



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	28 November 2024
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Zane Turner and Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch
Name of relevant person:	Frances Goodwin
Track	Nowra
Date:	12 August 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Ms Frances Goodwin presented the greyhound 'Catch A Cobra' for the purpose of competing in race 7 at the Nowra meeting on 12 August 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Metformin
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a fine of \$500 as well as impose a 4 week suspension, which will be wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Ms. Goodwin not reoffending under the same or similar rules in this period.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 17 September 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Catch A Cobra" at the Nowra meeting on 12 August 2024.

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

DECISION:

1. Ms. Goodwin is a registered Public Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of "Catch A Cobra" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 7 of the Nowra meeting on 12 August 2024. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of Metformin
3. Metformin is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the Rules.
4. On 15 November 2024 Ms. Goodwin 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 Ms. Goodwin 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 two-month suspension and invited Ms. Goodwin to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing held on Wednesday 27 November 2024 Ms. Goodwin;
 - Entered a plea of guilty; and
 - Made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Ms. Goodwin's plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms. Goodwin:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a fine of \$500 as well as impose a 4 week suspension, which will be wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Ms. Goodwin not reoffending under the same or similar rules in this period.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Ms. Goodwin's Guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Ms. Goodwin's 30-year registration history; and

- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Nowra meeting on 12 August 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules and race 7 at the Nowra meeting on 19 August 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(5)(b) of the Rules.

.....End.....