



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 21 June 2022

Decision-makers: Director Compliance, Policy & Legal Services, Matthew Tutt and Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Wade Birch

Name of relevant person: Mr Peter Raymond Sims

Track: Temora; Wentworth Park

Date: 12 February 2022; 19 February 2022

Rule no.: 83(2)(a)¹

Charge(s):

(1) Mr Sims presented the greyhound 'Bruce Mick Glenn' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Temora meeting on 12 February 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

(2) Mr Sims presented the greyhound 'Bruce Mick Glenn' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 10 at the Wentworth Park meeting on 19 February 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited Substance(s): Dexamethasone

Disciplinary action taken: To issue Mr Sims a fine in the sum of \$2000.00.

INVESTIGATION

Charge One

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 28 March 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-Event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Bruce Mick Glenn' ("**Greyhound**") at the Temora meeting on 12 February 2022.

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

¹ This is the applicable rule in force at the time of the offence. Rule 141(1) of the Greyhound Racing Rules as published 1 May 2022 is the comparative rule.

Charge Two

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 6 April 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-Event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Bruce Mick Glenn' ("**Greyhound**") at the Wentworth Park meeting on 19 February 2022.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Sims is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 7 of the Temora meeting on 12 February 2022 (**Event One**). Following Event One, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of dexamethasone. The Greyhound competed in race 10 of the Wentworth Park meeting on 19 February 2022 ("**Event Two**"). Following Event Two, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of dexamethasone. Dexamethasone is a prohibited substance under Rule 1² of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**").
2. On 18 May 2022 Mr Sims was issued with a Notice of Charge ("**Notice**") in relation to the matter. The Notice provided a brief of evidence for the charges.
3. In the Notice, the decision makers charged Mr Sims with two offences 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. The Notice invited Mr Sims to attend a scheduled hearing in order to enter a plea in relation to the charges and to make submissions in relation to the charges and any proposed penalty.
5. On 21 June 2022 Mr Sims attended the scheduled hearing before the decision makers with his legal representative. Mr Sims entered a plea of guilty to both charges and submissions in relation to the charges were made on his behalf.
6. The decision makers found the charges proven and issued the following penalty against Mr Sims:

² This is the applicable rule in force at the time of the offence. Rule 137 of the Greyhound Racing Rules as published 1 May 2022 is the comparative rule.

Charges (Rule 83(2)(a)): To issue Mr Sims a fine in the sum of \$2000.00.

7. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all of the evidence and submissions, including:

- Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW;
- The length of time Mr Sims has held a trainer registration, being since 2008, a period of approximately 14 years;
- Mr Sims' disciplinary history – importantly one prior breach of Rule 83(2)(a) in March 2022 for cobalt above the threshold, which was considered by decision makers. However, due to the specific circumstances of these charges, this prior offence was not considered as an aggravating factor;
- Mr Sims' plea of guilty to both charges at the earliest opportunity;
- Mr Sims' explanation for the likely source of the positive result and the extenuating circumstances around the likely source, in relation to the treatment of the Greyhound's pannus by Mr Sim's veterinarian;
- The administration of Maxidex medication to the Greyhound by Mr Sims' veterinarian instead of the prescribed medication Prednefrin Forte Drops, without alerting Mr Sims of this change in medication;
- The statement provided by Mr Sim's veterinarian, in which he expressed his sincere remorse for his short-sightedness, as well as providing a reference as to Mr Sims' character and diligence as a trainer;
- Mr Sims' forthright attempts to notify the Commission on the Pannus Notification Form, which listed the prescribed Prednefrin Forte Drops, submitted on or about the 10 February 2022;
- However, although the Greyhound was not to Mr Sims' knowledge administered a medication that contained a prohibited substance, the trainer of a greyhound is responsible for understanding and authorising medications to be given to their greyhounds. It was on this basis that Mr Sims' culpability arose.
- Mr Sims' personal and financial circumstances, his extensive involvement in the greyhound industry and the submission as to industry wide shortages of Prednefrin Forte Drops around the time of the swab.

8. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Temora meeting on 12 February 2022 and race 10 at the Wentworth Park meeting on 19 February 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....