



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

**Date of decision:** Thursday 2 November 2023

**Decision-maker:** Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Shannon Kearney and Steward Ken Storck

**Name of relevant person:** Michael Beach

**Track:** Casino

**Date:** 10 August 2023

**Rule no.:** 141(1)(a)

**Charge(s):** Mr Michael Beach presented the greyhound 'Mr. Important' for the purposes of competing in race 10 at the Casino meeting on 10 August 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

**Plea:** Guilty

**Prohibited Substance(s):** Dexamethasone

**Disciplinary action taken:** To issue a fine of \$500.

**INVESTIGATION**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 14 September 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Mr. Important" at the Casino meeting on 10 August 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory confirming the presence of Dexamethasone in excess of the screening limit of 200 picograms per millilitre.

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Beach is a registered Owner Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of "Mr. Important" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 10 at the Casino meeting on 10 August 2023. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-race swab revealed the presence of Dexamethasone in excess of the screening limit of 200 picograms per millilitre.

3. Dexamethasone in excess of the screening limit of 200 picograms per millilitre is a prohibited substance under Rule 146(6)(c) of the Rule.
4. On Monday 23 October 2023 Mr Beach was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 23 October 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a \$2,000 fine and charged Mr Beach 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 Beach to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted on Thursday 2 November Mr Beach provided verbal submissions and entered a plea of guilty.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Beach’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 Beach:

**Charge 141 (1) (a):** To issue a fine of \$500

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Guilty plea (25% reduction)
  - Mr. Beach’s record, being licensed for 42 years with no previous penalties
  - GWIC penalty guidelines

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

.....End.....