

## Investigative Stewards Hearing Report

**Monday 4 March 2024**

Date of Hearing: Monday 4 March 2024  
Venue of Hearing: Via mobile phone  
Name: Mr Scott JAMES  
Date of offence: Various  
Rule: **Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 75(6)(a)**  
Officiating Investigative Stewards: Mr Chris GAWNE and Mr Dylan BARTOLO

### **REPORT**

On 17 January 2024, Investigative Stewards held an Inquiry with Mr Scott JAMES considering matters relating to him performing duties as a starter of races at Ballarat when having placed a bet on a greyhound in those races

On 4 March 2024, Investigative Stewards held a Steward's Hearing with Mr JAMES relating to five (5) charges as follows:

#### **CHARGE 1**

That on 25 July 2022 you were a person officiating in a capacity that has the potential to affect the result of an Event namely a starter of Race 2 at Ballarat engaged in a betting transaction on LALA SANTA in that Event

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules 75(6)(c)***

#### **CHARGE 2**

That on 25 July 2022 you were a person officiating in a capacity that has the potential to affect the result of an Event namely a starter of Race 3 at Ballarat engaged in a betting transaction on SAHIMMA SPARKLE in that Event

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules 75(6)(c)***

#### **CHARGE 3**

That on 25 July 2022 you were a person officiating in a capacity that has the potential to affect the result of an Event namely a starter of Race 12 at Ballarat engaged in a betting transaction on BISSAKA SPIDER IN that Event

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules 75(6)(c)***

#### **CHARGE 4**

That on 24 October 2022 you were a person officiating in a capacity that has the potential to affect the result of an Event namely a starter of Race 9 at Ballarat engaged in a betting transaction on LALA NOEL that Event

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules 75(6)(c)***

#### **CHARGE 5**

That on 21 November 2022 you were a person officiating in a capacity that has the potential to affect the result of an Event namely a starter of Race 11 at Ballarat engaged in a betting transaction on LALA QUE in that Event

***Greyhounds Australasia Rules 75(6)(c)***

Mr JAMES pleaded guilty to the charges.

Investigative Stewards found the charge proven and imposed the following penalty.

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

**PENALTY**

Fined \$1,000 on each charge with \$750 of each charge suspended for 12 months.

Total Fine \$5000, of which \$3750 is suspended, \$1250 is payable now.

Suspended for a period of 3 months wholly suspended for a period of 12 months.

In determining penalty, Investigative Stewards considered several factors namely:

- Evidence of witnesses
- Mr JAMES' explanation concerning the incident
- Mr JAMES' guilty plea
- Mr JAMES' prior history.
- Specific and general deterrence.



Chris GAWNE  
Investigative Steward  
Greyhound racing Integrity Unit  
Greyhound Racing victoria