



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 22 June 2020

Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind

Name of relevant person: Mr Shayne Doherty

Track: Gosford

Date: 25 February 2020

Rule no.: Rule 83(2)(a)

Charge(s): (1) Mr Doherty presented the greyhound 'Starkase Maggie' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 2 at the Gosford meeting on 25 February 2020 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, 'Starkase Maggie' ("**Greyhound**") at the Gosford meeting on 25 February 2020.

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 nanograms per millilitre ("**ng/mL**").

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Doherty 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 the prohibited substance cobalt above the threshold imposed by Rule 83(10) of 100 ng/mL.

Mr Doherty admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Doherty is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 2 at the Gosford meeting on 25 February 2020 (“**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. Cobalt above the specified threshold of 100 ng/mL is a prohibited substance under Rule 83(10) of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mr Doherty 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. Mr Doherty admitted the charge 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 Doherty:

To suspend his trainer registration for a period of 18 weeks.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Doherty has been a registered trainer for approximately 30 years, since 1990;
 - Mr Doherty has had no prior disciplinary matters;
 - Mr Doherty’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty precedents;
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 2 at the Gosford meeting on 25 February 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....