



**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

**Date of decision:** 13 December 2019  
**Decision-maker:** Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind  
**Name of relevant person:** Mrs Tracey Hand  
**Track:** Tamworth  
**Date:** 22 June 2019  
**Rule no.:** Rule 83(2)(a)  
**Charge(s):** (1) Mrs Hand presented the greyhound 'Sketchy Tralee' ("Greyhound") for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Tamworth meeting on 22 June 2019 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

**Permanently banned**

**prohibited substance(s):** Benzoylecgonine and ecgonine methyl ester

**Disciplinary action taken:** 2-year disqualification; deferred commencement to 17 December 2019 under Rule 95(5)

**REPORT:**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from the Racing Analytical Services Laboratory, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Sketchy Tralee' ("Greyhound") at the Tamworth meeting on 22 June 2019.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of benzoylecgonine and ecgonine methyl ester.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mrs Hand with a breach of Rule 83(2)(a) of the Commission's Greyhound Racing Rules ("Rules") given that the post-race urine sample taken from the Greyhound confirmed the presence of the permanently banned prohibited substances benzoylecgonine and ecgonine methyl ester.

Mrs Hand denied the charge.

The disciplinary action was conducted in writing in accordance with the participant's election.

**DECISION:**

1. Mrs Hand is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 7 at the Tamworth meeting on 22 June 2019 (“**Event**”) and a post-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of benzoylecgonine and ecgonine methyl ester. Benzoylecgonine and ecgonine methyl ester are permanently banned prohibited substances under Rule 79A(2)(v) and (vi) of the Rules and category 2 prohibited substances under the NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines.
3. The Commission charged Mrs Hand under Rule 83(2)(a), which reads:
  - (2) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound-
    - (a) nominated to compete in an Event;
    - (b) presented for a satisfactory, weight or whelping trial or such other trial as provided for pursuant to these Rules; or
    - (c) presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a period of incapacitation or prohibition being varied or revokedshall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
4. Mrs Hand denied the charge, provided written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceeding conducted in writing.
5. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mrs Hand:

To disqualify her trainer registration for a period of 2 years.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
  - Mrs Hand has been a registered trainer for short period of time, of approximately 8 months at the time of the offence;
  - Mrs Hand has no history of any prohibited substance matters;
  - Low level of the prohibited substance detected;
  - NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents;
  - Mrs Hand’s submissions in mitigation of any penalty, including in relation to her good character, personal circumstances and review of husbandry practices.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Tamworth meeting on 22 June 2019 pursuant to Rule 83(4).

.....End.....