



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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	Tuesday 15 March 2023
<b>Decision-maker:</b>	Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Shannon Kearney, Steward Ken Storck
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Victor Ellis
<b>Track:</b>	Tamworth
<b>Date:</b>	12 November 2022
<b>Rule no.:</b>	141(1)(a)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	Mr Victor Ellis presented the greyhound 'Flyaway Bonnie' for the purposes of competing in race 4 at the Tamworth meeting on 12 November 2022 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
<b>Prohibited Substance(s):</b>	Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam
<b>Plea:</b>	Guilty
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	Two month suspension commencing Tuesday 15 March and ending midnight Sunday 14 May 2023

**INVESTIGATION**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 19 December 2022, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Flyaway Bonnie" at the Tamworth meeting on 12 November 2022.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence of Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam.

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Ellis is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of "Flyaway Bonnie" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 4 of the Tamworth meeting on 12 November 2022. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam.

3. Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Friday 3 March 2023 Mr Ellis 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 Ellis 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 Ellis 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 15 March 2023, Mr Ellis:
  - (a) entered a plea of guilty and;
  - (b) made verbal submissions.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Ellis'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 Ellis:

**Charge 141 (1) (a):** To issue a two month suspension commencing Tuesday 15 March

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Ellis's guilty plea (25% reduction)
  - Mr Ellis's 10-year registration history
  - No prior offence for a similar matter
  - GWIC penalty guidelines

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 4 at the Tamworth meeting on 12 November 2022 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....