

From: Dave Houfton
Sent: 08 November 2015 17:04
To: Tom Kelly (tom.kelly@gbgb.org.uk) <tom.kelly@gbgb.org.uk>
Cc: Akin Yilmaz <akin.yilmaz@gbgb.org.uk>
Subject: Taking Greyhound Racing Forward

Dear Mr Kelly,

I write following the recent Racing Post articles and GBGB Board Meeting that Ricky Holloway attended on behalf of GTA.

Ricky informed me that you conveyed to him that I would not be allowed to sit on any committees because you deem me "too disruptive"

I hope this is not true. You and I were in a good meeting a couple of years ago and I certainly was not disruptive. I've assisted by visiting Towcester when they called on me at short notice for urgent consultation on the track given the numerous injuries they had recently. I am a big supporter of Welfare, and many say my schooling track is the safest in the country.

Watching your recent interview on SKY you informed that 'Welfare' was the most important issue in the industry. I hope the industry will call on my experience and willingness to help to assist with improving Track Safety. I would also like to remind you of what you said when you took your new role in May, "This is a time for everyone to put past disagreements and differences behind us. Let's all try and make something happen".

You will recall at our meeting I invited you to visit my schooling track at Dunham, near Newark, Notts and I extend this invitation once more. I think this would give you the opportunity to meet me face to face to understand my motivations and see first-hand my ideas for the improvement of track welfare. This would benefit the welfare of the dogs and the industry and I would demonstrate my willingness to assist in implementation. You will also find I am practical fellow willing to work with others in the industry.

I would be grateful if you could clarify the position in terms of my participation in Committees as highlighted above and on this subject I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

David Houfton

From: Tom Kelly [<mailto:tom.kelly@gbgb.org.uk>]
Sent: 09 November 2015 07:33
To: Dave Houfton <dave@everreadymix.co.uk>
Subject: Re: Taking Greyhound Racing Forward

Dear Mr Houfton

I have no recollection of describing you in the manner you suggest. As we have only met once ion what was not a confrontational occasion, you and I have no past disagreements to 'put behind us'. I have a very busy schedule at present and will have to decline your invitation to visit your track.

Tom Kelly

Chairman

Greyhound Board of Great Britain

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From: Dave Houfton
Sent: 15 November 2015 22:04
To: 'Tom Kelly' <tom.kelly@gbgb.org.uk>
Cc: Akin Yilmaz <akin.yilmaz@gbgb.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Taking Greyhound Racing Forward

Dear Mr Kelly,

Thank you for your email of 9 November 2015 in reply to my email of 8 November 2015.

Thank you for confirming for the record that we have no past disagreements, and that you have no experience of my being disruptive.

Accordingly, given my experience of building safe tracks (and that many say Dunham is the safest track in country as I intimated before) and advising GBGB'S newest flagship track on the same I am assuming you will be delighted to welcome me onto the Track Safety Committee.

I know that you are putting Welfare at the very forefront of your agenda. Dunham is only 90 mins on a train from Kings Cross and I would collect you at the train station. As you know I am unpaid carrying out safety work and am prepared to work for free on track safety for the industry. If we could improve injuries on tracks and I believe we can take some simple steps to do this, then your job would be much simpler on Welfare as you would have to contend with less dog injuries and dogs careers would last longer, and no doubt with owners attracted back into the sport.

As you know Greyhound Racing is a 7 days a week industry, I'd be very happy to make myself available at weekends to receive you, to assist you greatly in your focus on Welfare.

Please confirm I am accepted onto the Track Safety Committee.

Yours sincerely

David Houfton