



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 23 June 2020

Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind

Name of relevant person: Mr Richard Griffiths

Track: Bathurst

Date: 2 March 2020

Rule no.: Rule 83(2)(a)

Charge(s): (1) Mr Griffiths presented the greyhound 'Chuckin' Pies' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 1 at the Bathurst meeting on 2 March 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited substance(s): Carprofen

Disciplinary action taken: 9-week suspension, with 5 weeks suspended for 12 months conditionally

REPORT:

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from the Racing Analytical Services Laboratory, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Chuckin' Pies' ("**Greyhound**") at the Bathurst meeting on 2 March 2020.

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

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Griffiths with a breach of Rule 83(2)(a) of the Commission's Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**") given that the post-race urine sample taken from the Greyhound confirmed the presence of the prohibited substance carprofen.

Mr Griffiths admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

The disciplinary action was conducted in writing in accordance with the participant's election.

DECISION:

1. Mr Griffiths is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Bathurst meeting on 2 March 2020 (“**Event**”) and a post-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of carprofen. Carprofen is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mr Griffiths 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;
 - (b) presented for a satisfactory, weight or whelping trial or such other trial as provided for pursuant to these Rules; or
 - (c) presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a period of incapacitation or prohibition being varied or revokedshall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
4. Mr Griffiths admitted the charge, provided written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceeding conducted in writing.
5. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Griffiths:

To suspend his trainer registration for a period of 9 weeks, with 5 weeks suspended for 12 months on the condition that Mr Griffiths does not breach Rule 83(2)(a) during that 12-month period.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Griffiths has been a registered trainer for approximately 18 years;
 - Mr Griffiths has two prior prohibited substance matters in his disciplinary history involving naproxen in 2013 for which he was disqualified and firocoxib in 2009 for which he was suspended;
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty precedents;
 - Mr Griffith’s submissions in mitigation of any penalty, including in relation to his personal circumstances.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Bathurst meeting on 2 March 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....