hitchcock.
2. Mr. McMillan failed to comply with the deadline specified in the work direction issued on 10 June 2022, being 6 July 2022.
3. On 17 September 2022, GWIC received a complaint regarding Mr. McMillan.
4. On 18 September 2022 Inspector Rhys Acker attended Mr. McMillan's property to investigate the complaint against Mr McMillan.

5. Inspector Acker interviewed a witness who stated that on 16 September 2022, the witness had seen Mr McMillan strike the greyhound “Mellencamp” repeatedly with his fists.

DECISION:

6. At all relevant times Mr. McMillan was registered with the Commission as an Owner Trainer.
7. On 11 January 2023 Mr. McMillan was issued with a Notice of Charge and Proposed Disciplinary Action (“**Notice**”).
8. In the Notice issued on 11 January 2023 the decision makers charged Mr. McMillan with two charges. The first charge under Rule 156(h):

Rule 156 (h)

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;

9. The second charge under Rule 156(h):

Rule 156(f)(ii), Rules

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:

...

(ii) constitutes misconduct or is negligent or improper

10. The Notice invited Mr. McMillan to respond to the charges.
11. Mr. McMillan did not enter a plea or make any submissions in relation to the charges.
12. Following consideration of the submissions, the decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr. McMillan:

Charge 1 (Rule 156(h)): To issue a fine of \$500; and,

Charge 2 (Rule 156 (f)(ii)): To disqualify Mr. McMillan for 18 months.

13. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision-makers considered all evidence, including:

- The serious nature of the misconduct involved;
- Mr. McMillan's failure to respond to the charges;
- Mr. McMillan's short registration history, with no previous disciplinary charges.

.....End.....