

Stewards' Report

Date:	Thursday, 13 July 2023
Panel:	Mr J Philp (Chairperson), Mr Daniel Aurisch, Paul McLean.
Person:	Mrs Joanne Martin
Rule:	GAR 21 (2), and GAR 165 (a)
Charges:	That Mrs Joanne Martin, a licensed greyhound trainer and owner: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Placed the greyhound Manuka Duck in an unsupervised, locked vehicle at the Ipswich greyhound race club car park.2. That in placing a greyhound in that unacceptable position brings disrepute to the industry of greyhound racing.
Penalty:	Charge 1: Twelve (12) month licence suspension with 6 months wholly suspended for 2 years pending no charges of a similar nature. Charge 2: Six (6) month licence suspension to be served concurrently with Charge 1

On 13 July 2023, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry in respect of evidence obtained during a race meeting at Ipswich Racetrack on Thursday the 6th of April.

After considering all the evidence, including submissions made by Mrs Martin, Stewards issued two (2) charges pursuant to the Greyhounds Australasia Rules as follows:

Charge 1: Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules 21(2), which provides:

(2) A *person* must exercise the care and supervision necessary to prevent a *greyhound* under the *person's* care or custody from being subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering, or from anything which is likely to lead to unnecessary pain or suffering.

The specifics of the charge being that in the time leading up to 4:41pm on Thursday the 6th of April trainer Joanne Martin removed a greyhound from the kennels at Ipswich greyhound track and locked it in an unsupervised, sealed vehicle.

Charge 2: Issued pursuant to Greyhound Australasia Rule 165 (a), which provides:

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

(a) commits or omits to do any act or engages in conduct which is in any way detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control or promotion of greyhound racing;

The specifics of the charge being that Mrs Martin placing a greyhound in a locked, unsupervised, and sealed vehicle is wholly unacceptable to the racing industry and the public and brings disrepute to the industry of greyhound racing.

Mrs Martin entered a plea of not guilty to all two (2) charges and made brief submissions to the Stewards regarding penalty.

Stewards found Mrs Martin guilty to all two (2) charges.

In determining penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Mrs Martin's plea of not guilty to all charges.
- Mrs Martin's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately twenty (20) years;
- Mrs Martin's disciplinary history;
- the nature of Mrs Martin's offending;
- that holding a licence within the greyhound racing industry is a privilege, not a right, and it is the participant's responsibility to familiarise themselves with the applicable rules and further to comply with his/her obligations under the applicable rules;
- the need for both specific deterrence to Mrs Martin and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- relevant penalty precedents.
- The Human Rights Act 2019.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed the following penalties:

Charge 1: Twelve (12) month licence suspension with 6 months wholly suspended for 2 years pending no charges of a similar nature.

Charge 2: A six (6) month licence suspension to be served concurrently with Charge 1.

Further, Stewards permitted Mrs Martin ten (10) days from 13 July 2023 to transfer all greyhounds from her care and custody, with Stewards permission being required for each transfer.

Mrs Martin was advised of her right to appeal.