



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	20 January 2022
Decision-makers:	Director Compliance, Policy & Legal, Matthew Tutt, A/Deputy Chief Inspector, Shaye Barrow and Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Wade Birch
Name of relevant person:	Mr Allan Woods
Track:	The Gardens
Date:	2 July 2021
Rule no.:	Rule 83(2)(a)
Charge(s):	(1) Mr Woods presented the greyhound 'Convoluted' (" Greyhound ") for the purposes of competing in race 8 at The Gardens meeting on 2 July 2021 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Ethynylestradiol
Disciplinary action taken:	\$1,000 fine

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, 'Convoluted' ("**Greyhound**") at The Gardens meeting on 2 July 2021.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre, confirming the presence of ethynylestradiol in the sample.

On 18 November 2021 Mr Woods was issued with a notice of proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**") setting out the proposed disciplinary action to be taken and the grounds in support of that proposed disciplinary action. The Notice proposed a penalty of a \$1,500 fine and invited Mr Woods to admit or deny the charge and make submissions on the proposed penalty.

Evidence, plea and submissions

Mr Woods was provided with a brief of evidence along with the Notice. In addition, a summary of the evidence was contained in the Notice.

On 3 December 2021 Mr Woods responded to the Notice, pleading guilty to the charge, and providing submissions that stated, in summary:

- Mr Woods acknowledged the results of the laboratories but submitted that he had no knowledge of how the swab returned an irregularity;
- Mr Woods stated that the greyhound had been swabbed nine times in 2021, including a swab taken seven days after the positive swab, but the swab the subject of this matter is the only one that returned a positive result;
- Mr Woods raised concerns within the paperwork provided with the disciplinary matter;
- Mr Woods submitted that he has not made any changes to his practices, supplementation or feeding program that could explain the positive result;
- Mr Woods noted he has held a registration for 11 years and that this is the first irregularity he has received;
- Mr Woods noted he did change the substance used as a seasonal suppressant in the lead up to the positive swab occurring.

The decision makers considered Mr Wood's submissions and plea and came to the following determination.

DECISION:

1. Mr Woods is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 8 of The Gardens meeting on 2 July 2021 ("**Event**"). Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of ethynylestradiol. Ethynylestradiol is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The decision makers charged Mr Woods 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 Woods admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity, provided brief written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceedings conducted in writing.
5. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Woods:

To impose a fine in the sum of \$1,000,
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW;
 - The length of time Mr Woods has held a trainer registration, being since 2011, approximately 10 years;

- Mr Wood’s disciplinary history – he does not have any like matters on his record;
 - Mr Wood’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity; and
 - Mr Wood’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including in relation to the circumstances of the offending and his remorse.
7. Mr Woods received a 25% reduction for his early guilty plea, bringing the penalty to a fine of \$1,125. Mr Woods received a further discount for his submissions in mitigation of penalty, in particular the circumstances in which the prohibited substance may have occurred in the greyhound, bringing the penalty to a fine of \$1,000.
 8. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 8 at The Gardens meeting on 2 July 2021 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....