



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	4 December 2024
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Zane Turner and Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch
Name of relevant person:	Rodney Oakman
Track	Wagga
Date:	28 June 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Rodney Oakman presented the greyhound 'Trio Of Clowns' for the purpose of competing in race 1 at the Wagga meeting on 28 June 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Metformin and Hydrochlorothiazide
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a suspension of 4 months, with the suspension to commence 13 December 2024 and to expire 13 April 2025.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 9 August 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Trio Of Clowns" at the Wagga meeting on 28 June 2024.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory confirming the presence of Metformin and Hydrochlorothiazide.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Oakman is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Trio Of Clowns" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 1 of the Wagga meeting on 28 June 2024. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Metformin and Hydrochlorothiazide.
3. Metformin and Hydrochlorothiazide is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the Rules

4. On 15 November 2024 Mr. Oakman was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 15 November 2024 the decision makers charged Mr. Oakman 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 six-month suspension and invited Mr. Oakman to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Monday 18 November 2024 Mr. Oakman contacted decision makers and:
 - a) entered a plea of Guilty; and
 - b) made written submissions

8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr. Oakman’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. Oakman:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a suspension of 4 months, with the suspension to commence 13 December 2024 and to expire 13 April 2025.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr. Oakman’s Guilty plea (25% reduction);
 - Mr. Oakman’s disciplinary record, including a prior prohibited substance matter within the past three years; and
 - GWIC penalty guidelines
10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Wagga meeting on 28 June 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....