

# Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

## Media Release

3 December 2015

# Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, 2 December 2015  
Venue of Hearing: RADB Hearing Room, 46-50 Chetwynd St, West Melbourne  
Panel: Mr. John Wardle (Chairman) and Mr. Terry O'Connor (Deputy Chairman)  
Name of Person Charged: Mr. Darren McDonald  
Suburb: Devon Meadows  
Track: Tooradin Trial Track  
Breaches of rules: LRR 18.5, GAR 86 (af)

### Offences Charged:

- (1) LRR 18.5 Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 3 & 4 and Charges 5 & 6 herein, use or cause to be used a live animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) as a lure for two greyhounds (namely, two black greyhounds, one being handled by him and one being handled by Christopher Connolly), the live piglet having been strapped to the lure arm by Stuart Mills and him, and then for the exciting of those greyhounds, on a greyhound trial track (namely, the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin).
- (2) GAR86 (af) Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 3 & 4 and Charges 5 & 6 herein, use an animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) for a purpose connected with greyhound racing in a manner which was improper, namely, the exciting of two black greyhounds (one of which was handled by him and the other of which was handled by Christopher Connolly), and as a lure for those greyhounds (the live piglet having been strapped to the lure arm by both Stuart Mills and him) at the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin.
- (3) LRR 18.5 Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 1 & 2 and Charges 5 & 6 herein, use or cause to be used a live animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) as a lure for two greyhounds (namely, two black greyhounds, one being handled by him and one being handled by Christopher Connolly), the live piglet having been re-

## **Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board**

strapped to the lure arm by Stuart Mills and him, and then for the exciting of those greyhounds, on a greyhound trial track (namely, the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin).

- (4) GAR86 (af) Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 1 & 2 and Charges 5 & 6 herein, use an animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) for a purpose connected with greyhound racing in a manner which was improper, namely, the exciting of two black greyhounds (one of which was handled by him and the other of which was handled by Christopher Connolly), and as a lure for those two greyhounds at the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin.
- (5) LRR 18.5 Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 1 & 2 and Charges 3 & 4 herein, use or cause to be used a live animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) as a lure for two greyhounds (namely, two black greyhounds, one being handled by him and one being handled by Christopher Connolly), and for the exciting of those greyhounds, on a greyhound trial track (namely, the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin).
- (6) GAR86 (af) Darren McDonald did, on 18 November, 2014 at Tooradin, on an occasion other than those occasions referred to in Charges 1 & 2 and Charges 3 & 4 herein, use an animal, (namely, a small live pink piglet) for a purpose connected with greyhound racing in a manner which was improper, namely, the exciting of two black greyhounds (one of which was handled by him and the other of which was handled by Christopher Connolly), and as a lure for those two greyhounds at the Tooradin Trial Track located at 175 Harewood-Mains Road, Tooradin.

### **REPORT:**

Under Rule 47.1 of the Greyhound Racing Victoria Local Rules these breaches of LRR 18.5 and GAR86 (af) each constitutes a Serious Offence. As a result, on Wednesday, 2 December 2015 this matter was heard before the Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board in the first instance under Greyhound Local Racing Rule 47.3 and Sections 83C(b) and 83M(1) of the Racing Act.

Mr. Darren McDonald was represented by Mr. Trevor Wraight QC, instructed by Cockburn & Co Solicitors.

Mr. Paul Holdenson QC, instructed by Corrs Chambers Westgarth represented the Stewards Panel.

Mr. Glenn Fish (GRV Chief Steward) appeared as a witness.

Mr. Darren McDonald pleaded guilty to charges 1, 3 and 5. As a consequence, Mr. Holdenson advised that charges 2, 4 and 6 were to be struck out. The RADB directed that charges 2, 4 and 6 be struck out.

# Racing Appeals & Disciplinary Board

After considering all the evidence tendered including viewing video footage and hearing submissions from Mr. Holdenson and Mr. Wraight, the RADB found Mr. Darren McDonald guilty on charges 1, 3 and 5. Submissions as to penalty were made by Counsel. The RADB reserved its decision as to the penalty.

.....End.....

**For More Information:**

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