



Ken Lawson, Secretary

Rick Scott, Governor

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Office: P M W / CENTRAL	Region:	Date of Complaint: February 12, 2013	Case Number: 2013 00 5735
Respondent: SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB INC. 5400 BRADENTON ROAD SARASOTA, FL 34234 Phone: (941) 355-7744		Complainant: DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING 1400 W. COMMERCIAL BLVD., SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33309 (954) 202-3900	
Prefix: 1022	License #: 153 PERMIT # 3150	Profession: Facility/Greyhound	Board: 100
Period of Investigation: February 12, 2013 through March 6, 2013		Report Date: 03/06/2013	
Type of Report: Final			
Alleged Violation: F.S. 550.0251 (11) The powers and duties of the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. The division shall administer this chapter and regulate the pari-mutuel industry under this chapter and the rules adopted pursuant thereto, and; (11) The division shall supervise and regulate the welfare of racing animals at pari-mutuel facilities.			
Synopsis: On 02/11/2013, a letter was received by Steve Kogan, DBPR Chief of Investigations from Cary M. Theil, Executive Director Grey 2k, requesting an investigation of the death of a greyhound at the Sarasota Kennel Club. Theil advised on 02/09/2013, the greyhound "Raiders Uncle Mo" was entered in the second matinee race and assigned box #2. He received this information from a confidential source. According to the source the greyhound fell into the track rail and was electrocuted, a few seconds into the race. Theil, reviewed the race video footage on line at http://www.trackinfo.com/video-box.jsp . Theil further advised he had verified the incident and it did occur. (EXHIBIT #1)			
Related Case:			
Investigator / Date March 06, 2013 Chuck Taylor / <i>Chuck Taylor</i>		Investigator Supervisor / Date <i>James A. Decker</i> James A. Decker / March 08, 2013	
Chief of Investigations / Date <i>Steve E. Kogan - March 15, 2013</i>			

On 02/12/2013, I met with Russell McElhinny, Sarasota Presiding Judge. He was in the company of Melody Plyler, Associate Judge, during my visit. McElhinny was questioned as to his presence during the matinee performance of 02/09/2013. He stated both he and Melody were working on that date. McElhinny recalled, "Raiders Uncle Mo" was assigned starting box #2. The 5/16 mile race started with all eight dogs leaving without any box malfunction. When the starting box opened, the #2 dog lunged out, and appeared to stumble forward within the first few yards of the race. He was bumped by the #3 dog and fell to his left. He landed on the electrified lure tracks that are located under the guard rail. McElhinny observed the starter box operator Santos Mireles and his assistant, David Ventura running toward the area of the downed greyhound.

During the same time the lure operator, Richard Miles also became aware of the incident in progress, he knew the danger of any "grounded" person that touched the greyhound could suffer the same fate as the greyhound. Miles increased the speed of the lure as the race continued, while he was viewing Santos and Ventura approaching the area of the downed greyhound. Just prior to Santos picking the greyhound from the tracks, Miles turned off the electric power which slowed the lure. Santos was able to secure the greyhound from the lure tracks. Miles reactivated the electrical power just prior to the arrival of the racing greyhounds, now entering turn three.

McElhinny was able to observe the racing greyhounds through out the race. He determined, there was no interruption of the positions, caused by the early incident involving "Raiders Uncle Mo". The race was called "Official".

I then interviewed Richard Miles, who related his involvement during race #2 on 02/09/2013. He related the exact story as the judges. He further stated, he has been running lures in the greyhound racing industry for over 40 years. He was thankful that no one was seriously injured.

I responded to the Veterinary office and secured a copy of the Sarasota Kennel Club Treatment & Injury Sheet which is a running log compiled by the on duty Veterinarian. On 02/09/2013, DVM David Wyatt made a written entry, "Raiders Uncle Mo", Pat C. Collins Kennel. "Dog fell or was pushed within 20 yards. of leaving box. Fell under rail. Death by electrocution, burns on jacket." (EXHIBIT #2)

A DVD was requested of race #2 the matinee performance on 02/09/2013. I reviewed the DVD in the state office. The DVD showed only a split second of the actual incident, where "Raiders Uncle Mo" left the racing surface immediately after the start. The race continued without further incident, as described by McElhinny. There will be a copy secured through the racing office after duplication. (EXHIBIT #3)

On 02/14/2013, I met with DVM David Wyatt, upon his return to work. He was questioned as to his involvement with "Raiders Uncle Mo" on Saturday 02/09/2013. Dr. Wyatt stated, he was observing the race and saw the #2 dog fly under the guard rail just seconds after the start of the race. He responded to mid-track immediately and met with Santos Mireles, who was carrying "Raiders Uncle Mo". Wyatt performed an immediate physical examine and discovered the greyhound was deceased. Mireles continued to carry the greyhound to the Veterinary office where he was again examined and pronounced.

