

Stewards Hearing Report

Date of Hearing: 25 November 2024
Venue of Hearing: Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club
Name: Mr. Mark Roberts
Rule: GAR 165(a)

Offence: At the Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club race meeting on 16 September 2024, Mr. Mark Roberts engaged in conduct that was detrimental and/or prejudicial to the interests and image of greyhound racing.

Officiating Stewards: Mr. Cam Day & Ms. Lee Fahry

REPORT

On Monday 25 November 2024, GRV Stewards finalised an inquiry into the conduct of licensed person Mr. Mark Roberts in relation to incidents that occurred at the Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club race meeting on 16 September 2024.

Stewards heard evidence from Mr. Mark Roberts and viewed CCTV footage of the incidents. After considering the evidence, the Stewards issued Mr. Roberts a charge under GAR 165(a), which reads;

GAR 165 - Conduct detrimental to the interests of greyhound racing. An offence is committed if a person (including an official): (a) 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;

The particulars being that at the Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club race meeting on 16 September 2024, Mr. Mark Roberts, being a registered person with GRV;

- (a) Directed inappropriate comments to another licensed participant in the wash bay area; and/or
- (b) Engaged in a hostile and aggressive verbal argument with another licensed participant in the kennel block prior to Race 13.

Mr. Roberts pleaded not guilty to the charge. Mr. Roberts was found guilty as charged. After considering submissions on penalty, Mr. Roberts was issued a fine of \$500 for the offence, with \$200 suspended for twelve (12) months, pending no further behavioral related offences during this time.

In determining penalty, Stewards took into consideration:

- Mr. Roberts' record with GRV.
- General and specific deterrence.
- The circumstances surrounding the commission of the offence.

Paul Searle

Paul SEARLE
CHIEF STEWARD - GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA