



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	26 March 2025
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Zane Turner and Senior Steward Kevin Adams
Name of relevant person:	Beverley Sloan
Track:	Gosford
Date:	15 October 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Ms Beverley Sloan presented the greyhound 'Nitro Freddie' for the purpose of competing in race 11 at the Gosford meeting of 15 October 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Plea:	Guilty
Prohibited Substance(s):	Theobromine
Disciplinary action taken:	<p>To issue a fine of \$3000, of which \$2000 is to be wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Ms Sloan not breaching this, or a similar rule, in this period.</p> <p>In addition to the abovementioned fine, Ms Sloan was also issued a suspension for a period of 6 months, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Ms Sloan not breaching this, or a similar rule, in this period.</p>

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 2 December 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Nitro Freddie" at the Gosford meeting on 15 October 2024.

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

DECISION:

1. Ms. Sloan is a registered Public Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of “Nitro Freddie” (“the Greyhound”). The Greyhound competed in race 11 at the Gosford meeting on 15 October 2024. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of Theobromine.
3. Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Monday 3 February 2025 Ms. Sloan was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 3 February 2025 the decision makers charged Ms. Sloan 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 Ms. Sloan to attend a hearing on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at which time she would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the Charge and proposed penalty. The penalty proposed in the notice was a 7-month suspension.
7. On Tuesday 11 February 2025, Ms. Sloan attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams. After hearing initial submissions, decision makers adjourned the hearing to allow Ms. Sloan the opportunity to provide further submissions and to allow the Scientific Manager from Racing Analytical Services Limited and Chief Veterinary Officer to be present.
8. On Tuesday 18 March 2025, decision makers reconvened the hearing and heard the matter via Microsoft Teams. During the course of the hearing, Ms. Sloan entered a plea of guilty and made verbal submissions in respect of the Charge and proposed disciplinary action.
9. During the hearing evidence was provided by Ms. Sloan which offered a plausible explanation as to how the substance came into the greyhound’s system, which was

corroborated by further evidence. Decision makers were of the opinion that this evidence provided by Ms. Sloan warranted a degree of leniency in any penalty that may be imposed.

10. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Ms. Sloan's guilty plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms. Sloan:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a fine of \$3000, of which \$2000 is to be wholly and conditionally suspended for 12 months subject to Ms Sloan not breaching this, or a similar rule, in this period.

In addition to the abovementioned fine, Ms Sloan was also issued a suspension for a period of 6 months, with the suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Ms Sloan not breaching this, or a similar rule, in this period.

11. The disciplinary action taken in this decision should not act as a precedent for participants in a similar situation to Ms. Sloan, due to the unique circumstances of this case.

12. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence including:

- Ms. Sloan's guilty plea (25% reduction);
- Ms. Sloan's 53-year registration history, with a prior prohibited substance offence within the past 12 months;
- The participant submitted evidence that decision makers considered offered a plausible explanation for the presence of Theobromine in the Greyhound;
- Ms Sloan's personal and professional circumstances;
- GWIC penalty guidelines

13. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 11 at the Gosford meeting on 15 October 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.