



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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	Wednesday 21 August 2024
<b>Decision-maker:</b>	Acting Chief Steward Dean Degan, and Steward Shannon Kearney
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Bradley Northfield
<b>Track</b>	Casino
<b>Date:</b>	24 May 2024
<b>Rule no.:</b>	141(1)(a)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	Mr Bradley Northfield presented the greyhound 'Why A Macie' for the purposes of competing in race 1 at the Casino meeting on 24 May 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
<b>Prohibited Substance(s):</b>	Caffeine and Theobromine
<b>Plea:</b>	Guilty
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	To issue a Five Month Suspension, with the suspension to commence Friday 30 August, 2024 and expire Thursday 30 January 2025.

**INVESTIGATION**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 1 July 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Why A Macie" at the Casino meeting on 24 May 2024.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of Caffeine and Theobromine.

**DECISION:**

- 1) Mr Northfield is a registered Public Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of "Why A Macie" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 1 of the Casino meeting on 24 May 2024. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
- 2) The post-event swab revealed the presence of Caffeine and Theobromine.

- 3) Caffeine and Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
- 4) On 29 July 2024 Mr Northfield was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
- 5) In the Notice issued on 29 July 2024 the decision makers charged Mr Northfield 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 proposed a penalty of a eight-month suspension and invited Mr Northfield to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
- 7) On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 Mr Northfield contacted decision makers in writing and;
  - a) entered a plea of guilty; and
  - b) made written submissions

- 8) In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Northfield’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 Northfield:

**Charge 141(1)(a):** To issue a Five Month Suspension, with the suspension to commence Friday 30 August, 2024 and expire Thursday 30 January 2025.

- 9) In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Northfield’s guilty plea (25% reduction)
  - Mr Northfields registration history, with a prior prohibited substance matter within the past 12 months

- GWIC penalty guidelines

10) In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Casino meeting on 24 May 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....