



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Friday 1 March, 2024
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Dean Degan, Steward Ken Storck and Steward Shannon Kearney
Track:	Casino
Date:	4 January 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr. Bradley Northfield presented the greyhound 'Lady Rico' ("Greyhound") for the purpose of competing in race 2 at the Casino meeting on 4 January 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Prohibited Substance(s):	Arsenic at or in excess of the threshold of 800 nanograms per millilitre.
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	\$750 fine and an 8-week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months pending no further breaches under this or any like rule.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 1 February 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post event urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Lady Rico' at the Casino meeting on 4 January 2024.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Chemistry Laboratory confirming the presence of Arsenic at or in excess of the threshold of 800 nanograms per millilitre.

DECISION:

1. Mr. Northfield is a registered Public Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of 'Lady Rico' ("Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 2 of the Casino meeting on 4 January 2024. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Arsenic at or in excess of the threshold of 800 nanograms per millilitre.
3. Arsenic at or in excess of the threshold of 800 nanograms per millilitre is a prohibited substance under Rule 140(g) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.

4. On 20 February 2024 Mr Northfield was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 20 February 2024 the decision makers charged Mr. Northfield 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 four-month suspension and invited Mr Northfield to attend a hearing to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Thursday 29 February 2024 Mr. Northfield contacted Decision Makers and;
 - (a) entered a plea of guilty; and
 - (b) made written submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Northfield’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 Northfield:
 - To issue a \$750 fine and an 8-week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended for a period of 12 months pending no further breaches under this or any like rule.
9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Northfield’s guilty plea (25% reduction);
 - Mr Northfield’s 50-year Trainer registration and with no prior penalties
 - Mr Northfield’s co-operation and forthright evidence;
 - GWIC penalty guidelines.

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 2 at the Casino meeting on 4 January 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....