



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Monday 20 March 2023

Decision-makers: Deputy Chief Steward Troy Vassallo, Stewards Paul Van Gestel and Geoff Page

Name of relevant person: Andrew Bell

Date: March 2022

Rule no.: 86(u) (old rules)

Charge(s): Mr Andrew Bell engaged in misconduct by operating a number of unregistered syndicates; namely Louis The Fly, Supermodel, Fonzy and Club Model, for a period between 2021 and 2022 via Facebook Messenger

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a fine in the sum of \$1,500.

INVESTIGATION

On 28 March 2022, GWIC received a compliant from a registered Queensland participant alleging that Public Trainer and Breeder Mr Andrew Bell was operating a number of unregistered syndicates via Facebook Messenger.

On Tuesday 13 September 2022, Mr Bell participated in an interview with a GWIC Investigator.

DECISION:

1. Mr Bell is a registered Public Trainer and Breeder with the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
2. On Thursday 2 March 2023, Mr Bell was issued with a notice of charge (“**Notice**”).
3. In the Notice issued on 2 March 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Bell with an offence under Rule 86(u) of the Greyhound Racing Rules 2018-2022, which reads:

Rule 86(u), Rules

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

...

u) commits a breach of the Rules relating to syndicates;

4. The Notice invited Mr Bell to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
5. At the hearing conducted on Monday 20 March 2023, Mr Bell entered a plea of guilty and made verbal submissions.
6. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Bell's plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Bell:

Charge 86(u): To issue a fine in the sum of \$1,500.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Bell's guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Mr Bell's long-standing participation in the industry
 - Mr Bell's co-operation and forthright evidence
 - This offence being the first breach of the rule in NSW.

.....End.....