



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Tuesday 14 March 2023

Decision-maker: Director Race Day Operations and Integrity (Chief Steward)
Wade Birch, Steward Sam Woolaston

Name of relevant person: Craig Cameron

Track: Gunnedah and Coonamble

Date: 15 December 2022 & 1 October 2022

Rule no.: 141(1)(a)

Charge(s): Charge 1
Mr Craig Cameron presented the greyhound 'Shanlyn Tracy' for the purposes of competing in race 10 at the Gunnedah meeting on 15 December 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance

Charge 2
Mr Craig Cameron presented the greyhound 'Yuluwirri Girl' for the purposes of competing in race 3 at the Coonamble meeting on 1 October 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance

Plea: Guilty

Prohibited Substance(s): Charge 1: Cobalt
Charge 2: Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine

Disciplinary action taken: Charge 1: To issue a three-month suspension
Charge 2: To issue a three-month suspension to be served cumulatively with Charge 1

INVESTIGATION

Charge 1

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 9 January 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event

urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Shanlyn Tracy" at the Gunnedah meeting on 15 December 2022.

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

Charge 2

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 15 November 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Yuluwirri Girl" at the Coonamble meeting on 1 December 2022.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence of Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine.

DECISION:

1. Mr Cameron is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of both greyhounds
2. "Shanlyn Tracy" ("**the First Greyhound**") competed in race 10 of the Gunnedah meeting on 15 December 2022. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Cobalt which is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
3. "Yuluwirri Girl" ("**the Second Greyhound**") competed in race 3 of the Coonamble meeting on 1 October 2022. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Caffeine and its metabolites Theophylline, Paraxanthine and Theobromine which is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Wednesday 8 March 2023 Mr Cameron was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 8 March 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Cameron with an 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 proposed a penalty of a four-month suspension for each charge and invited Mr Cameron to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.

7. At the hearing conducted via Teams on Tuesday 14 February 2023, Mr Cameron:

- (a) entered a plea of guilty and;
- (b) made verbal submissions.

8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Cameron'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 Cameron:

Charge 1 – Rule 141(1)(a): To suspend your registrations for a period of 3 months

Charge 2 – Rule 141(1)(a): To suspend your registrations for a period of 3 months, to be served cumulatively with Charge 1

In having regard to the totality of the offending behaviour a five month suspension was imposed. The period of suspension will commence at 12:01am 16 March 2023 and cease at 11:59pm 15 August 2023

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:

- Mr Cameron's guilty plea (25% reduction)
- His record and having only been licensed since 22/10/21.
- His cooperative and forthright evidence.
- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the First Greyhound was disqualified from race 10 at the Gunnedah meeting on 15 December 2022 and the Second Greyhound was disqualified from Race 3 at the Coonamble meeting on 1 October 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....