



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Thursday 22 February 2024

Decision-maker: Steward Paul Van Gestal and Chief Steward Troy Vassallo

Name of relevant person: Frank Hurst

Track: Richmond

Date: 6 December 2023

Rule no.: 141(1)(a)

Charge(s): Mr Frank Hurst presented the greyhound 'Good Odds Cobber' for the purposes of competing in race 2 at the Richmond meeting on 6 December 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance

Prohibited Substance(s): Ketoprofen

Plea: Guilty

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a fine of \$750

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 16 January 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Good Odds Cobber" at the Richmond meeting on 6 December 2023.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Hurst is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Good Odds Cobber" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 2 of the Richmond meeting on 6 December 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Ketoprofen.

3. Ketoprofen is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On 14 February 2024 Mr Hurst was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 14 February 2024 the decision makers charged Mr Hurst 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 proposed a penalty of a two-month suspension and invited Mr Hurst to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Thursday 22 February 2024 Mr Hurst attended a hearing held over Microsoft Teams and:
 - a) entered a plea of guilty; and
 - b) made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Hurst'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 Hurst:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a fine of \$750

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Hurst's guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Mr Hurst's 55-year registration history with no like prior offences
 - Mr. Hurst's contribution to the industry over this period

- Decision makers were confident that it was possible to establish a potential source of the prohibited substance
- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 2 at the Richmond meeting on 6 December 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....