



RE HEARING INTO THE ANALYSTS' FINDINGS RELATIVE TO A URINE SAMPLE TAKEN FROM THE GREYHOUND CONVOLUTED FOLLOWING ITS RUNNING IN RACE 8 AT THE GARDENS ON 2 JULY 2021, AND SUBSEQUENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION IMPOSED UPON TRAINER MR ALLAN WOODS

By Video Conference

Steward: T J Vassallo (Chief Steward)

13 November 2023

A rehearing was today conducted into the circumstances surrounding the analysts' findings relative to a urine sample obtained from the greyhound 'Convolutated' following its running in race 8 at The Gardens on 2 July 2021, and the subsequent disciplinary action imposed upon trainer Mr. Allan Woods.

The analysts' findings revealed the presence of the prohibited substance Ethynlestradiol in the sample certified by two (2) NATA Accredited Laboratories.

In the Disciplinary Action Decision dated 20 January 2022, Mr. Woods provided the decision-makers with written submissions and entered a guilty plea. After considering all the evidence, the decision-makers issued a fine in the sum of \$1000 against Mr. Woods for being in breach of Rule 83(2)(a) and furthermore, acting under the provisions of Rule 83(4), disqualified the greyhound from race 8.

The purpose of today's rehearing was to consider new analytical research surrounding Ethynlestradiol and if its detection in this matter is captured by Rule 138 whereby the active ingredient in Primolut N is Norethisterone, an exempted substance if prescribed by a veterinary surgeon for oral administration to a female greyhound and when for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in a female greyhound. This evidence was not available at the original hearing.

At the hearing today trainer Mr. Allan Woods stated that approximately one week prior to 2 July 2021, he changed the medication used a seasonal suppressant, advice that he had provided to the decision-makers in his written submissions on 3 December 2021. He added that his veterinarian, Dr. John Newell had prescribed Primulot N to use instead. He added that 'Convolutated' was administered this medication daily in the lead up to the event for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in the greyhound.

Consideration was also given to the evidence that was given in the matter of Peter Lagogiane whereby Scientific Manager for RASL, Dr. Adam Cawley, provided evidence advising that a human study of the relevant substance, Primulot N, had revealed that the active ingredient Norethisterone had been shown to metabolise to Ethynlestradiol in human females. When having regard to this study, Dr. Cawley advised Stewards that it was possible that the same metabolic conversion could occur in female greyhounds.

After considering all the evidence provided, including the submissions made by Mr Woods at the original hearing and the further submissions made at the rehearing and after taking into account Greyhound Rule 138(a), Stewards determined to rescind the fine issued against Mr. Woods and to reinstate the greyhound's disqualification from the relevant event.



Relevant Rule

Greyhound Rule 138

An exempted substance includes the following substances:

(a) ethyloestrenol or norethisterone when administered orally to a female greyhound and where it has been prescribed by a veterinarian for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in a female greyhound.