

August 6, 2023

Re: Grievance Committee Findings

Dear NCA Board:

The grievance committee appointed by President Verona Butler investigated the charges brought by Anna Smith regarding David Henry's actions at the June 16, 2023, Doubling Gap Trial. The grievance letter is included.

In the first matter David Henry was accused of portraying the NCA in a poor light during the Handlers Meeting by saying that they had failed to respond to his sanction requests and therefore the trial was not NCA sanctioned even though it had been advertised as such. The committee spoke with several other handlers that were present at that Handler Meeting and they as a group said that they did not have the impression that he was blaming the NCA, just that it had not happened for whatever reason. When Mr. Henry was questioned, he said that he had never sanctioned a trial before and did not know to expect a response or to check the calendar to see if the trial was posted.

In the second matter David Henry was accused of making a video release form mandatory to running a dog in the trial. Two other handlers remember the situation as Anna Smith started the conversation about not wanting to sign the release form and David turned and asked the videographer what they should do if they did not want to be filmed. The videographer stated that it was not a large concern, just to let him know when the handler went into the arena that they did not wish to be filmed. Neither of the other two heard anything about it being mandatory.

The Committee's findings in this matter do not support David Henry violating the Member Code of Conduct as stated in our rules and as the trial was not sanctioned at the time of this happening, we feel we have no real jurisdiction in this situation.

Thank you,

Grievance Committee

