



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Friday 22 December 2023
Decision-maker:	Steward Peter Phillips and Steward Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person:	John Woods
Track:	The Gardens
Date:	7 October 2023
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr John Woods presented the greyhound 'Bunt and Run' for the purposes of competing in race 12 at the Gardens meeting on 7 October 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Plea:	Guilty
Prohibited Substance(s):	Theobromine
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a 6-week suspension, to commence Friday 22 nd December 2023 and to expire on Friday 2 nd February 2024.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 14 November 2023, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Bunt and Run" at the Gardens meeting on 7 October 2023.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Woods is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of "Bunt and Run" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 12 at the Gardens meeting on 7 October 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of Theobromine.

3. Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Tuesday 12 December 2023 Mr Woods was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 12 December 2023 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a 4-month suspension and charged Mr Woods 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 Woods to attend a hearing on Friday 22 December 2023 to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Friday 22 December 2023, Mr Woods attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
 - entered a plea of guilty,
 - made verbal submissions.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Wood’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 Woods:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a 6-week suspension, to commence Friday 22nd December 2023 and to expire on Friday 2nd February 2024.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea

- Mr Wood's registration history, good record and cooperative and forthright evidence.
- First offence
- Decision Makers were confident that a likely cause for the detection of the substance could be determined
- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 12 at the Gardens meeting on 7 October 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules