



Chief Steward

Danny Ryan

Stipes take hard line on transfer of ownership

THE time has arrived for stewards to take a much harder line on the failure of licensees to comply with the Rules in relation to the transfer of ownership of greyhounds.

The rules are quite specific in this area (Board Rule 64). Any person who purchases or transfers a greyhound to another trainer **MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD AND SUPPLY THE PAPERWORK WITHIN THE PERSCRIBED TIME.**

Despite raising this issue a number of times in the past, disputes continue to arise simply because the paperwork has not been completed.

The most common problem arises from “giveaways”.

The receiver of the greyhound has an open trainers license so no transfer takes place. The giveaway wins a couple of races under the new trainer, the old owner wants his greyhound back.

Please take this warning seriously as inquiries will be held where necessary and penalties will be issued if the Rules have been broken.

I TAKE this opportunity to remind you of your obligations in relation to the treatment of your greyhounds.

Should you see the need for any medication or treatment for your greyhound you should immediately seek advice or attend your vet.

Any substance supplied must be correctly labelled and its use identified by a registered vet. It well might be illegal to have unlabelled substances on your property or in your possession.

I WOULD like to hear from licensees on an issue I have raised on a number of occasions at the National Chief Stewards Conference with only lukewarm support.

The offences of Failing To Pursue and Fighting.

Do we need both offences?

Is it possible for a greyhound to fight, and pursue the lure with due commitment at the same time ... I don't think so.

I therefore beg the question, why do we need the fighting rule at all?

I believe we should abolish the fighting rule and then review the penalties for failing to pursue.

This would remove the reference to greyhounds fighting which places an unnecessary stigma on greyhounds by the uneducated public and those who may dislike our sport.

It would also remove the argument of “did the greyhound make contact”, afterall the result is the same.

If stewards are considering charging a greyhound for fighting and establish the greyhound did not make contact then the greyhound is charged with failing to pursue.

I look forward to your opinions on this area of the Rules that creates great discussion.