



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 9 July 2021

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

Name of relevant person: Mr William Marmara

Track: Gunnedah

Date: 24 March 2021

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

Charge(s): (1) Mr Marmara presented the greyhound 'Greek Bombshell' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 11 at the Gunnedah meeting on 24 March 2021 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance

Prohibited Substance(s): Lignocaine and 3-hydroxylignocaine

Disciplinary action taken: 6-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, 'Greek Bombshell' ("**Greyhound**") at the Gunnedah meeting on 24 March 2021.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of lignocaine and 3-hydroxylignocaine.

Mr Marmara admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Marmara is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 11 of the Gunnedah meeting on 24 March 2021 ("**Event**"). Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of lignocaine and 3-hydroxylignocaine. Lignocaine and 3-hydroxylignocaine are prohibited substances under Rule 1 of the Rules.

3. The Commission charged Mr Marmara 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 Marmara 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 Marmara:

To suspend his registrations for a period of 6 weeks.

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

- The length of time Mr Marmara has held a trainer registration in the greyhound racing industry, being since 1984, approximately 37 years;
- Mr Marmara has no relevant prior matters in his disciplinary history;
- Mr Marmara's admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity;
- NSW greyhound racing precedents; and
- Mr Marmara's submissions in mitigation of penalty, including his good character, personal circumstances, his review of his animal husbandry practices and his remorse.

7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 11 at the Gunnedah meeting on 24 March 2021 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....