



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	Thursday 21 March 2024
Decision-maker:	Chief Steward Troy Vassallo and Steward Geoff Page
Name of relevant person:	Sam Sultana
Track:	Bulli
Date:	2 January 2024
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Sam Sultana presented the greyhound 'Mr Cashman' for the purpose of competing in race 6 at the Bulli meeting on 2 January 2024 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Carprofen
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a fine of \$1000.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 13 February 2024, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Mr Cashman" at the Bulli meeting on 2 January 2024.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Sultana is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Mr Cashman" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 6 of the Bulli meeting on 2 January 2024. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Carprofen.
3. Carprofen at mass concentration of greater than 5 nanograms per millimetre is a prohibited substance under Rule 146(6)(b) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.

4. On 18 March 2024 Mr Sultana was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”).
5. In the Notice issued on 18 March 2024 the decision makers charged Mr Sultana 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 Sultana to attend a hearing on Thursday 21 March 2024 to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. At the hearing conducted via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 21 March 2024 Mr Sultana;
 - Entered a plea of guilty; and
 - Made verbal submissions
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Sultana’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 Sultana:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a fine of \$1000

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Sultana’s guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Mr Sultana’s 52-year registration history with one prior prohibited substance offence
 - Professional and personal circumstances
 - The participant was able to offer a plausible explanation for the presence of Carprofen at the detected level.
 - GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 6 at the Bulli meeting on 2 January 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....