

### **Disciplinary Committee Inquiries**

The Disciplinary Committee of the GBGB were in attendance at a meeting held on 22 September 2009:

Mr R Woodworth (in the chair)  
Dr A Higgins  
Mr A Hunt  
Mr K Salmon

#### **1. Swindon Stadium – DUN AN DORAS – Professional Trainer Mr Q Bevan**

Professional Trainer Mr Quentin Bevan was found in breach of rules 174 (i)(b), and 217 in that a urine sample taken from the greyhound DUN AN DORAS at Swindon Stadium on 1 May 2009 was analysed by HFL as containing the drug Meloxicam. Mr Bevan was not in attendance and having considered his explanation together with the circumstances of the case found that he administered a substance that could affect the performance and/or well being of the greyhound. The Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Bevan be severely reprimanded and fined £850.

#### **2. Newcastle Stadium – Racecourse Executive, Messrs P Douglas, B Clements, M Allen,**

The Disciplinary Committee considered the report of an investigation by the Security Department conducted by Clive Carr GBGB Investigating Officer into the fraudulent distribution of William Hill monies by Mr P Douglas, Mr B Clements and Mr M Allen. And in addition the circumstances under which Mr B Clements alleged that he was able to switch the racing jackets of the greyhounds HY YOU and LONGRANGE MAJOR during their qualifying trials at Newcastle Stadium between 14 March 2008 and 4 April 2008 that enabled LONGRANGE MAJOR to win its first race in a lower grade.

Messrs P Douglas, B Clements and M Allen were not in attendance at the hearing. The representatives of the Racecourse Executive of Newcastle Stadium, Mr Joe O'Donnell, Director of Greyhound Stadia, Mr Terry Meynell, General Manager and their Solicitor Mr William Broughton were in attendance. Also present were Mr Clive Carr, GBGB Investigating Officer and Mr John Johnson from the Association of British Bookmakers.

It was alleged that between various dates during 2003 to 2008 Mr P Douglas, former Racing Manager at Newcastle Stadium defrauded Messrs William Hill by making fraudulent payments to Mr M Allen a previously licensed Assistant Trainer. In 2006 Mr B Clements was allegedly asked by Mr Allen to join the conspiracy by acting as an intermediary between Mr Allen and Mr Douglas. He was allegedly paid £100 per month to facilitate the fraud.

In April 2008 Mr Clements alleged that with two identical greyhounds he was able to switch their racing jackets in trials sessions thereby enabling the better of the two greyhounds to win a graded race on the 10 April. Mr Clements then alleged that he had an off course gamble from which he made a profit of £1,500.

Mr Joe O'Donnell the authorised representative of Newcastle Stadium acknowledged that the matters concerning the theft of monies had been referred to the Police to investigate. Mr O'Donnell refuted the suggestions made by Mr Clements that he could have switched the greyhounds racing jackets in the trials races as described by Mr Clements. He produced written and photographic evidence to support that contention.

Mr O'Donnell also disputed the claim by Mr Clements that he had managed to place a bet that enabled him to win £1,500 on his greyhound. Evidence was adduced through Mr John Johnson, Association of British Bookmakers and corroborated through the investigations of Mr Clive Carr that this did not occur.

The Disciplinary Committee having considered the evidence in respect of the alleged fraudulent appropriation of monies from William Hill found former Racing Manager Mr P Douglas in breach of Rules 152(i) & (ii) and 174(v) & (xiii) of the Rules of Racing, in respect of acting in a manner prejudicial to the integrity, proper conduct and good reputation of greyhound racing and the fraudulent distribution of Messrs William Hill monies. He was made a WARNED OFF person and fined £5,000.

In respect of Mr B Clements the Disciplinary Committee found him in breach of Rules 152(i) & (ii) and 174(v) & (xiii) of the Rules of Racing in respect of the acting in a manner prejudicial to the integrity, proper conduct and good reputation of greyhound racing and the fraudulent distribution of Messrs William Hill monies. He was made a WARNED OFF person and fined £5,000. In respect of the allegations made by Mr Clements regarding the switching of greyhounds the Disciplinary Committee decided that this probably did not occur and therefore dismissed Mr Clements allegations in respect of the Racecourse Executive of Newcastle Stadium.

Having considered the evidence in the case of Mr M Allen the Disciplinary Committee made no order.

The Disciplinary Committee having considered the evidence in respect of the Newcastle Executive decided that there was no case to answer. They also noted that a number of welfare related issues had been raised during the hearing and were pleased to receive the assurances provided by Newcastle Stadium that the welfare of the greyhound was of paramount importance at all times.