

RECORD OF INQUIRY

This is a summary of the inquiry for general information purposes only. The Inquiry Panel's decision is as handed down and recorded during the inquiry.

INQUIRY NUMBER:	18S014
PARTICIPANT:	Ms Sarah Fellowes (Participant)
GRNSW INQUIRY PANEL MEMBER(S):	Ray Murrphy (Chair), Tammy Cootes and Grant Carroll
DATE OF INQUIRY:	5 October 2018

1. The GRNSW Inquiry Panel (**Inquiry Panel**) today heard the following charge issued to the Participant under Rule 79A(7) of the GRNSW Greyhound Racing Rules (**Rules**):
That you, Sarah Fellowes, are deemed to have had permanently banned prohibited substances in your possession at your property in Seaham where you were in charge of greyhounds (**Charge**).
2. The particulars of the Charge were:
 - (a) On 4 April 2017 the NSW Police and GRNSW Investigators conducted an inspection of the property where the Participant resides with Mr Wayne Vanderburg (**Property**).
 - (b) During the inspection of the Property, the following were located:
 - (i) anabolic steroids; and
 - (ii) pentobarbital (**Substances**).
 - (c) The Substances are permanently banned prohibited substances under Rule 79A of the Rules.
 - (d) The Participant was in charge of greyhounds located at the Property on 4 April 2017. Accordingly, the Participant is deemed to have the Substances in her possession.
3. The Participant admitted the Charge before the inquiry.
4. The Inquiry Panel considered the objective seriousness having regard to the facts and circumstances before the inquiry including that:
 - (a) The Substances are permanently banned prohibited substances under the Rules,
 - (b) Mr Vanderburg pleaded guilty to charges related to possessing the Substances before the Local Court of NSW.
 - (c) Mr Vanderburg does not hold a licence with GRNSW.

- (d) The Participant was the only licensed trainer on the Property and was in charge of the greyhounds present on the Property.
 - (e) There was no evidence before the Inquiry Panel that indicated that the Participant used the Substances.
5. The Inquiry Panel assessed the breach as objectively serious and concluded that the message to be given to the industry is an important one; that there is no place in greyhound racing for such permanently banned prohibited substances to be located at the Property of a registered trainer.
6. In determining the appropriate penalty, the Inquiry Panel took into account:
- (a) The Participant's early admission of the Charge.
 - (b) The Participant's involvement in the industry including being licensed with GRNSW since 29 July 2015 with no prior antecedents that impact on penalty.
 - (c) The references provided by the Participant.
7. Having regard to the totality of the facts, the Inquiry Panel determined that the appropriate penalty (including after applying the 25% discount for an early guilty plea) was a period of disqualification of 12 months.
8. The disabilities of a disqualification include but are not restricted to :
- (a) All licences and registrations of the Participant are cancelled;
 - (b) The Participant is not permitted to conduct any business affecting the registration of greyhounds or participants during the period of disqualification;
 - (c) The Participant is not entitled to hold any registration, licence, certificate or permit during the period of disqualification;
 - (d) The Participant must not enter a racecourse or place under the control of any greyhound racing club during the period of disqualification; and
 - (e) The Participant must not enter a place where greyhounds are trained, kept or raced during the period of disqualification.
9. The Participant was advised of her appeal rights.

Ray Murrhy
Chair
GRNSW INQUIRY PANEL