



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Thursday 19 January 2023
Decision-maker:	Director Race Day Operations (Chief Steward) Wade Birch and Deputy Chief Steward Troy Vassallo
Name of relevant person:	Bradley O'Neil
Track:	Bathurst
Date:	26 September 2022
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Bradley O'Neil presented the greyhound 'Bestow Keeping' for the purposes of competing in race 10 at the Bathurst meeting on 26 September 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Hydrocortisone
Disciplinary action taken:	To suspend his Public Trainer's license for a period of 4 weeks, commencing Tuesday 24 January 2023 and to expire on Wednesday 22 February 2023.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 8 November 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Bestow Keeping" at the Bathurst meeting on 26 September 2022.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of Hydrocortisone.

DECISION:

1. Mr O'Neil is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Bestow Keeping" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 10 of the Bathurst meeting on 26 September 2022. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of Hydrocortisone.

3. Hydrocortisone is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Tuesday 10 January 2023 Mr O'Neil was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 10 January 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a 2-month suspension of his Public Trainer's license and charged Mr O'Neil 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 O'Neil to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 19 January 2023, Mr Simpson:
 - (a) entered a plea of guilty and;
 - (b) made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr O'Neil'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 O'Neil:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To suspend his Public Trainer's license for a period of 4 weeks, to commence on 24 January 2023 and to expire on 22 February 2023.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Registration history

- First offence
- Professional and personal circumstances
- GWIC penalty guidelines
- A likely cause for the detection of Hydrocortisone was established.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 10 at the Bathurst meeting on 26 September 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....