

21 April 2017

RESULT OF INQUIRY – Mr. W. Harkins



STEWARDS: L.G Michalanney, D. Jonas, B. Pearce

On Friday 21 April 2017, Greyhound Racing South Australia Stewards inquired into alleged conduct by Public Trainer Mr. Walter Harkins in the Angle Park kennel house on Thursday 6 and Monday 10 April, 2017.

After considering the evidence from the kennel house CCTV footage, written statements from a two GRSA Officials and Mr. Harkins, Stewards issued two charges against him under Greyhound Racing Rule GAR 86(o); which reads:

A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person- has, in relation to a greyhound or greyhound racing, done a thing, or omitted to do a thing, which, in the opinion of the Stewards or the Controlling Body, as the case may be, is negligent, dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent or improper, or constitutes misconduct.

and;

Greyhound Racing Rule GAR 86(f)(i); which reads:

A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person- engages in, publishes or causes to be published, broadcast or causes to be broadcast, the use of any contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting, or offensive language, conduct or behaviour in any manner or form towards, or in relation to-

(i) a Steward.

Stewards deemed his behavior and separately, his language towards a GRSA Steward to be improper.

Mr. Harkins pleaded guilty to both charges.

In relation to the first charge, Mr. Harkins was issued a fine of \$250; which was wholly suspended for a period of 24 months on the condition he does not re-offend under that portion of the Rule.

In relation to the second charge, he was issued with a fine of \$300; with \$200 of that penalty suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition he does not re-offend under that portion of the Rule.

In assessing penalty Stewards took into consideration Mr. Harkins plea of guilt, his very long association with the industry, his clean record in relation to offences under all rules and his personal circumstances. However, Stewards are mindful there should be a general and specific deterrent to poor behaviour on race day.

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