

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	27 June 2022
Decision-makers:	Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Mr Wade Birch and Senior Steward, Mr Kevin Adams.
Name of relevant person:	Ms Michelle Louise Lill
Track:	Gunnedah
Date:	31 March 2022
Rule no.:	83(2)(a) ¹
Charge(s):	Ms Lill presented the greyhound 'Casual Glance' (" Greyhound ") for the purposes of competing in race 8 at the Gunnedah meeting on 31 March 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Ketoprofen
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue Ms Lill a fine in the sum of \$1500.00.

Investigation

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 5 May 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-Event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Casual Glance' ("**Greyhound**") at the Gunnedah meeting on 31 March 2022.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of ketoprofen.

DECISION:

1. Ms Lill is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 8 of the Gunnedah meeting on 31 March 2022. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of ketoprofen. Ketoprofen is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**").
3. On 16 June 2022, Ms Lill was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**") in relation to the charge, setting out the proposed disciplinary action to be taken and the grounds in support of that proposed disciplinary action. The Notice also provided a brief of evidence for the charge.

¹ This is the applicable rule in force at the time of the offence. Rule 141(1) of the Greyhound Racing Rules as published 1 May 2022 is the comparative rule.

4. In the Notice issued on 16 June 2022 the decision makers charged Ms Lill with the offence under Rule 83(2)(a), which reads:

(2) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound-

(a) nominated to compete in an Event;

...

shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

5. The Notice proposed a penalty of an eight (8) weeks suspension and invited Ms Lill to attend a scheduled hearing to enter a plea in relation to the charge and to make submissions in relation to the charge and the proposed penalty.

6. On 27 June 2022 Ms Lill attended the scheduled hearing with the decision makers and entered a plea of guilty.

7. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms Lill:

Charge (Rule 83(2)(a)): To issue Ms Lill a fine in the sum of \$1500.00.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:

- Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW;
- The length of time Ms Lill has held a trainer registration, being since 1999 a period of approximately 23 years;
- Ms Lill's disciplinary history – noting this is her first breach of the Rules in her long-held association with the greyhound industry;
- Ms Lill's plea of guilty at the earliest opportunity.
- Ms Lill's explanation for the likely source of the positive result;
- Ms Lill's mitigating circumstances, including submissions in relation to her character and reputation in the industry and her personal and financial circumstances.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 8 at the Gunnedah meeting on 31 March 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules. The Greyhound was also disqualified from race 9 of the Gunnedah Regional Final on 7 April 2022, pursuant to Rule 141(5)(b).

.....End.....