

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

**Date of decision:** 28 September 2021

**Decision-makers:** Alice Stafford, A/Senior Legal Officer, David OShannessy, Chief Inspector & Dean Degan, Senior Steward

**Name of relevant person:** Mr Ricky Brewer

**Track:** Richmond

**Date:** 8 May 2021

**Rule no.:** Rule 83(2)(a)

**Charge(s):** (1) A greyhound registered under Mr Brewer's trainership 'Boaz' ("**Greyhound**") was presented for the purposes of competing in race 12 at the Richmond meeting on 8 May 2021 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

**Prohibited substance(s):** Dexamethasone

**Disciplinary action taken:** 6-week suspension

**REPORT:**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Boaz' ("**Greyhound**") at the Richmond meeting on 8 May 2021.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory confirming the presence of the prohibited substance dexamethasone.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Brewer with one (1) breach of Rule 83(2)(a) of the Rules.

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Brewer is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound.
2. The Greyhound competed in race 12 at the Richmond meeting on 8 May 2021 ("**Event**"). Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound. The pre-Event swab revealed the presence of dexamethasone.

3. Dexamethasone is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
4. The Commission charged Mr Brewer with an offence under Rule 83(2)(a), which reads:
  - (2) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound-
    - (a) nominated to compete in an Event;
    - (b) presented for a satisfactory, weight or whelping trial or such other trial as provided for pursuant to these Rules; or
    - (c) presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a period of incapacitation or prohibition being varied or revokedshall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
5. Mr Brewer plead guilty to the charge, provided written submissions, and elected to have the disciplinary proceedings conducted in writing.
6. The Commission found the charge proven.
7. The Commission took the following disciplinary action against Mr Brewer:

To suspend his registration for a period of 6 weeks.
8. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
  - Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW and other jurisdictions;
  - Mr Brewer's plea of guilty at the earliest opportunity;
  - Mr Brewer has been a registered trainer since 2017, approximately 4 years;
  - Mr Brewer's lack of any relevant prior disciplinary history;
  - The evidence provided on behalf of Mr Brewer in mitigation of penalty including in relation to his good character, his comprehensive review of husbandry practice, reasonable explanation for the source of the prohibited substance, personal circumstances and remorse.
9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from the Event pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....