



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 23 April 2021

Decision-makers: A/Senior Legal Officer, Alice Stafford, Chief Inspector, David OShannessy and Senior Steward, Dean Degan

Name of relevant person: Mr Sergio Forner

Track: Nowra

Date: 20 December 2020

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

Charge(s): (1) Mr Forner presented the greyhound 'Forner Rising' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Nowra meeting on 20 December 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited Substance(s): Ketoprofen

Disciplinary action taken: \$750.00 fine

REPORT:

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Forner Rising' ("**Greyhound**") at the Nowra meeting on 20 December 2020.

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

Mr Forner admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Forner is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 7 of the Nowra meeting on 20 December 2020 ("**Event**"). Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The pre-Event swab revealed the presence of ketoprofen. Ketoprofen is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mr Forner with an offence 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;
...shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
4. Mr Forner admitted 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 Mr Forner:

To impose a fine in the sum of \$750.00.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Forner has held a trainer registration for approximately 23 years;
 - Mr Forner has no relevant prior matters in his disciplinary history;
 - Mr Forner's admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
 - NSW greyhound racing precedents; and
 - Mr Forner's submissions in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to his good character and record, remorse, review of and amendment to his animal husbandry practices and a reasonable explanation for the likely source of the positive result being from the meat fed to his greyhounds.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Nowra meeting on 20 December 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....