



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Monday 3 April 2023
Decision-maker:	Chief Steward Troy Vassallo, Stewards Martin Wright and Nathan Meyn
Name of relevant person:	Richard Polidano
Track:	Richmond
Date:	9 January 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Richard Polidano presented the greyhound 'Skyla's Elite' for the purposes of competing in race 1 at the Richmond meeting on 9 January 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Diclofenac
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a fine in the sum of \$1,500.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 9 February 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Skyla's Elite" at the Richmond meeting on 9 January 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of Diclofenac.

DECISION:

1. Mr Polidano is a registered Stud Master, Public Trainer and Breeder, and the trainer of "Skyla's Elite" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Richmond meeting on 9 January 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of Diclofenac.
3. Diclofenac is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.

4. On Thursday 16 March 2023 Mr Polidano was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 16 March 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a \$2000 fine and charged Mr Polidano 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 Mr Polidano to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted via Microsoft Teams on Monday 3 April 2023, Mr Polidano:
 - (a) entered a plea of guilty and;
 - (b) made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Polidano’s plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Polidano:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a fine in the sum of \$1,500.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Registration history
 - Second offence relating to a prohibited substance matter
 - GWIC penalty guidelines
 - Precedent penalties

- Submissions made to explain the detection of the substance.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Richmond meeting on 9 January 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....