



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Thursday 17 August 2023
Decision-maker:	Chief Operating Officer Wade Birch and Chief Steward Troy Vassallo
Name of relevant person:	James Goddard
Track:	Wauchope
Date:	7 February 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr James Goddard presented the greyhound 'Tom's Mate for the purposes of competing in race 5 at the Wauchope meeting on 7 February 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Prohibited Substance(s):	1,4-androstadiene-3,17-dione
Plea:	Not guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To impose a period of disqualification of 9-months.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 16 March 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Tom's Mate" at the Wauchope meeting on 7 February 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the New Zealand Racing Laboratory Services confirming the presence of 1,4-androstadiene-3,17-dione.

DECISION:

1. Mr Goddard is a registered Owner Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of 'Tom's Mate ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 5 at the Wauchope meeting on 7 February 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of 1,4-androstadiene-3,17-dione

3. 1,4-androstadiene-3,17-dione is a permanently banned prohibited substance under Rule 139(1)(t) of the Rules,
4. On 10 August 2023 Mr Goddard was issued with a notice of charge (“**Notice**”)
5. In the Notice issued on 10 August 2023 the decision makers charged Mr Goddard 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 invited Mr Goddard to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted on Thursday 17 August 2023 Mr Goddard made submissions and entered a not guilty plea in respect to the charge.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Goddard’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 Goddard:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To impose a period of disqualification of 9-months, to commence on Tuesday 22 August 2023 and to expire on 22 May 2024.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Goddard’s not guilty plea
 - Mr Goddard’s registration history of approximately 25 years within the industry.
 - No prior offences
 - GWIC penalty guidelines and precedents
 - Personal circumstances
 - The inquiry was not able to establish the cause for the detection of the substance.

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 5 at the Wauchope meeting on 7 February 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....