



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Wednesday 5 July 2023
Decision-maker:	Steward Peter Phillips, Senior Steward Kevin Adams, Steward Shane O'Shea
Name of relevant person:	Brandon Dance
Track:	Gardens
Date:	18 March 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Brandon Dance presented the greyhound 'Hyland Matata' ("Greyhound") for the purposes of competing in race 4 at the Gardens meeting on 18 March 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Theobromine
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a suspension of two months, to commence midnight Wednesday 5 July 2023 and end Midnight Tuesday 5 September 2023.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 20 April 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Hyland Matata' at the Gardens meeting on 18 March 2023.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Dance is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of 'Hyland Matata' ("Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 4 of the Gardens meeting on 18 March 2023. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of Theobromine.
3. Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Wednesday 21 June 2023 Mr Dance was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 21 June 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Dance 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 Dance to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted via Teams on Wednesday 5 July 2023, Mr Dance:
 - (a) entered a plea of guilty; and
 - (b) made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Dance’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 Dance:

To issue a suspension of two months, to commence midnight Wednesday 5 July 2023 and end Midnight Tuesday 5 September 2023.
9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Dance’s guilty plea (25% reduction);
 - Mr Dance’s registration history and contribution to the industry;
 - Decision makers were not able to ascertain the cause for the detection of the substance; and

- GWIC penalty guidelines.

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 4 at the Gardens meeting on 18 March 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....