

# MEDIA RELEASE

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**For immediate release**  
16 July 2018

## ***GREYHOUND TRAINER SUSPENDED***

On Wednesday 11 July 2018, Office of Racing Integrity Stewards concluded an inquiry into the conduct of Trainer Mr Scott Rowlands during a visit to a Veterinary Clinic in May 2018.

After taking evidence off the Veterinary Clinic staff members and Mr Rowlands, Stewards considered the evidence presented and issued Mr Rowlands with a charge under the following rule for misconduct:

### **1. GAR Rule 86 (o) which reads:**

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 Stewards or Controlling Body, as the case may be, is negligent, dishonest, corrupt, fraudulent, or improper, or constitutes misconduct.

Mr Rowlands pleaded guilty to the charge under the rule and was suspended for a period of 6 months, which commenced from the conclusion of the inquiry and will expire 10 January 2019. Further to this penalty, Stewards invoked an outstanding suspended monetary penalty of \$250.00 for a misconduct charge in November 2017, which had been suspended for 12 months on the condition that Mr Rowland did not reoffend under this rule within this period.

In determining penalty, stewards considered the following:

- Mr Rowland's guilty plea;
- Mr Rowland's recent record under this rule;
- Mr Rowland's acknowledgement of the incident;
- The impact that Mr Rowland's behaviour had on the staff members at the Veterinary Clinic at the time of the incident and thereafter;
- Office of Racing Integrity Stewards do not condone and will not tolerate this type of behaviour directed towards any Office of Racing Integrity & Tasracing staff members, other officials, and/or any licenced participants including industry stake holders and any penalty issued must serve as a major deterrent to all licenced participants to avoid this type of behaviour in the future.

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Michael Hoyle  
Chairman of Stewards