

# Stewards' Report

- Date:** Thursday, 23 June 2022
- Panel:** Mr W Hadley (Chairman), Ms A Turner, Ms B McErlean
- Person:** Mr Tony Parry
- Rule:** GAR 21(3), GAR 156(i), GAR 156(h), GAR 164(a), GAR 156(g)
- Charges:** Mr Tony Parry:
1. Permitted a condition that was likely to be dangerous to the health, welfare and safety of the greyhound Rosa Barks at his registered kennel address on or around 13 June 2022 to 16 June 2022
  2. Prevented the carrying out of the identification of four (4) greyhounds by Integrity Investigative Stewards at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022
  3. Failed to comply with two (2) lawful orders of the Integrity Investigative Stewards in relation to greyhound racing at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022
  4. Made two (2) false statement to Integrity Investigative Stewards at a kennel inspection at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022
  5. Wilfully abused and threatened Integrity Investigative Stewards during a kennel inspection at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022
- Penalty:**
- Charge 1: Six (6) month disqualification effective immediately
- Charge 2: Six (6) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 4
- Charge 3: Six (6) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 4
- Charge 4: Eight (8) month disqualification to be served cumulative with Charge 1
- Charge 5: Ten (10) month disqualification to be served cumulative to Charge 4

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On 23 June 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry in respect of evidence obtained by the Integrity Investigations Stewards resulting from a kennel inspection undertaken at the registered kennel address of licensed trainer and breeder Mr Tony Parry.

On 16 June 2022, the Integrity Investigations Stewards conducted a kennel inspection at Mr Parry's registered kennel address. During the inspection, body worn camera footage was captured and provided to the Stewards for review. After reviewing the body worn camera footage, Stewards questioned Mr Parry regarding statements made to the Integrity Investigative Stewards in respect of a recently whelped litter from a retired greyhound of Mr Parry's, with Stewards determining that Mr Parry had provided false and misleading evidence to the Integrity Investigative Stewards on 16 June 2022. Stewards also questioned Mr Parry regarding the kennel conditions of an ailing greyhound at his registered kennel address, his prevention of the identification of four (4) greyhounds at his registered kennel address, his failure to comply with two (2) stewards' directions and his abusive and threatening conduct towards the Integrity Investigative Stewards on 16 June 2022.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued five (5) charges to Mr Parry pursuant to the Greyhounds Australasia Rules as follows:

**Charge 1:** Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 21(3), which provides:

*A person shall not cause or permit, on any premises owned or occupied by that person, any condition that is likely to be dangerous to the health, welfare or safety of that greyhound.*

The specifics of Charge 1 were as follows:

That Mr Tony Parry, a licensed greyhound trainer and breeder, permitted a condition that was likely to be dangerous to the health, welfare and safety of a greyhound in that he permitted the greyhound Rosa Barks, which was suffering from an infection, to remain kennelled in an area that contained multiple faeces for a period of up to three (3) days at his registered kennel address on or around 13 June 2022 to 16 June 2022.

**Charge 2:** Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules 156(i), which provides:

*An offence is committed if a person:*

*(i) prevents, attempts to prevent, interferes with or attempts to interfere with the carrying out of any identification, examination, test, necropsy, analysis, inquiry, investigation or inspection (including a kennel inspection) pursuant to the Rules*

The specifics of Charge 2 were as follows:

That Mr Tony Parry, a licensed greyhound trainer and breeder, prevented the carrying out of the identification of four (4) greyhounds by Integrity Investigative Stewards at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022 in that he refused to allow the Integrity Investigative Stewards to scan the microchips of the four (4) greyhounds by way of identification.

**Charge 3:** Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules 156(h), which provides:

*An offence is committed if a person:*

*Disobeys or fails to comply with a lawful order of a Controlling Body, the Stewards, or another person authorised by a Controlling Body with official duties in relation to greyhound racing*

The specifics of Charge 3 were as follows:

That Mr Tony Parry, a licensed greyhound trainer and breeder, failed to comply with a lawful order of the Integrity Investigative Stewards in relation to greyhound racing at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022 in that he:

- (i) refused to permit the Stewards to identify four (4) greyhounds when directed to do so by the Stewards; and
- (ii) refused to provide the name of the third party who arranged the dispersal of eight (8) greyhound pups from his registered kennel address when directed to do so by the Stewards.

