



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 22 July 2020

Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind

Name of relevant person: Ms Janine Gorton

Track: Maitland

Date: 6 April 2020

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

Charge(s): (1) Ms Gorton presented the greyhound 'Pinocchio's Girl' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 6 April 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited substance(s): Caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine

Disciplinary action taken: 14-week suspension

REPORT:

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Pinocchio's Girl' ("**Greyhound**") at the Maitland meeting on 6 April 2020.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Ms Gorton 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 prohibited substances caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine.

Ms Gorton admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Ms Gorton is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 6 April 2020 (“Event”). Following the Event, as the Greyhound placed first, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine. Caffeine and its metabolites theophylline, paraxanthine and theobromine are prohibited substances under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Ms Gorton 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. Ms Gorton admitted the charge, provided 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 Ms Gorton:

To suspend her trainer registration for a period of 14 weeks.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Ms Gorton has been a registered trainer for approximately 7 years;
 - Ms Gorton has no prior matters in his disciplinary history;
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty precedents;
 - Ms Gorton’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to her personal circumstances, her review of her husbandry practices and her remorse.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 6 April 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....