

Stewards' Report

Date:	Thursday, 29 September 2022
Panel:	Mr M Braunberger (Chairperson), Mr A Flymen, Mr K Dean
Person:	Mr Andrew Wooler
Rule:	GAR 71(4), LR 13(2)(c)
Charges:	Mr Andrew Wooler, as the registered owner and licensed breeder of a litter of greyhound pups: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Permitted the relocation of the litter of pups on or around 6 September 2022 prior to the pups being microchipped, ear tattooed and vaccinated and without the prior consent of the Controlling Body2. Was found to have the litter of pups in his care from on or around 6 September 2022 for which he was not appropriately licenced to rear
Penalty:	Charge 1: \$750.00 fine Charge 2: Eight (8) week licence suspension to be served concurrently with existing licence suspension

On 29 September 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry in respect of the relocation of a litter of greyhound pups on or around 6 September 2022 from their address of whelping prior to the pups being microchipped, ear tattooed and vaccinated in accordance with the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and without the prior consent of the Controlling Body, to a kennel address at which no person held an appropriate licence to rear the litter of pups.

Submissions were made by Mr Andrew Wooler, as the registered owner and licensed breeder of the litter of pups at the relevant time, together with submissions from licensed trainer Mrs Joanne Wooler.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued two (2) charges as follows:

Charge 1: Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 71(4), which provides:

Except with the prior consent of a Controlling Body, a litter of greyhounds must not be divided or relocated from the address of whelping until they have been microchipped, ear tattooed and vaccinated in accordance with the Rules, and until a period of 14 days has elapsed from the date of the last minimum vaccination requirement pursuant to subrule 25(3)9(b).

The specifics of Charge 1 were as follows:

That Mr Andrew Wooler, the registered owner and licensed breeder of a litter of pups by Super Hard x Aussie Infrared whelped on 3 September 2022, permitted the relocation of the litter on or around 6 September 2022 prior to the pups being microchipped, ear tattooed and vaccinated in accordance with the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and without the prior consent of the Controlling Body.

Charge 2: Issued pursuant to Queensland Local Rule of Racing 13(2)(c), which provides:

A person shall not rear, break in or pre-train a greyhound unless the person is the holder of a current appropriate licence issued by the Controlling Body.

The specifics of Charge 2 were as follows:

That Mr Andrew Wooler permitted the relocation of a litter of pups by Super Hard x Aussie Infrared whelped on 3 September 2022 to a location where the pups were not under the care of an appropriately licensed person to rear said pups on or around 6 September 2022.

Mr Wooler entered a plea of guilty to both Charge 1 and Charge 2 and made brief submissions in respect of penalty.

In determining the matter of penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Mr Wooler's plea of guilty to both charges at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Wooler's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately sixteen (16) years;
- Mr Wooler's disciplinary history, noting Mr Wooler has no prior breaches of a similar nature;
- the need to retain the integrity of greyhound racing and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- relevant penalty precedents; and
- Mr Wooler's submissions in relation to penalty.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed the following penalties:

Charge 1: \$750.00 fine

Charge 2: Eight (8) week licence suspension to be served concurrently with Mr Wooler's existing licence suspension

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