



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: Monday 11 March 2024

Decision-maker: Steward Peter Phillips and Steward Sam Woolaston

Name of relevant person: Ronald Wright

Track: Wauchope

Date: 30 December 2023

Rule no.: 141(1)(a)

Charge(s): Mr Ronald Wright presented the greyhound 'Trevor's Boy' for the purpose of competing in race 7 at the Wauchope meeting on 30 December 2023 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Plea: Guilty

Prohibited Substance(s): Theobromine

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a three-month suspension, to commence Monday 11th March 2024 and expire Tuesday 11th June 2024.

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-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Trevor's Boy" at the Wauchope meeting on 30 December 2023.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Wright is a registered Owner Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of "Trevor's Boy" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 7 at the Wauchope meeting on 30 December 2023. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-race swab revealed the presence of Theobromine.

3. Theobromine is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.
4. On Monday 4 March 2024 Mr Wright was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 4 March 2024 the decision makers proposed a penalty of a 6-month suspension and charged Mr Wright 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 invited Mr Wright to attend a hearing on Monday 11 March 2024 to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge.
7. On Monday 11 March 2024, Mr Wright attended a hearing via telephone and;
 - entered a plea of guilty,
 - made verbal submissions.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Wright'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 Wright:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a three-month suspension, to commence Monday 11th March 2024 and expire Tuesday 11th June 2024.

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Mr Wright's registration history and cooperative and forthright evidence.

- Mr Wright's disciplinary record, including a prior prohibited substance offence
- GWIC penalty guidelines

10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Wauchope meeting on 30 December 2023 and race 6 at the Wauchope meeting on 6 January 2024 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules