



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Monday 24 April 2023
Decision-maker:	Chief Steward Troy Vassallo and Steward Ben Boyce-Mortlock
Name of relevant person:	Ashley Marshall
Track:	Richmond
Date:	29 January 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Ms Ashley Marshall presented the greyhound 'Skyla Blue' for the purposes of competing in race 9 at the Richmond meeting on 29 January 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Plea:	Guilty
Prohibited Substance(s):	Diclofenac
Disciplinary action taken:	To suspend Ms Marshall's license for a period of 2 months, commencing on Tuesday 25 April 2023 and expiring on Wednesday 21 June 2023

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 1 March 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Skyla Blue" at the Richmond meeting on 29 January 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence of Diclofenac.

DECISION:

1. Ms Marshall is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Skyla Blue" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 9 at the Richmond meeting on 29 January 2023. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-race swab revealed the presence of Diclofenac.

3. Diclofenac is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Tuesday 18 April 2023 Ms Marshall was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 18 April 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a 4-month suspension and charged Ms Marshall with an offence under Rule 141(1)(a) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 141(1), Rules

(1) The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound:

(a) nominated to compete in an Event;

...

must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

...

(3) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound presented contrary to subrule (1) of this rule shall be guilty of an offence.

6. The Notice invited Ms Marshall to attend a hearing via Microsoft Teams to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted on Monday 24 April 2023, Ms Marshall entered a plea of guilty and made verbal submissions.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Ms Marshall's plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms Marshall:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To suspend her license for a period of 2 months, commencing on Tuesday 25 April 2023 and expiring on Wednesday 21 June 2023

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Ms Marshall's registration history
 - Second offence relating to a prohibited substance matter

- GWIC penalty guidelines
- Personal circumstances
- Submissions provided to explain the detection of the prohibited substance.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 9 at the Richmond meeting on 29 January 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....