



9 February 2018

RESULT OF INQUIRY – Gawler incident 02/02/18

STEWARDS: L.G. Michalanney, D. Jonas, J. Jones

On Friday 9 February, 2018, Greyhound Racing South Australia (GRSA) Stewards inquired into the alleged conduct of Trainer Mr. Ben Rawlings and Trainer Mr. Tony Rasmussen at GRSA Greyhound of the Year dinner at Gawler on Friday 2 February, 2018.

After considering evidence from GRSA employee Mr. D. Jelic, GRSA contractor Mr. A. Jaworski, Mr. Rawlings, Mr. Rasmussen and Trainer Mrs. L. Rasmussen as well as CCTV footage, Stewards charged both Mr. Rawlings and Mr. Rasmussen 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 Stewards or the Controlling Body, as the case may be, is negligent, dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent or improper, or constitutes misconduct.

Stewards deemed Mr. Rawlings and Mr. Rasmussen engaged in an exchange with each other where they both made offensive and unnecessary comments. This occurred in the vicinity of a number of participants, dignitaries and members of the public, which in the opinion of the Stewards was misconduct.

Both Mr. Rawlings and Mr. Rasmussen pleaded guilty to the charge.

Mr. Rawlings was fined \$1,000; with \$500 wholly suspended for 12 months on the condition he does not reoffend under the same Rule. Mr. Rawlings was given credit for his guilty plea, his remorse and this was his first offence under this Rule.

Mr. Rasmussen was fined \$2,000; with \$1,000 wholly suspended for 12 months on the condition he does not reoffend under the same Rule. Mr. Rasmussen was given credit for his guilty plea and remorse; however, Stewards did note his very poor record in relation to offences under these Rules.

In assessing penalty Stewards took into consideration both parties apologised and have undertaken to modify their behaviour in future. However, Stewards believe the penalty to serve as a deterrent for themselves and others in relation to this type of behaviour, particularly during an official industry function.

Both parties were advised of their rights of appeal.

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