



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	11 February 2025
Decision-maker:	Steward Peter Phillips and Steward Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person:	Mark Davidson
Track	The Gardens
Date:	28 September 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Mark Davidson presented the greyhound 'We'll See' for the purpose of competing in race 7 at The Gardens meeting on 28 September 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Ethinylestradiol and 17a-Ethynyl-5 β -Estran-3a, 17 β -Diol
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a fine of \$750, as well as impose a four week suspension, which is wholly and conditionally suspended for twelve months conditional on Mr Davidson 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 11 November 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "We'll See" at The Gardens meeting on 28 September 2024.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of Ethinylestradiol and 17a-Ethynyl-5 β -Estran-3a, 17 β -Diol.

DECISION:

1. Mr Davidson is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of "We'll See" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 7 of The Gardens meeting on 28 September 2024. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of Ethynylestradiol and 17a-Ethynyl-5β-Estran-3a, 17β-Diol.
3. Ethynylestradiol and 17a-Ethynyl-5β-Estran-3a, 17β-Diol is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the Rules.
4. On 13 January 2025 Mr Davidson was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 13 January 2025 the decision makers charged Mr Davidson 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 \$2000 fine and invited Mr Davidson to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Thursday 6 February 2025 Mr Davidson was notified of a change in decision makers in the matter, and a new Notice issued.
8. On Monday 10 February 2025 Mr Davidson contacted decision makers and:
 - a) entered a plea of Guilty; and
 - b) provided written submissions
9. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Davidson'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 Davidson's:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a fine of \$750, as well as impose a four week suspension, which is wholly and conditionally suspended for twelve months conditional on Mr Davidson not reoffending under the same or similar rules in this period.

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Davidson's Guilty plea (25% reduction)

- Mr Davidson’s 20 year registration history, with no prior prohibited substance offences; and
- GWIC penalty guidelines

11. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at The Gardens meeting on 28 September 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....