



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

**Date of decision:** Tuesday 6 February 2024  
**Decision-maker:** Chief Steward Troy Vassallo and Steward Sam Woolaston  
**Name of relevant person:** Rodney Dennis  
**Track:** Richmond  
**Date:** 2 October 2023  
**Rule no.:** 141(1)(a)  
**Charge(s):**

Charge 1 - Rule 141(1)(a)

Mr Rodney Dennis presented the greyhound 'Intense Power' for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 2 October 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Charge 2 -Rule 151(1)-(4)

Mr Rodney Dennis failed to produce written treatment records when requested by an authorised person

**Prohibited Substance(s):** 5 $\beta$  Androstane-3 $\alpha$ , 17 $\beta$ -Diol

**Plea:** Charge 1 – Guilty

Charge 2 - Guilty

**Disciplinary action taken:** Charge 1 – To impose an 8-month disqualification, to commence 6 February 2024 and expire 6 October 2024

Charge 2 – To impose a fine of \$200

## **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, "Intense Power" at the Richmond meeting on 2 October 2023.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence 5 $\beta$  Androstane-3 $\alpha$ , 17 $\beta$ -Diol.

## DECISION:

1. Mr. Dennis is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of “Intense Power” (“the Greyhound”). The Greyhound competed in race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 2 October 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of 5 $\beta$  Androstane-3 $\alpha$ , 17 $\beta$ -Diol.
3. 5 $\beta$  Androstane-3 $\alpha$ , 17 $\beta$ -Diol at a mass concentration greater than 10ng/mL is a permanently banned prohibited substance under Rule 139(1)(t).
4. On 16 November 2023, during an inspection of his registered kennel address, Mr Dennis failed to produce complete treatment records for the Greyhound when requested to do so by a GWIC Inspector.
5. On 31 January 2024 Mr Dennis was issued with a notice of charge (“**Notice**”)
6. In the Notice issued on 31 January 2024 the decision makers charged Mr Dennis with two charges for breaches of the following Greyhound Racing Rules:

### **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.

### **Rule 151(1)-(4) Rules**

(1) The person in charge of a greyhound must keep and retain written records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitics and treatments administered to the greyhound:

(a) from the time the greyhound enters their care until the greyhound leaves their care; and

(b) for a minimum of two years.

(2) If requested by the Controlling Body, a Steward, or an authorised person, the record/s of treatment referred to in subrule (1) of this rule must be produced for inspection.

(3) Each record of treatment kept in accordance with this rule must be made by midnight on the day on which the treatment was given, and, as a minimum requirement, include the following information:

- (a) the name of the greyhound;
- (b) the date and time of administration of the treatment;
- (c) the name of the treatment (brand name or active constituent); (d) the route of administration;
- (e) the amount given; and
- (f) the name and signature of the person or persons administering and / or authorising the treatment.

For the purpose of subrule (3), “day” means the 24-hour period from 12.00am to 11.59p on any calendar day.

(4) An offence is committed if any person in charge of a greyhound at the relevant time fails to comply with any of subrules (1) to (3) of this rule

7. The Notice invited Mr Dennis to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
8. On Thursday February 1, 2024, Mr Dennis provided written submissions and entered a guilty plea in respect to both charges.
9. In determining the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Dennis’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 6 February 2024 and expire 6 October 2024

Charge 2 – To impose a fine of \$200

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Dennis’ guilty plea
  - Mr Dennis’ 37-year registration history
  - No previous offence for a like matter.
  - No explanation was established for the detection of the permanently banned prohibited substance
  - GWIC penalty guidelines and precedents
11. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 2 October 2023 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....