



**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

**Date of decision:** 7 October 2021

**Decision-makers:** A/Deputy Chief Inspector, Shaye Barrow, Director Compliance & Legal Services, Matthew Tutt, Director Race Day Operations (Chief Steward), Wade Birch

**Name of relevant person:** Ms Lynette Williams

**Track:** N/A

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Rule no.:** Rule 79A(7)

**Charge(s):** (1) Ms Williams had in her possession at her registered kennels on 5 August 2021 one syringe containing white tablets, which following testing was found to contain a permanently banned prohibited substance, namely hydrocortisone

**Permanently Banned**

**Prohibited Substance:** Hydrocortisone

**Disciplinary action taken:** 4-month disqualification

**REPORT:**

During an inspection of Ms Williams' premises, Commission Inspectors located a syringe containing white tablets and this was surrendered to the Inspectors. Testing was conducted by Racing Analytical Services Ltd ("**Laboratory**").

After considering the evidence the Commission charged Ms Williams with a breach of Rule 79A(7) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**") in relation to the white tablets contained in the syringe.

The disciplinary action was conducted via an online hearing and Ms Williams admitted to the conduct leading to the charge during the course of the hearing.

**DECISION:**

1. Ms Williams is, and was at the material time being on 5 August 2021, a registered greyhound owner trainer.

2. On 5 August 2021, a kennel inspection was conducted by GWIC inspectors at Ms Williams's registered kennel address. Ms Williams was present at the time of the inspection.
3. During that kennel inspection, two syringes were seized. One of the syringes contained white tablets.
4. Testing by the Laboratory of the white tablets contained in the syringe confirmed the presence of hydrocortisone.
5. Hydrocortisone (excluding registered topical preparations when administered topically) is a permanently banned prohibited substance under R79A(xxiv) of the Rules.
6. The Commission charged Ms Williams under Rule 79A(7) for the possession of the permanently banned prohibited substance, which reads:

**Rule 79A(7)**

...

- (7) If any substance or preparation that could give rise to an offence under this rule if administered to a greyhound at any time is found at any time at any premises used in relation to the training or racing of greyhounds then any registered person who owns, trains or races or is in charge of greyhounds at those premises is deemed to have the substance or preparation in their possession and such person shall be guilty of an offence and liable to penalty.

7. On 7 October 2021, this matter was heard by the Commission in an online hearing. Ms Williams was present at the hearing. Ms Williams gave oral evidence and submissions in mitigation of penalty and admitted to the conduct leading to the charge.
8. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Ms Williams:

To disqualify Ms Williams for 4 months.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
  - Ms Williams has held a trainer registration since 2016, approximately 5 years;
  - Ms Williams has one prior prohibited substance matter in her disciplinary history, being in Queensland in 2019 for caffeine and its metabolites;
  - Ms Williams admitting to the conduct leading to the charge;
  - The objective seriousness of charge, relating to a permanently banned prohibited substance. While hydrocortisone is not a permanently banned prohibited substance in circumstances where it is a registered topical preparation and administered topically, the hydrocortisone found at Ms Williams' registered kennels was in tablet form and was not registered as a topical preparation for any of her greyhounds;
  - NSW greyhound racing precedents; and
  - Ms Williams' submissions in mitigation of penalty, including her personal and financial circumstances.

.....End.....