



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

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| Date of decision: | Wednesday 9 November 2022 |
| Decision-makers: | Senior Steward Kevin Adams and Steward Sam Woolaston |
| Name of relevant person: | Mr Scott Eaton |
| Track: | The Gardens |
| Date: | 9 November 2022 |
| Rule no.: | 141(1)(a) |
| Charge(s): | Mr Scott Eaton presented the greyhound 'READY TO RAID' for the purposes of competing in race 12 at the Gardens meeting on 17 September 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance |
| Prohibited Substance(s): | Cobalt |
| Disciplinary action taken: | To suspend Mr Eaton for a period of 10 weeks. |

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 11 October 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'READY TO RAID' at the Gardens meeting on 17 September 2022.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Eaton is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of "Ready to Raid" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 12 of the Gardens meeting on 17 September 2022. After the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post event swab revealed the presence of Cobalt.
3. Cobalt is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.

4. On 27 October 2022 Mr Eaton was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”) in relation to the charge, setting out the proposed disciplinary action to be taken and the grounds in support of that proposed disciplinary action.
5. In the Notice issued on 27 October 2022 the decision makers charged Mr Eaton with the offence under Rule 141(1)(a) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:

Rule 141(1), Rules

(1) The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound:

(a) nominated to compete in an Event;

...

must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

...

(3) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound presented contrary to subrule (1) of this rule shall be guilty of an offence.

6. The Notice invited Mr Eaton to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge and the proposed penalty. Mr Eaton contacted the decision makers to advise that he pleaded guilty to the charge.
7. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Eaton’s plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Eaton:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To suspend Mr Eaton’s registrations for a period of 10 weeks

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Eaton’s early guilty plea;
 - Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW and GWIC’s penalty guidelines;
 - Mr Eaton’s good record, with no prior prohibited substance matters.
8. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 12 at the Gardens meeting on 17 September 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....