

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 25 June 2021

Decision-makers: Alan Brown, Chief Commissioner & Peter Collins, Commissioner

Name of relevant person: Ms Rebecca Scott

Track: Taree

Date: 15 November 2020

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

Charge(s): (1) Ms Scott presented the greyhound 'Sweltering' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 3 at the Taree meeting on 15 November 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited substance(s): 5 β -androstane-3 α , 17 β -diol

Disciplinary action taken: 9-month disqualification

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, 'Sweltering' ("**Greyhound**") at the Taree meeting on 15 November 2020.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence of the permanently banned prohibited substance 5 β -androstane-3 α , 17 β -diol.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Ms Scott 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 permanently banned prohibited substance 5 β -androstane-3 α , 17 β -diol.

Ms Scott was legally represented during the hearing and admitted the charges at the earliest opportunity.

DECISION:

1. Ms Scott is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of both the Greyhound.
2. The Greyhound competed in race 3 at the Taree meeting on 15 November 2020 (“Event”). Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
3. The post-Event swab revealed the permanently banned prohibited substance 5 β -androstane-3 α , 17 β -diol.
4. The Commission charged Ms Scott with an 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;
 - (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.
5. On 15 June 2021, this matter was heard by the Commission in an online hearing. Ms Scott and her legal representative were present at the hearing. Ms Scott admitted the charge. During the hearing, Ms Scott gave oral evidence and submissions were made on her behalf.
6. The Commission found the charge proven.
7. The Commission took the following disciplinary action against Ms Scott:

To disqualify Ms Scott for a period of 9 months,
with the time served under interim suspension taken into account as time served.
8. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW and other jurisdictions;
 - Ms Scott’ admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
 - Ms Scott has been a registered trainer for under 1 year, since April 2020;
 - Ms Scott’ lack of prior disciplinary history;
 - Ms Scott’s review of and change to her husbandry practices;
 - The oral evidence of Ms Scott and further submissions made on her behalf in mitigation of penalty, including in to her personal, financial and medical circumstances.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 3 at the Taree meeting on 15 November 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....