

Stewards' Report

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| Date: | Tuesday, 18 July 2023 |
| Panel: | Mr A Flymen (Chairperson), Mr D Broxham, Mr K Dean |
| Person: | Mr Jay Schafer |
| Rules: | GAR 34(5)(a) and GAR 24(1) |
| Charges: | 1.) Failed to notify the Controlling Body that the greyhound had left his kennels and had been relocated to a third party. 2.) Did rehome a greyhound to a third party and failed to comply with the mandatory sterilisation requirements. |
| Penalty: | Charge 1: \$100.00 fine. Charge 2: \$1000.00 fine with \$500.00 wholly suspended for a period of twelve (12) months. |

On 18 July 2023, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry into the rehoming of the greyhound *Matty's On Fire*. It was established that *Matty's On Fire* had left Mr Schafer's kennels on the 28 October 2022 and had been rehomed to a third party. QRIC Licensing and Registrations had been notified on the 13 May 2023 of the transfer of the greyhound which was approximately seven months after the greyhound had been relocated. Stewards also had established from the evidence submitted by Mr Schafer, that the greyhound hadn't been desexed before rehoming to a third party.

After considering all the evidence, Stewards issued two (2) charges to Mr Schafer pursuant to Greyhound Australasia Rules as follows:

Charge 1: Issued pursuant to Greyhound Australasia Rule 34(5)(a) which states:

A registered person must as soon as possible notify a Controlling Body that a greyhound has come into, or left, the person's care or custody (and in each of those cases including as a result of a greyhound having its ownership transferred);

The specifics of Charge 1 were as follows:

The greyhound *Matty's On Fire* had left Mr Jay Schafer's kennels on 28 October 2022 and Mr Schafer only notified QRIC Registrations and Licensing on 13 May 2023.

Charge 2: Issued pursuant to Greyhound Australasia Rule 24(1) which states:

Unless a greyhound is being accepted by an adoption agency approved by a Controlling Body that undertakes sterilisation, the owner or person responsible for the greyhound at the time of such retirement as a pet must ensure that the greyhound has been surgically sterilised by a veterinarian before allowing the greyhound to leave their care and custody, except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of a Controlling Body, that being surgically sterilised would be detrimental to its welfare.

The specifics of Charge 2 were as follows:

That Mr Jay Schafer, a licensed trainer did rehome the greyhound Matty's On Fire to a third party and failed to comply with the mandatory sterilisation requirements.

Mr Schafer entered a plea of guilty to both charges and made further submissions in respect of penalty.

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Schafer's plea of guilty to both charges at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Schafer's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately thirteen (13) years;
- Mr Schafer's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Schafer's disciplinary history with no previous breaches of either rule;
- The need for both specific deterrence to Mr Schafer and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- Relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, Stewards issued the following penalties:

Charge 1: A fine of \$100.00

Charge 2: A fine of \$1000.00 with Stewards electing to wholly suspend \$500.00 for a period of twelve (12) months acting under Greyhounds Australasia Rule 174(3) conditional upon no further breach of a similar nature.

Mr Schafer was advised of his right to an appeal.