**Charge 4:** Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules 164(a), which provides:

*An offence is committed if a person:*

*(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*

The specifics of Charge 4 were as follows:

That Mr Tony Parry, a licensed greyhound trainer and breeder, made a false statement to Integrity Investigative Stewards at a kennel inspection at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022, with the false statement being that:

- (i) he had not had any litters at his registered kennel address from any of his retired greyhounds, when in fact his retired greyhound Big Bash Maddy whelped a litter in or around April 2022; and
- (ii) he had dispersed all eight (8) of the greyhound pups whelped by Big Bash Maddy to a veterinarian when in fact he had dispersed two (2) of the greyhound pups to a third party and the remaining six (6) greyhound pups were dispersed to a veterinarian.

**Charge 5:** Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules 156(g), which provides:

*An offence is committed if a person:*

*(g) wilfully assaults, obstructs, impedes, abuses, interferes with, threatens or insults a Steward or any other official of a Controlling Body or a Club in or at any place.*

The specifics of Charge 5 were as follows:

That Mr Tony Parry, a licensed greyhound trainer and breeder, wilfully abused and threatened Integrity Investigative Stewards during a kennel inspection at his registered kennel address on or around 16 June 2022, in that he engaged in contemptuous, insulting and offensive language towards the Integrity Investigative Stewards and further verbally threatened the Integrity Investigative Stewards, which conduct the Stewards believe constitutes threatening and abusive behaviour.

Mr Parry entered a plea of guilty to all five (5) charges and made brief submissions to the Stewards regarding penalty.

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Parry's plea of guilty to all five (5) charges at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Parry's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately seventeen (17) years;
- Mr Parry's personal and financial circumstances;
- Mr Parry's submissions in mitigation of penalty, being that he did not believe greyhounds fell under the jurisdiction of the Stewards once retired and that the litter was accidental;
- Mr Parry's disciplinary history, noting Mr Parry has four (4) prior breaches of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 164(a) for the giving of false and misleading evidence, of which Mr Parry's licence was suspended for a period of six (6) months;

- the serious nature of Mr Parry's offending, being the welfare and health of an ailing greyhound, prevention of the identification of greyhounds, a failure to comply with a Stewards' direction, giving false and misleading evidence and engaging in abusive and threatening conduct;
- Mr Parry's dishonesty throughout the stewards' inquiry;
- that any false and misleading evidence, particularly regarding animal welfare, will attract a significant penalty as it undermines the integrity of the racing industry and is critical for the proper conduct and administration of the industry;
- that they must impose a penalty that sends a clear and unequivocal message to ensure that Mr Parry, and all other participants, understand that complying with the lawful orders of Stewards is a core requirement of participating in greyhound racing;
- that they must impose a penalty that sends a clear and unequivocal message to ensure that Mr Parry, and all other participants, understand that any abusive and threatening conduct directed at Stewards will be treated very seriously as Stewards perform an important role in the delivery of integrity functions and must be protected from abusive and threatening conduct by participants;
- the need for both specific and general deterrence; and
- relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the Stewards issued the following penalties:

**Charge 1:** Six (6) month disqualification effective immediately

**Charge 2:** Six (6) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 4

**Charge 3:** Six (6) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 4

**Charge 4:** Eight (8) month disqualification to be served cumulative to Charge 1

**Charge 5:** Ten (10) month disqualification to be served cumulative to Charge 4

Therefore, the total disqualification period imposed upon Mr Parry was twenty-four (24) months effective immediately.

Stewards permitted Mr Parry seven (7) days from midnight 23 June 2022 to transfer all greyhounds from his care and control, with Stewards permission being required for each transfer.

Mr Parry was advised of his right to an Internal Review.