

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Wednesday 29 November 2023
Decision-maker:	Steward Sam Woolaston and Cadet Steward Peter Phillips
Name of relevant person:	James Chapman
Track:	Coonamble
Date:	29 September 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr James Chapman presented the greyhound 'Dancing Warrior' for the purposes of competing in race 2 at the Coonamble meeting on 29 September 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Plea:	Guilty
Prohibited Substance(s):	Theobromine
Disciplinary action taken:	10-week suspension, to commence Friday 8 th December 2023 and to expire on Friday 16 th February 2024.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 1 November 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Dancing Warrior" at the Coonamble meeting on 29 September 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of Theobromine.

DECISION:

1. Mr Chapman is a registered Public Trainer and Owner and the trainer of "Dancing Warrior" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 2 at the Coonamble meeting on 29 September 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-race swab revealed the presence of Theobromine.

3. Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Friday 24 November 2023 Mr Chapman was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 24 November 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a 4-month suspension and charged Mr Chapman 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 Chapman to attend a hearing on Wednesday 29 November 2023 to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Wednesday 29 November 2023, Mr Chapman provided written submissions to decision makers and;
 - entered a plea of guilty.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Chapman’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 Chapman:

Charge 141 (1) (a): 10-week suspension, to commence Friday 8th December 2023 and to expire on Friday 16th February 2024.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea
 - Mr Chapman’s short registration history of six months

- First offence
- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 2 at the Coonamble meeting on 29 September 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules