



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Monday 12 February 2024
Decision-maker: Chief Steward Troy Vassallo and Steward Sam Woolaston
Name of relevant person: Charlie Gatt
Track: Wentworth Park
Date: 20 September 2023
Rule no.: 141(1)(a)
Charge(s):

Mr Charlie Gatt presented the greyhound 'Sirius Cuddles' for the purposes of competing in race 11 at the Wentworth Park meeting on 20 September 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Prohibited Substance(s): 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol
Plea: Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To impose an 8-month disqualification, to commence 21 February 2024 and expire 21 October 2024

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 10 November 2023, the Commission investigated the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Sirius Cuddles" at the Wentworth Park meeting on 20 September 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Gatt is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Sirius Cuddles" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 11 at the Wentworth Park meeting on 20 September 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.

2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol.
3. 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol at a mass concentration greater than 10ng/mL is a permanently banned prohibited substance under Rule 139(1)(t).
4. On 31 January 2024 Mr Gatt was issued with a notice of charge (“**Notice**”)
5. In the Notice issued on 31 January 2024 the decision makers charged Mr Gatt with a charge for breaching the following Greyhound Racing Rule:

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 Gatt to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Monday February 12, 2024, Mr Gatt attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
 - entered a guilty plea; and
 - made verbal submissions.
8. In determining the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Gatt’s plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charges proven and issued the below penalties;

Charge 1 – To impose an 8-month disqualification, to commence 21 February 2024 and expire 21 October 2024

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Gatt’s guilty plea
 - Mr Gatt’s 47-year registration history
 - No previous offence for a like matter.
 - Professional and personal circumstances

- GWIC penalty guidelines and precedents

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 11 at the Wentworth Park meeting on 20 September 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....