

9 May 2024

## DECISION

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

and

**GARRY SELKRIG**

- Date of hearing:** 29 April 2024
- Panel:** Judge Kathryn Kings (Deputy Chairperson) and Mr Josh Bornstein.
- Appearances:** Mr Timothy Brook appeared on behalf of the Stewards.  
Mr Garry Selkrig represented himself.
- Charges and particulars:** **Charge No. 1 of 3.**

Greyhounds Australasia Rule **159 (3) (b)** reads as follows:

*159 (3) A person who, in the opinion of a Controlling Body or the Stewards:*

*(b) attempts to possess, has possession of, or brings onto any premises, grounds or within the boundaries of any property where greyhounds are, or activities associated with greyhound racing occur or are intended to occur, any animal carcass or part of an animal, for the purpose of being, or which is reasonably likely to be or capable of being, used as bait, quarry or lure;*

*must be disqualified for a period not less than 10 years and, if applicable, in addition fined a sum of money not exceeding the amount specified in a relevant Act or the Rules, unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists at the time of the offence, in which case a disqualification penalty less than the minimum disqualification penalty stated in this subrule may be imposed.*

**Particulars of the Charge being:**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (**GRV**) (Member No. 3799) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and Local Racing Rules.

2. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 you attended your registered kennel address in possession of a possum carcass.
3. For the purpose of being used as bait, quarry, and to a lure a greyhound.

**Charge No. 2 of 3.**

Greyhounds Australasia Rule **158 (1)** reads as follows:

*158 (1) Only lures approved by a Controlling Body are permitted to be used or kept in the possession of a person at any place where greyhounds are, or greyhound racing activities occur.*

*This is an absolute liability offence in that anyone who uses or has in their possession a lure that is not approved by a Controlling Body, is guilty of an offence.*

**Particulars of the Charge being:**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (**GRV**) (Member No. 3799) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and Local Racing Rules.
2. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 you attended your registered kennel address in possession of a lure within the boundaries where greyhounds are kennelled, trained and housed.
3. That was not approved by a Controlling Body.

**Charge No. 3 of 3.**

Greyhounds Australasia Rule **164 (a)** reads as follows:

*164 Offences in relation to investigations and inquiries  
An offence is committed if a person (including an official):*

*(a) makes a false or misleading statement in relation to or during an investigation, inspection, examination, test or inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process, hearing or appeal proceeding) or makes or causes to be made a falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound;*

**Particulars of the Charge being:**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) (Member No. 3799) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and Local Racing Rules.
2. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 you attended your registered kennel address and participated in a recorded inquiry.
3. Throughout the recorded inquiry you provided false and misleading information concerning your training practices.

**Plea:** Guilty to all charges.

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**DECISION**

Mr Garry Selkrig is a suspended GRV participant. Mr Selkrig has been a registered owner, breeder and public trainer of greyhounds since 1985. He was licensed by Greyhound Racing Victoria and bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules. At the time of the alleged offences the registered kennel address was 1 Worthy Road, Devon Meadows, where he trained 9 greyhounds in indoor and outdoor kennels.

On or about 17 December 2023 Mr Selkrig attended his registered kennel address where greyhounds were being kept and trained. He was in possession of a possum carcass for the purpose of it being used as bait, quarry and to lure a greyhound.

The Investigative Stewards charged Mr Selkrig under three Rules.

**Charge 1**

**GAR 159 (3)(b) which provides:**

A person who in the opinion of the Controlling Body or the Stewards

- (b) attempts to possess, has possession of, or brings onto any premises, grounds or within the boundaries of any property where greyhounds are, or activities associated with greyhound racing occur or are intended to occur, any animal carcass or part of an animal, for the purpose of being, or which is reasonably likely to be capable of being, used as bait, quarry or lure;

must be disqualified for a period of not less than 10 years and, if applicable, in addition fined a sum of money not exceeding the amount specified in a relevant Act or the Rules, unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists at the time of the offence, in which case a

disqualification penalty less than the minimum disqualification penalty stated in this subrule may be imposed.

Mr Selkrig pleaded guilty to Charge 1.

### **Charge 2**

**The Investigative Stewards charged Mr Selkrig with a breach of GAR 158 (1) which provides:**

Only lures approved by the Controlling Board are permitted to be used or kept in the possession of a person at any place where greyhounds are, or where greyhound activities occur.

This is an absolute liability offence in that anyone who uses or has in their possession a lure that is approved by a Controlling Body is guilty of an offence.

Mr Selkrig pleaded guilty to the offence.

### **Charge 3**

**Rule 164 Offences in relation to investigations and inquiries.**

An offence is committed if a person (including a an official):

- (a) makes a false or misleading statements in relation to or during an investigation, inspection, examination, test or inquiry (or at any other disciplinary process hearing or appeal proceeding) or makes or causes to be made falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound.

The Stewards of Greyhound Racing Victoria conducted an investigation into the animal welfare issues of Mr Selkrig at his property on 17 December 2023. During the investigation they received evidence from the registered trainer that he was training with a squeaker, which was untrue.

Mr Selkrig suggested to the Tribunal that he had been entrapped, but there was no evidence of that occurring.

Mr Selkrig pleaded guilty to the offence.

In considering the penalties imposed, we take into account specific and general deterrence, denunciation, the maintenance of the good name of the industry and animal welfare considerations. We also take into account penalties in like matters.

Mr Selkrig pleaded guilty at an early stage and co-operated with the Stewards. In imposing penalties, we have taken into account his guilty pleas and the importance of specific and general deterrence. We have also considered penalties in like matters. We also taken into

account the very serious nature of these charges. If the practice that Mr Selkrig has pleaded guilty to were to continue, such practices would place the industry in jeopardy.

We have also taken into account Mr Selkrig's very strong record in the industry over a lifetime.

On Charge 1 we disqualify Mr Selkrig for 12 years.

On Charge 2 we impose a penalty of disqualification of 5 years, which is to be served concurrently with Charge 1.

On Charge 3 we impose a fine of \$250.

In setting a penalty under Rule 159 (3)(b) we take into account the words "unless there is a finding that special circumstances exist at the time of the offence, in which case a disqualification penalty less than the minimum disqualification penalty stated in this subrule maybe imposed".

There are no special circumstances in this case which would lead to a disqualification period of less than 10 years.

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Mark Howard  
Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal