

Investigative Stewards Hearing Report

Monday 13th February 2024

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| Date of Hearing: | Thursday 1 st February 2024 |
| Venue of Hearing: | Participant's Kennelling Address |
| Name: | Mr Stephen Whyte |
| Date of offence: | Thursday 1 st February 2024 |
| Rule: | Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 165 (a) |
| Offence: | Engage in conduct which is detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control of greyhound racing. |

Officiating Investigative Stewards: Mrs Bianca Brocchi and Mr Mark Solanakis

REPORT

On Thursday 1st of February 2024, Investigative Stewards opened an Inquiry with Mr Stephen Whyte regarding his engagement in conduct, which was detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, and control of greyhound racing, that occurred during a routine property inspection at his kennel address on Thursday 1st of February 2024.

Investigative Stewards heard evidence from Mr Whyte during the Inquiry. Mr Whyte accepted that his actions towards Investigative Stewards and a greyhound during a property inspection were inappropriate. Mr Whyte provided context around his behaviour and made apologies.

After considering the evidence, Investigative Stewards charged Mr Whyte with a breach of GAR 165 (a) in that he used insulting language and threatening behaviours towards Investigative Stewards and displayed threatening behaviour towards a greyhound.

Mr Whyte pleaded guilty to the charge.

Investigative Stewards found Mr Whyte guilty of the charge and imposed the following penalty;

PENALTY

Charge 1.

- \$500 Fine (with \$250 of this suspended for 12 months)
- One month suspension (which is wholly suspended for a period of 12 months)

All suspended penalties will be fully installed for any other conduct related offences committed during this period of 12 months.

In determining penalty, Investigative Stewards considered a number of factors namely:

- Mr Whyte's plea of guilty
- Mr Whyte's prior history regarding conduct related matters
- Mr Whyte's ownership of his actions
- Specific and general deterrence



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Bianca Brocchi
Investigative Steward
GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA