

DECISION

INQUIRY NUMBER: 18S027
PERSON: Vicki Prest (**Participant**)

**GRNSW INQUIRY
PANEL MEMBER(S):** Grant Carroll
Tammy Cootes

DATE OF DECISION: 23 April 2018

CHARGE

1. On 9 April 2018 the GRNSW Inquiry Panel (**Inquiry Panel**) charged the Participant under rule 28(5) of the GRNSW Greyhound Racing Rules (**Rules**) as follows:

That you, Vicki Prest, permitted an unauthorised person to handle a greyhound on 17 February 2018 at the Young Greyhound Racing Club (**Charge**).

ADMISSION

2. The Participant admitted the Charge.

PENALTY

3. The Inquiry Panel considers that the GRNSW licensing system provides a mechanism for GRNSW to assess each licence application and accredit to the industry and the public that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence and perform the functions permitted under that type of licence. For this licensing system to function, it is essential that all aspects of the licensing system are enforced including ensuring that registered participants only engage licensed persons to train their greyhounds.
4. The Inquiry Panel considers a written warning letter issued to the Participant on 13 February 2018. The warning was in relation to a similar breach of the Rules. As a result, the Participant was directed that she cease permitting any unlicensed person to train or handle greyhounds owned or trained by the Participant.
5. The Inquiry Panel considers that it must impose a penalty that sends a clear message to ensure that the Participant and participants who may be like minded understand that it is a fundamental requirement of participating in greyhound racing that only those persons licensed with GRNSW train or handle greyhounds and that the wider community will be satisfied that GRNSW enforces compliance with its licensing system.
6. The Inquiry Panel considers the following factors when determining the appropriate penalty in relation to the Charge:
 - (a) The Participant's admission of the Charge at the earliest convenience; and
 - (b) The Participant's licence history having been licensed since 1977.
7. Having regard to the totality of the facts, the Inquiry Panel determines that a fine of \$1,000 wholly suspended for a period of 12 months subject to the Participant not breaching the Rules in relation to a related conduct matter is the appropriate penalty in the circumstances.

Grant Carroll
Senior Inquiry Steward
GRNSW Inquiry Panel
(On behalf of the Inquiry Panel)