

10 February 2015

Mr Gareth Miggins
41 Hansen Road
RIDGELANDS QLD 4702

Dear Mr Miggins,

Greyhound Racing NSW is in receipt of DNA analysis ordered as part of our investigations into reports from Dr Greg Bryant, GRNSW Veterinary Officer, and Mr Norm Becroft, GRNSW Integrity Officer, and from Mr Robert Vines, Richmond Race Club Starter, regarding the finding of a section of a tail on the Richmond track near the 400 metre boxes prior to the running of Race 9 on the evening of 17 December last year.

The DNA analysis has confirmed that the section of tail found on the track belonged to the greyhound Wilby Mighty, a greyhound under your care at the relevant time and presented to compete in Race 3 at Richmond on the evening of 17 December last year.

Having regard to all of the circumstances described in the reports and the DNA findings, the Stewards believe you should be charged with four breaches of the Greyhounds Australasia Rules of Greyhound Racing. The charges are detailed separately in this correspondence.

Please find enclosed the reports relevant to this matter and upon which GRNSW will rely in relation to the charges.

You are hereby advised that you are directed to attend at a hearing of the charges to be conducted at the offices of Greyhound Racing NSW, 1 Homebush Bay Drive, Rhodes, NSW, on Wednesday 4 March 2015, commencing at 11 am.

You are advised that you are able to call any witness and present any evidence that you feel may assist you in answering the charges. Should you require the attendance of any witness or persons providing statements in this matter please advise the writer by close of business on Wednesday 25 February 2015.

Due to the serious nature of the charges and having regard to the relatively expedient time for hearing provided, your trainer licence is suspended forthwith under the provisions of GAR 92 (5).

Yours faithfully,

Bill Fanning
General Manager, Integrity

CHARGE ONE – Under GAR 86 (o), which states;

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;

The stewards believe that you have, in relation to a greyhound, done a thing, which in the opinion of the Stewards is improper.

The details of the charge are;

“that you, registered trainer Mr Gareth Miggins, trainer responsible for the presentation of the greyhound Wilby Mighty for Race 3 at the Richmond meeting on 17 December 2015, and after having received veterinary direction relative to a tail injury suffered by the said greyhound, did, at some time after 6 pm on 17 December at the Richmond track, remove an affected portion of the tail from Wilby Mighty without supervision or care by a veterinary surgeon”.

CHARGE TWO – Under 106 (1) (d), which states;

R106 Proper care (welfare) of greyhounds

(1) A registered person must ensure that greyhounds, which are in the person's care or custody, are provided at all times with-

(d) veterinary attention when necessary.

The details of the charge are;

“that you, registered trainer Mr Gareth Miggins, trainer of the greyhound Wilby Mighty at the relevant time, and presented to compete in Race 3 at the Richmond meeting on 17 December 2015, did fail to seek veterinary attention as directed by GRNSW Veterinary Surgeon Dr Greg Bryant relative to a severe tail injury suffered by Wilby Mighty during or after the running of the subject event”.

CHARGE THREE – Under GAR 106 (2), which states;

R106 Proper care (welfare) of greyhounds

(2) A registered person must exercise such reasonable care and supervision as may be necessary to prevent greyhounds pursuant to the person's care or custody from being subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering.

The details of the charge are;

“that you, registered trainer Mr Gareth Miggins, trainer of the greyhound Wilby Mighty at the relevant time, failed to exercise reasonable care and supervision of the greyhound following the suffering of a severe tail injury during or after the running of Race 3 at the Richmond meeting on 17 December last year, in that;

- (1) You failed to seek veterinary care for the greyhound as directed by Dr Greg Bryant relative to ongoing care of the injury suffered by Wilby Mighty
- (2) That at some time following the running of Race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 17 December 2015 and upon removing Wilby Mighty from the race day kennel block, you have forcibly removed an affected portion of the tail from the greyhound without care or supervision from a veterinary surgeon, which would have caused significant and unnecessary pain and suffering to the greyhound
- (3) For a period of at least 36 hours after removing the affected portion of the tail from Wilby Mighty you have proceeded to undertake the loading and kennelling of the greyhound without recourse to veterinary care and attention, causing further unnecessary pain and suffering to the greyhound and endangering its welfare
- (4) That on Friday 19 December 2015 and subsequent to the suffering of the injury and forced removal of the section of tail, you have subjected Wilby Mighty to travelling a considerable distance via flight without recourse to veterinary care and attention, causing further unnecessary pain and suffering to the greyhound and endangering its welfare

CHARGE FOUR – Under GAR 86 (d), which states;

R86 Offences

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

(d) being an owner, trainer, attendant or person having official duties in relation to greyhound racing, makes a false or misleading statement in relation to an investigation, examination, test or inquiry, or makes or causes to be made a falsification in a document in connection with greyhound racing or the registration of a greyhound;

The stewards believe that you, as a registered trainer, are guilty of making a false statement in relation to an investigation in connection with greyhound racing.

The details of the charge are;

“that you, registered trainer Mr Gareth Miggins, at the Potts Park Greyhound Track on Saturday 20 December 2015, did make a false statement to GRNSW Welfare and Compliance Officer Mr Brad Frost, relative to an investigation into the finding of a section of tail at the Richmond track on 17 December 2015 subsequently found to belong to the greyhound Wilby Mighty, by advising Mr Frost through words to the effect of;

- (1) a section of the tail from Wilby Mighty was not removed at the Richmond track on the evening of 17 December 2015
- (2) that you were not responsible or oversaw the removal of the section of the tail from Wilby Mighty at some time following a veterinary examination by Dr Greg Bryant at Richmond on the evening of 17 December 2015
- (3) that you advised Mr Frost that the greyhound had been dispatched to the care of owner Mr Phillip Carter whilst the section of tail was bandaged and attached