

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 27 February 2020
Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind
Name of relevant person: Mrs Ruth King
Track: Dapto
Date: 5 December 2019
Rule no.: Rule 83(2)(a)
Charge(s): (1) Mrs King presented the greyhound 'Blinken Billy' ("Greyhound") for the purposes of competing in race 4 at the Dapto meeting on 5 December 2019 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Prohibited substance(s): Cobalt
Disciplinary action taken: 18-week suspension

REPORT:

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from the Racing Analytical Services Laboratory, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Blinken Billy' ("Greyhound") at the Dapto meeting on 5 December 2019.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of cobalt at a mass concentration level above the threshold amount of 100 ng/mL.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mrs King with a breach of Rule 83(2)(a) of the Commission's Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**") given that the pre-race urine sample taken from the Greyhound confirmed the presence of prohibited substance, cobalt above the threshold imposed by Rule 83(10) of 100 nanograms per millilitre.

Mrs King admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Mrs King is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 4 at the Dapto meeting on 5 December 2019 (“Event”) and a pre-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-Event swab revealed the presence of cobalt at a mass concentration level of greater than 200 ng/mL above the threshold amount. Cobalt above the specified threshold of 100 ng/mL is a prohibited substance under Rule 83(10) of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mrs King 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 King admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity 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 King:

To suspend her trainer registration for a period of 18 weeks.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mrs King has been a registered trainer for approximately 29 years;
 - Mrs King has no prior disciplinary action matters for a prior positive swab;
 - Mrs King’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 4 at the Dapto meeting on 5 December 2019 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....