

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

**Date of decision:** 2 April 2020  
**Decision-maker:** Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind  
**Name of relevant person:** Mr David Richardson  
**Track:** Grafton  
**Date:** 5 August 2019  
**Rule no.:** Rule 83(2)(a)  
**Charge(s):** (1) Mr Richardson presented the greyhound 'Sandave Gypsy' ("Greyhound") for the purposes of competing in race 6 at the Grafton meeting on 5 August 2019 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.  
**Prohibited substance(s):** Atenolol  
**Disciplinary action taken:** 6-week suspension with 3 weeks suspended (conditionally)

**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, 'Sandave Gypsy' ("Greyhound") at the Grafton meeting on 5 August 2019.

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

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Richardson 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 prohibited substance, atenolol.

Mr Richardson admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Richardson is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 6 at the Grafton meeting on 5 August 2019 ("**Event**") and a post-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of atenolol. Atenolol is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.

3. The Commission charged Mr Richardson 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 revoked

shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

4. Mr Richardson admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity, 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 Mr Richardson:

To suspend his trainer registration for a period of 6 weeks, with 3 weeks wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that he not breach Rule 83(2)(a) within that 12 month period.

6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:

- Mr Richardson has been a registered trainer for approximately 45 years;
- Mr Richardson has one prior prohibited substance matter;
- Mr Richardson's admission at the earliest opportunity;
- Mr Richardson's written submissions in mitigation of penalty, including reasonable explanation for the positive result and in relation to his personal circumstances. These personal circumstances are not published here due to privacy reasons and have resulted in a reduction of the penalty that would otherwise be imposed for like matters;
- The indicative level of the prohibited substance detected being considered low; and
- NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents;

7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 6 at the Grafton meeting on 5 August 2019 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....