

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	17 April 2025
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Paul Van Gestel and Manager, Racing Integrity, Chris Psillis
Name of relevant person:	Larry Warren
Track:	Nowra
Date:	27 January 2025
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Larry Warren presented the greyhound 'Upper Level' for the purpose of competing in race 1 at the Nowra meeting of 27 January 2025 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Plea:	Guilty
Prohibited Substance(s):	Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a 6-week suspension, to commence Friday 18 April 2025 and to expire on Friday 30 May 2025.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 7 March 2025, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Upper Level" at the Nowra meeting on 27 January 2025.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory confirming the presence of Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Warren is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Upper Level" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Nowra meeting on 27 January 2025. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine.

3. Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Wednesday 9 April 2025 Mr. Warren was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 9 April 2025 the decision makers charged Mr. Warren 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 Mr. Warren to attend a hearing on Thursday 17 April 2025 at which time he 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 4-month suspension.
7. On Monday 14 April 2025, Mr. Warren contacted decision makers and;
 - entered a plea of guilty, and
 - entered written submissions
8. On Thursday 17 April 2025, Mr. Warren attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
 - made verbal submissions.
9. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr. Warren’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. Warren:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a 6-week suspension, to commence Friday 18 April 2025 and to expire on Friday 30 May 2025.
10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr. Warren’s guilty plea (25% reduction)

- Mr. Warren's 44-year registration history, with no prior prohibited substance offences;
- Mr. Warren's personal and professional circumstances and commitment to reviewing and improving husbandry practices ; and
- GWIC penalty guidelines

11. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Nowra meeting on 27 January 2025 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.