

Stewards Hearing Report

Date: Thursday 8 February 2024
Venue of Hearing: Sandown Greyhound Racing Club
Name: Mr. Luckie Karabitsakos
Rule: GAR 165(a)

Offence: On 16 November 2023, during a Stewards inquiry conducted by Greyhound Racing Victoria Stewards at the Sandown Greyhound Racing Club, Mr. Luckie Karabitsakos engaged in conduct that was detrimental and/or prejudicial to the control of greyhound racing.

Officiating Stewards: Mr. Alex Kitching (Deputy Chief Steward)
Mr. Andrew Spence (Deputy Chief Steward)

REPORT

On Thursday 8 February 2024, Greyhound Racing Victoria Stewards finalised an inquiry into the conduct of Mr. L Karabitsakos during a Stewards inquiry conducted by Greyhound Racing Victoria Stewards at the Sandown Greyhound Racing Club meeting on 16 November 2023.

Stewards heard evidence from Mr. Karabitsakos and reviewed the recorded audio of the Stewards inquiry from Sandown on 16 November 2023. After considering the evidence, Mr. Karabitsakos was issued a charge under GAR 165(a).

GAR 165 - 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 Sandown Greyhound Racing Club on 16 November 2023, during a Stewards inquiry, Mr. Karabitsakos engaged in conduct that was detrimental and/or prejudicial to the control of greyhound racing by using insulting and offensive language toward GRV Stewards.

Mr. Karabitsakos pleaded not guilty to the charge and declined to make further submissions. The Stewards found Mr. Karabitsakos guilty of the charge, and in determining penalty, the Stewards took into consideration:

- Mr. Karabitsakos' record, having two prior conduct related offences (2018 & 2021);
- Mr. Karabitsakos' personnel antecedence and industry involvement (approx 10 years);
- The circumstances surrounding the commission of the offence;
- The nature of the offence and lack of remorse;
- General and specific deterrence; and
- Relevant precedents.

The Stewards issued a fine of \$1,500 on penalty, with \$750 suspended for 24 months pending no further breach of a similar rule or conduct related offence on or prior to 7 February 2026.

Mr. Karabitsakos was advised of his appeal rights.

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

Paul Searle.

Paul Searle
Chief Steward - GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA