



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 6 May 2021

Decision-makers: Director Compliance and Legal Services, Matthew Tutt, Chief Inspector, David OShannessy and Senior Steward, Dean Degan

Name of relevant person: Mr Clifford Bell

Track: Dapto

Date: 24 December 2020

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

Charge(s): (1) Mr Bell presented the greyhound 'Cold Streak' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 3 at the Dapto meeting on 24 December 2020 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited Substance(s): Ketoprofen

Disciplinary action taken: To suspend Mr Bell's Public Trainer and Breeder registrations for a period of 9 weeks, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that Mr Bell does not breach Rule 83(2)(a) or similar rules during that 12-month period; and \$1,500.00 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, 'Cold Streak' ("**Greyhound**") at the Dapto meeting on 24 December 2020.

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

Mr Bell admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Bell is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 3 of the Dapto meeting on 24 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 Bell 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 Bell 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 Bell:

To suspend his trainer registration for a period of 9 weeks, wholly suspended for a period of 12-months on the condition that Mr Bell does not breach Rule 83(2)(a) during that 12-month period;

To impose a fine in the sum of \$1,500.00.

6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Bell has had a trainer registration for approximately 24 years;
 - Mr Bell has one prior prohibited substance matter in his disciplinary history involving carprofen, which was dealt with by way of a fine in 2020;
 - Mr Bell’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
 - NSW greyhound racing precedents; and
 - Mr Bell’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including his volunteer work within the greyhound racing industry, the likely source of the prohibited substance being from the meat fed to his greyhounds and his review of and amendment to his animal husbandry practices.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 3 at the Dapto meeting on 24 December 2020 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....