



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Friday 10 March 2023
Decision-maker:	Director Race Day Operations and Integrity, Wade Birch, Steward Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person:	David Meiers
Track:	Taree
Date:	3 August 2022
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr David Meiers presented the greyhound 'Trixie Vegas' for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Taree meeting on 3 August 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Codeine
Disciplinary action taken:	12 months disqualification.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a confirmatory certificate of analysis from the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory dated 13 September 2022, the Commission investigated the analytical results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Trixie Vegas" at the Taree meeting on 3 August 2022.

DECISION:

1. Mr Meiers is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of "Trixie Vegas" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 7 of the Taree meeting on 3 August 2022. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Codeine.
3. Codeine is a permanently banned prohibited substance under Rule 139(f) of the Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Wednesday 25 January 2023 Mr Meiers was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").

5. In the Notice issued on 25 January 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Clarson 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 2-year disqualification and invited Mr Meiers to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.

7. At the hearing conducted via Teams on Thursday 2 February 2023, Mr Meiers:

(a) entered a plea of guilty;

(b) made verbal submissions; and

(c) referred to written submissions previously provided to decision makers

8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Meiers guilty plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Meiers:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To disqualify Mr. Meiers for a period of 12 months commencing midnight 13 March 2023 and expiring March 11, 2024.

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

- Mr Meiers guilty plea (25% reduction)
- Mr Meiers 29-year registration history
- Mr Meiers explanation for the analytical findings in the urine sample and evidence to support the same.
- GWIC penalty guidelines

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Taree meeting on 3 August 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....