DMV Wyatt stated, based on the circumstances surrounding the death, he believed, the death was caused by electrocution. He added there was no necropsy performed on the greyhound to his knowledge.

The guard rail was viewed for possible problem areas that could have contributed to the incident. The guard rail is approximately 18 inches +/- above the racing surface and there is a second section/guard rail 6 inches above the first, giving a total height of 24 inches. The guard rail is welded together and runs the entire circumference of the track. The lure rails begin 12 inches inside the outermost guard rail, at track level. The innermost rail remains consistent around the entire racing surface. The over-all width of the guard rail is 24 inches +/-.

I spoke with James Avery, maintenance supervisor who states the guard rail has been in place for his tenure of 17 years and it was in place on his arrival. There has been replacement of some small sections, but the guard rail remains the same.

On 02/21/2013, I returned for further information, referenced in the initial Cary Theil letter, concerning a second electrocution that possibly occurred a few weeks earlier at the Sarasota facility. **(EXHIBIT #1)**

I again spoke with DVM David Wyatt, about any additional electrocutions that had recently occurred. He recalled an incident that occurred on 01/17/2013 during the matinee performance. He showed an entry in his Treatment & Injury Sheet. It involved, "Se's Yukon Joe" which hit the guard rail going into the first turn, he then continued to run and collapsed after the far turn. The greyhound was found by the lure track operator and carried into the veterinary office DOA. Cause of death was listed as unknown; consider electrocution, cardiac arrest, brain hemorrhage, aneurysm etc.

Dr. Wyatt only referred to electrocution as a possibility because he was given information the greyhound was found lying by the rail. The actual race number and starting box was not noted on the Injury Sheet. **(EXHIBIT #4)**

The kennel owner/trainer Debra Linn was contacted via telephone. She advised "Se's Yukon Joe" was entered in race #9, box 4. I then requested a DVD of the race and reviewed same. The DVD showed "Se's Yukon Joe" exit the starting box from box position #4 very slowly, in last place. The camera continued to follow the race, "Se's Yukon Joe" was viewed once again for a split second coming off the inside rail on turn 1. No other view of the greyhound was seen. A copy of the race DVD was ordered. **(EXHIBIT #5)**

I conducted a visual inspection of the guard rail and observed no problems.

All persons mentioned in this report are licensed with the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering and their license numbers are available through the proper Division channels.

On 02/27/2013, A Property Receipt was prepared. The two DVD's Exhibits # 2 & Exhibit #4 were received and placed into evidence. **(EXHIBIT #6)**

Based on this investigation there appeared to be no violation of the Pari-Mutuel Wagering Rules or Florida Statutes, Chapter 550.

Case Status: Closed.



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II. EXHIBITS

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CLOSED CASES RELATED TO GREYHOUND

Case Number	Name	Inspection Date	Date Open	Time from Insp to open case	Inv.	Fac #	Case Type	DRUG POSITIVE	Drug Type	Sample #, Animal Name	Remarks	Status	Date Closed	Days
2013 00 5735	Sarasota Kennel Club, Inc.		02/12/13		C Taylor	153	Animal Neglect			RAIDERS UNCLE MO	Greyhound fell into the track rail and was electrocuted	Closed	03/15/13	31

Maintain Complaints (nr12)

Lic Type	1001	Permitholder Annual Lic & Operating	Status	90	Closed	On	03/15/2013
Complaint #	2013005735	Docket #	Disposition	100	No Action Taken	On	03/08/2013
Respondent	SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB, INC.		Responsible	TAYLOR, CHUCK		Public Case	

Complaint | Respondent | Complainant | Parties | Allegations | Costs | Time Tracking

Source	CNSM	Consumer	Security Level	1	<input type="button" value="Add Action"/>
Form	LTR	Letter	Priority	2	<input type="button" value="Disposition"/>
Class'n	AI	Animal Neglect	Incident	02/09/2013	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Activities"/>
Security	STND	Standard	Received	02/12/2013	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Violations"/>
Region	CR	Central Region	Entered	02/12/2013	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Discipline"/>
Reference	Grey2K Investigation Request				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Compliance"/>
Summary	53-Sarasota Kennel Club, Inc. Grey2K Investigation Request - Animal Neglect Greyhound "RAIDERS UNCLE MO" fell into the track rail and was electrocuted during a race on Saturday 09, 2013. Another dog was electrocuted and died a few weeks earlier after suffering a similar injury at Sarasota.				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Related"/>
	Updated 03/19/2013 16:11:54 By jinuniz				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="History"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Inspection"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Add'l Info"/>