

## Rásaíocht Con Éireann

### CONTROL COMMITTEE REPORT

<p>MATTER</p>	<p>Appeal to Control Committee lodged by Mr. Joe Bentley, 41 Balloonagh Estate, Tralee, Co. Kerry and Mr. Patrick Lyons, Mountmahon, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick against a decision of the Board of Rásaíocht Con Éireann to issue Exclusion Orders against them.</p> <p><u>The following persons appeared before the Committee: -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Michael Lane, Solicitor, Michael Lane &amp; Company Solicitors, accompanied by his client Mr. Patrick Lyons, Mountmahon, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.</li><li>• Mr. Joe Bentley, 41 Balloonagh Estate, Tralee, Co. Kerry.</li><li>• Mr. Pat McInerney, Solicitor, Holmes O'Malley Sexton Solicitors representing Rásaíocht Con Éireann. Mr. McInerney was accompanied by Mr. Pat Herbert, Director of Regulation, Rásaíocht Con Éireann.</li></ul>
<p>OUTCOME</p>	<p>The Control Committee noted evidence tendered by Mr. Declan Dowling, Sales, Commercial and Operations Manager, Tralee Greyhound Stadium who was called as a witness by Rásaíocht Con Éireann. Mr. Dowling stated he observed the transfer of a live rabbit between Mr. Bentley and Mr. Lyons in the car park area at Tralee Greyhound Stadium on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2021. This evidence was contradicted by both Mr. Lyons and Mr. Bentley who stated in their evidence that the animal transferred was a ferret, for the purpose of vermin control.</p> <p>The transfer of an animal between Mr. Lyons and Mr. Bentley was undisputed. The matter the Control Committee had to decide, based on the evidence presented and on the balance of probability, was the animal in question a ferret or a rabbit.</p>

	<p><b>The Control Committee, having given the matter much consideration, accepted the evidence that what happened on the day in question was the transfer of a rabbit.</b></p> <p><b>The Control Committee decided to uphold the decision made by the Board of Rásaíocht Con Éireann and affirmed the decision to impose Exclusion Orders on Mr. Patrick Lyons and Mr. Joseph Bentley pursuant to Section 47 of The Greyhound Industry Act 1958.</b></p>
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August, 2022.