

## Investigative Stewards Hearing Report

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2024**

Date of Hearing: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2024  
Venue of Hearing: Remote Hearing  
Name: Mr Paul Bushell  
Date of offence: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2024

Rule: **Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 165(a)**  
**Greyhound Australasia Rules (GAR) 34 (1)**

Officiating Chairman: Mr Dylan Bartolo  
Investigative Steward: Ms Amber Knapp

### **REPORT**

On Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2024, Investigative Stewards held an Inquiry with Mr Paul Bushell considering two (2) charges relating to the abandonment of six (6) greyhounds at the registered kennel addresses of two (2) GRV participants. It was alleged that Mr Bushell entered into verbal contracts with two (2) GRV trainers under the pretence that the abovementioned greyhounds would be boarded [spelling] at these registered addresses in exchange for monetary compensation. It is then alleged that Mr Bushell abandoned these greyhounds with the intention to cease all care and responsibility of these greyhounds.

On Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, Investigative Stewards held a Stewards Hearing with Mr Paul Bushell relating to the abovementioned charges. Mr Bushell advised he was not attending the hearing however entered a plea of not guilty for both charges.

The charge is as follows:

### **CHARGE 1**

#### ***Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 165 (a)***

Relates to engaging in conduct which is detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control or promotion of greyhound racing. The abandonment of six (6) greyhounds owned by Mr Bushell was conduct that in the view of the chairman was profoundly detrimental not only to the participants affected, but to the industry as a whole.

Mr Bushell pleaded not guilty to the charge. The charge was found proven.

Investigative Stewards found charge one (1) proven and imposed the following penalty.

### **PENALTY**

#### **Charge 1**

- Disqualification of GRV licence and registration imposed for a period of three (3) months.

**NB: Steward Investigation/Hearing decisions are subject to Appeal under the Rules of Greyhound Racing.**

**CHARGE 2**

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 34 (1)***

Relates to the abandonment of six (6) greyhounds which remained in the care and at the registered kennel address of two (2) registered participants.

Mr Bushell pleaded not guilty to the charge. The charge was found proven.

Investigative Stewards found charge two (2) proven and imposed the following penalty.

**PENALTY**

**Charge 2**

- Disqualification of GRV licence and registration imposed for a period of three (3) months.

**TOTAL**

- Disqualification of GRV licence and registration imposed for a period of six (6) months to be served cumulative.

In determining penalty, Investigative Stewards considered several factors namely:

- The circumstances surrounding the offending and the impact this had on two (2) GRV participants.
- GRV's position on greyhound abandonment.
- Mr Bushells lack of remorse.
- Mr Bushells prior history.
- Specific and general deterrence.



**Dylan Bartolo**  
Investigative Steward  
**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**