



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 6 August 2015

Seven Charged for Actions at Tooradin Trial Track

Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) Stewards have charged seven persons – six who were previously suspended - under the Greyhound Australasia Rules (GAR) and Local Racing Rules (LRR) for their alleged involvement in live baiting activities at the Tooradin Trial Track.

In total, 21 charges were laid by GRV Stewards against the seven persons and their cases will now be heard by the independent Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board (RADB).

Six of the seven persons charged were suspended earlier in the year when video footage allegedly showing them involved in live baiting activities at the Tooradin Trial Track was supplied to GRV by the Racing Integrity Commissioner. A further person, Diane Hodges, has also been charged for her alleged involvement in actions that breach the rules of greyhound racing following a Stewards' investigation into the Tooradin Trial Track.

The seven persons charged are: Paul Anderton; Kerry Chalker; Diane Hodges; Kenneth Hodges; Neville King; James Reynolds; and Robert Smith.

GRV Chairman, Bernie Carolan, said that the GRV Stewards have conducted a thorough and extensive investigation into these matters.

“Live baiting is a horrible indictment on the greyhound racing industry and people that are proved to be involved in the deplorable act have severely let the broader greyhound racing industry down and for that they should be ashamed and penalised,” Mr Carolan said.

“GRV Stewards have been diligent and comprehensive in their investigation.”

So far, four life bans and two significant disqualification periods have been handed down by the RADB as a result of charges emanating from the investigation into the Tooradin Trial Track. The remaining cases relating to this issue will be heard by the RADB in due course.

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Notes for Editors

List of Charges

Paul Anderton	LRR 18.5	1 count	GAR 86(af)	1 count		
Kerry Chalker	LRR 18.5	2 counts	GAR 86(af)	2 counts		
Diane Hodges					GAR 86(o)	1 count
Kenneth Hodges	LRR 18.5	1 count	GAR 86(af)	1 count		
Neville King	LRR 18.5	1 count	GAR 86(af)	1 count	GAR 86(o)	1 count
James Reynolds	LRR 18.5	1 count	GAR 86(af)	1 count		
Robert Smith	LRR 18.5	3 counts	GAR 86(af)	3 counts	GAR 86(o)	1 count

Greyhound Racing Victoria Local Racing Rule

18 Conditions of Operation

- 18.4 No live animal other than a greyhound shall be used or caused to be used in any manner on any Greyhound Trial Track or surrounding area as defined by the Board.
- 18.5 Without derogating from the provisions of LR 18.4 (Vic), no person shall use or cause to be used any live animal as a lure for greyhounds or for the exciting of greyhounds on any Greyhound Trial Track or any other location.

Greyhounds Australasia Rule

R86 Offences

A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person-

- (ad) Unless authorised by the stewards or controlling body, keeps on or brings onto a racecourse or trial track or a surrounding area, as defined by a Controlling Body, a live animal other than a greyhound
- (af) Uses an animal for any purpose connected with greyhound racing in a manner which is improper
- (o) 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