

Media Release
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Seven charged by GRV Stewards in relation to live baiting allegations

Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) Stewards have issued their first set of charges against seven of the fifteen persons implicated in the allegations of live baiting at the Tooradin Trial Track. The persons charged with offences contrary to the GRV Local Racing Rules and Greyhounds Australasia Rules are: Christopher Connolly, Dennis Dean, Brett Mackie, Darren McDonald, Anthony Mills, Jon Roberts and Eric Sykes.

Stewards have laid a total of thirty-three charges with the majority of the charges laid relating to “serious offences” under the GRV Local Racing Rules and Greyhounds Australasia Rules. Accordingly, the independent Greyhound Racing Appeals and Disciplinary Board (RADB) will hear and determine the charges for these “serious offences”.

“There has been a need to do a thorough and comprehensive investigation into all matters associated with the alleged activities at the Tooradin Trial Track which is why the investigation has taken the time it has,” GRV Chairman Ray Gunston said.

“Where persons are found to have been involved in this heinous activity, we are determined to ensure the strongest possible penalty is handed down.”

“There is absolutely and categorically no place for people within this sport that are proven to have been involved in such barbaric and disgraceful activities that are not befitting of industry and community values.”

The RADB is yet to set a timetable for the hearing and determination of the matters.

Investigations by Stewards are continuing into the actions of a further eight suspended persons.

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List of Charges

Christopher Connolly	LRR 18.5 (3 counts)	GAR 86(af) (3 counts)	
Dennis Dean	LRR 18.5 (4 counts)	GAR 86(af) (4 counts)	GAR86(ad)(1 count)
Brett Mackie	LRR 18.5 (1 count)	GAR 86(af) (2 counts)	
Darren McDonald	LRR 18.5 (3 counts)	GAR 86(af) (3 counts)	GAR86(ad)(1 count)
Anthony Mills	LRR 18.5 (1 count)	GAR 86(af) (1 count)	GAR 86(o) (1 count)
Jon Roberts	LRR 18.5 (1 count)	GAR 86(af) (1 count)	GAR86(ad)(1 count)
Eric Sykes	LRR 18.5 (1 count)	GAR 86(af) (1 count)	

Greyhounds Australasia Rule R86 Offences

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

- (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;
- (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;

Greyhound Racing Victoria Local Rule 18 Conditions of Operation

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

- 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.