

Stewards' Report

Date:	Monday, 8 July 2024
Panel:	Ms R Pedersen (Chairperson), Mr D Broxham, Mr W Maher
Person:	Ms Chenille Yeomans
Rule:	GAR 24(1)
Charges:	Ms Yeomans rehomed the greyhound Sorrento Breeze to a third party and failed to comply with the mandatory sterilisation requirements
Penalty:	\$1,000.00 fine with \$250.00 conditionally suspended for twelve (12) months

On 8 July 2024, Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry in respect of the rehoming of the greyhound Sorrento Breeze, of which Ms Chenille Yeomans was the registered owner at the relevant time, to a third party without the mandatory sterilisation requirements being complied with.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 24(1) which provides:

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 the charge were as follows:

That Ms Chenille Yeomans did rehome the greyhound Sorrento Breeze to a third party and failed to comply with the mandatory sterilisation requirements.

Ms Yeomans entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made no further submissions in respect of penalty.

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

- Ms Yeomans plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Ms Yeomans time in the greyhound racing industry, being approximately five (5) years;

- Ms Yeomans forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Ms Yeomans disciplinary history, noting no prior breaches of a similar rule;
- the circumstances of the offence;
- prior penalty precedents in recent similar cases;
- the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission industry notice disseminated to participants in respect of sterilisation requirements upon the rehoming of a greyhound; and
- the *Human Rights Act 2019*

Accordingly, Stewards determined that the appropriate penalty was a fine in the amount of \$1,000.00 with Stewards electing to wholly suspend \$250.00 pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 174(3) for a period of twelve (12) months conditional upon no further breach of a similar nature.

Ms Yeomans was advised of her right to a review of the decision.