13 May 2022

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**COREY FULFORD**

**Date of hearing:** 22 April 2022

**Panel:** Magistrate John Doherty (Deputy Chairperson) and Judge Marilyn Harbison.

**Appearances:** Mr Marwan El-Asmar appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

Mr Corey Fulford represented himself.

**Charges:** Local Racing Rule (“LR”) 42.6(a) states:

(a) An Owner must make all reasonable efforts to avoid euthanasia of their greyhound by finding it a suitable long term home.

LR 42.6(b) states:

(b) An Owner must provide the Board with at least 14 days but no more than 42 days, prior written notice, in the approved form, of an intention to euthanise a fit and healthy greyhound. For the avoidance of doubt, a notice under this sub-rule can only be lodged after the requirements of LR42.6(c) have been met.

LR 42.9(a) states:

(a) within 2 working days of the date of death (and prior to the disposal of the body of the deceased greyhound), the Owner or person responsible for the greyhound must notify the Board in the prescribed form of the death of the greyhound and provide a veterinary certificate of euthanasia where available (including, without limitation, the written certificate or letter referred to in LR 42.8).

**Particulars of charges: Charge 1: LR 42.6(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of the greyhound “Parable” (VEMFD).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Parable (VEMFD) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not make any reasonable efforts to find a suitable long-term home for Parable.

**Charge 2: LR 42.6(b)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, greyhound “Parable” (VEMFD).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound “Parable” (VEMFD) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not provide the Board with at least 14 days’ notice of your intention to euthanise the greyhound Parable (VEMFD).

**Charge 3: LR 42.9(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Parable” (VEMFD).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Parable (VEMFD) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You failed to notify the Board within 2 working days of the death of the greyhound Parable (VEMFD) in the prescribed form and provide the veterinary certificate of euthanasia.

**Charge 4: LR 42.6(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Keno Bale” (NEBMK).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not make any reasonable efforts to find a suitable long-term home for the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK).

**Charge 5: LR 42.6(b)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, greyhound the “Keno Bale” (NEBMK).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not provide the board with at least 14 days’ notice of your intention to euthanise the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK).

**Charge 6: LR 42.9(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Keno Bale” (NEBMK).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You failed to notify the Board within 2 working days of the death of the greyhound Keno Bale (NEBMK) in the prescribed form and provide the veterinary certificate of euthanasia.

**Charge 7: LR 42.6(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Bossino” (VEUCO).
3. On the 7th of March 2019, the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not make any reasonable efforts to find a suitable long-term home for the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO).

**Charge 8: LR 42.6(b)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Bossino” (VEUCO).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not provide the board with at least 14 days’ notice of your intention to euthanise the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO).

**Charge 9: LR 42.9(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Bossino” (VEUCO).
3. On 7 March 2019, the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You failed to notify the Board within 2 working days of the death of the greyhound Bossino (VEUCO) in the prescribed form.

**Charge 10: LR 42.6(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Ruby’s Cheekstar” (VEMFM).
3. On 9 October 2019, the greyhound Ruby’s Cheekstar (VEMFM) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not make any reasonable efforts to find a suitable long-term home for the greyhound Ruby’s Cheekstar (VEMFM).

**Charge 11: LR 42.6(b)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144), and a person bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Ruby’s Cheekstar” (VEMFM).
3. On 9 October 2019, the greyhound Ruby’s Cheekstar (VEMFM) was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You did not provide the Board with at least 14 days’ notice of your intention to euthanise the greyhound Ruby’s Cheekstar (VEMFM).

**Charge 12: LR 42.9(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Ruby’s Cheekstar” (VEMFM).
3. On 9 October 2019, this greyhound was euthanised at the Walnut Veterinary Clinic.
4. You failed to notify the Board within 2 working days of the death of the greyhound Ruby Cheekstar (VEMFM) in the prescribed form.

**Charge 13: LR 42.9(a)**

1. You were, at all relevant times, a trainer registered with Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) (Member No. 302144) and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (“GAR”) and Local Racing Rules (“LR”).
2. You were, at all relevant times, the registered owner of, and had the care of, the greyhound “Unnamed” (VIDNG).
3. On 21 2019 the Greyhound Unnamed (VIDNG) was injured on your property and was euthanised.
4. You failed to notify the Board within 2 working days of the death of the greyhound Unnamed (VIDNG) in the prescribed form.

**Plea:** Guilty to all charges

**DECISION**

On 23 August 2021, an inquiry was held into Mr Corey Fulford. By way of explanation, Mr Fulford thought that he was allowed to euthanise four greyhounds without seeking to re-home them or without notifying Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”). He was also charged in relation to the unnamed greyhound, being a pup, that he forgot to notify GRV of its death. He was not familiar with the Rules. We would be very disappointed should he breach the same Rules again, particularly if he were to euthanise a dog without proper efforts to re-home or without giving GRV an opportunity to re-home an otherwise healthy animal.

Reference has been made to penalties in recent “like” cases and for the need for general and specific deterrence when considering penalties.

In this case, we are of the opinion that suspensions, wholly suspended, and fines are appropriate.

In the event, we fix the following penalties:

In relation to Charges 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 11, a period of 12 months suspension, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months pending no further breaches of the Rules and an aggregate fine of $250.

In relation to Charges 3, 6, 9, 12 and 13, a period of three months suspension, to be served cumulatively with the penalty imposed on Charges 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 11, making a total period of 15 months suspension, such period being wholly suspended for a period of 15 months pending no further breaches of the Rules. In addition, an aggregate fine of $500 is imposed, making a total fine of $750.

Kathleen Scully
Acting Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal