



**GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION**

<b>Date of decision:</b>	Friday 24 March 2023
<b>Decision-maker:</b>	Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Shannon Kearney, Steward Ken Storck
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Joshua Wells
<b>Track:</b>	Casino
<b>Date:</b>	1 December 2022
<b>Rule no.:</b>	141(1)(a)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	Mr Joshua Wells presented the greyhound 'Coco Bundock' ('Greyhound') for the purposes of competing in race 11 at the Casino meeting on 1 December 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
<b>Prohibited Substance(s):</b>	Levamisole
<b>Plea:</b>	Guilty
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	\$2000 fine and a six-week suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12-months subject to Mr. Wells not breaching this rule or any like rule in this period.

**INVESTIGATION**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 12 January 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Coco Bundock' at the Casino meeting on 1 December 2022.

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

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Wells is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of 'Coco Bundock' ('Greyhound'). The Greyhound competed in race 11 of the Casino meeting on 1 December 2022. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of Levamisole.

3. Levamsiole is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Friday 3 March 2023 Mr Wells was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 3 March 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Wells 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 and invited Mr Wells to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted via Teams on Friday 24 March 2023, Mr Wells:
  - (a) entered a plea of guilty and;
  - (b) made verbal submissions.

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

To issue a \$2000 fine and a six-week suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12-months subject to Mr. Wells not breaching this rule or any like rule in this period.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Wells' guilty plea (25% reduction);
  - Mr Wells' 9-year registration history and good record;
  - No prior offending for a similar matter;
  - GWIC penalty guidelines.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 11 at the Casino meeting on 1 December 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....