

**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

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| <b>Date of decision:</b>          | 11 February 2021  |
| <b>Decision-makers:</b>           | Sarah McClure, Senior Legal Officer, David OShannessy, Chief Inspector & Dean Degan, Senior Steward   |
| <b>Name of relevant person:</b>   | Mrs Janel Erwin   |
| <b>Track:</b>                     | Richmond  |
| <b>Date:</b>                      | 22 August 2020  |
| <b>Rule no.:</b>                  | Rule 83(2)(a)   |
| <b>Charge(s):</b>                 | (1) A greyhound under Mrs Erwin's trainership, 'Katy Bell' (" <b>Greyhound</b> ") was presented for the purposes of competing in race 10 at the Richmond meeting on 22 August 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance. |
| <b>Prohibited substance(s):</b>   | Caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine   |
| <b>Disciplinary action taken:</b> | 12-week suspension  |

**REPORT:**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Katy Bell' ("**Greyhound**") at the Richmond meeting on 22 August 2020.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mrs Erwin 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 substances caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine.

Mrs Erwin admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

**DECISION:**

1. Mrs Erwin is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 10 at the Richmond meeting on 22 August 2020 (“Event”). Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine. Caffeine and its metabolites are prohibited substances under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mrs Erwin 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. Mrs Erwin 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 Mrs Erwin:

To suspend her trainer registration for a period of 12 weeks.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
  - Mrs Erwin has held a trainer registration for approximately 18 years;
  - Mrs Erwin has no prior matters in her disciplinary history;
  - Mrs Erwin’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
  - NSW greyhound racing penalty precedents;
  - The prizemoney which will be affected by the taking of this disciplinary action;
  - Mrs Erwin’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to her good character and record, remorse, personal circumstances and review of her animal husbandry practices.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 10 at the Richmond meeting on 22 August 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....