

# MEDIA RELEASE

---

**For immediate release**

Date of issue 7 June 2017

***PHILLIP FORD – STEWARDS INQUIRY TPC 30 MAY 2017***

Office of Racing Integrity Stewards today opened an inquiry into allegations that disqualified harness trainer Phillip Ford was observed at the kennels of a licenced trainer on 3 February 2012.

Mr Phillip Ford today confirmed to Stewards that he was in attendance at the kennels on 3 February 2012. He also confirmed that he was aware of the terms and conditions associated with disqualification and that his presence at the kennels placed him in breach of the rules.

The Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) define disqualification in the following terms:

*“Disqualification” in relation to a person or greyhound means disqualified by a Controlling Body or Stewards or pursuant to the Rules of any Controlling Authority or Thoroughbred, Harness or Greyhound racing club.*

*GAR Rule 99 – effect of disqualification, suspension, warning off or being declared a defaulter.*

*(3) Unless the Controlling Body in special circumstances otherwise directs, a person who has been disqualified, warned off or declared as a defaulter is not –*

*(g) to enter or go or remain on, at any time, any place where greyhounds are trained, kept or raced.*

Mr Ford was advised that Stewards would be recommending to the Director of Racing that a term of 6 months disqualification should be imposed on him under the provisions of AHRR 15(1)(l) which states,

*15(1) Stewards are empowered –*

*(I) to provide reports and recommendations about or arising out of any inquiry, investigation or determination or upon any subject connected with the harness racing industry to the Controlling Body.*

The Director of Racing has accepted the recommendation by Stewards that Mr Phillip Ford be disqualified for 6 months effective immediately.

- ends -

For further information  
Contact:

**David Farquharson**  
**ACTING CHAIRMAN OF STEWARDS – HARNESS RACING**

**Robin Thompson**  
**DIRECTOR OF RACING**

0367771900