



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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	19 January 2022
<b>Decision-makers:</b>	Director Compliance, Policy & Legal, Matthew Tutt, A/Deputy Chief Inspector, Shaye Barrow and Director Race Day Operations & Integrity, Wade Birch
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Mr Paul Boyd
<b>Track:</b>	Richmond
<b>Date:</b>	13 August 2021
<b>Rule no.:</b>	Rule 83(2)(a)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	(1) Mr Boyd presented the greyhound 'Surprise Baby' (" <b>Greyhound</b> ") for the purposes of competing in race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 13 August 2021 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
<b>Prohibited Substance(s):</b>	Pentobarbitone
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	9-week suspension, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that Mr Boyd does not breach Rule 83(2)(a) or any like rules in that period.

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Surprise Baby' ("**Greyhound**") at the Richmond meeting on 13 August 2021.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of pentobarbitone in the sample.

On 19 November 2021, Mr Boyd was issued with a notice of proposed disciplinary action pursuant to section 58(3) of the Act setting out the proposed disciplinary action to be taken and the grounds in support of that proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").

In the Notice we stated that Mr Boyd should make any submissions in relation to the matter by 3 December 2021.

**Evidence, plea and submissions**

Mr Boyd was provided with a brief of evidence along with the Notice. In addition, a summary of the evidence was contained in the Notice.

On 2 December 2021, Mr Boyd provided a completed election notice in response to the Notice via email, pleading guilty to the charge.

The decision makers considered Mr Boyd's response and made the following determination.

#### **DECISION:**

1. Mr Boyd is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 7 of the Richmond meeting on 13 August 2021 ("**Event**"). Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-Event swab revealed the presence of pentobarbitone. Pentobarbitone is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The decision makers charged Mr Boyd 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;
    - ...shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
4. Mr Boyd admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity and elected to have the disciplinary proceedings conducted in writing.

#### **Findings**

5. In view of the evidence outlined above, including Mr Boyd's plea, decision makers found the charge under Rule 83(2)(a) of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**") proven, with the particulars being:
  - That Mr Boyd, as a registered Public Trainer, while in charge of the greyhound 'Surprise Baby' ("**Greyhound**"), presented the Greyhound for the purpose of competing in race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 13 August 2021 ("**Event**") in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance;
  - The prohibited substance detected in the sample of urine taken from the Greyhound after the Event was pentobarbitone;
  - Pentobarbitone is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules,
6. The decision makers took the following disciplinary action against Mr Boyd:

To suspend Mr Boyd for 9 weeks, wholly suspended for a period of 12 months on the condition that he does not breach Rule 83(2)(a) or any like rules in that time period.
7. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:

- Greyhound racing penalty precedents in NSW;
  - The length of time Mr Boyd has held a registration in the greyhound racing industry, being since 1978, approximately 43 years.
  - Mr Boyd’s disciplinary history - he has no like matters on his record; and
  - Mr Boyd’s admission of the charge at the earliest opportunity.
8. The length of time Mr Boyd has held a registration in the greyhound racing industry, together with his lack of relevant disciplinary history were significant factors in mitigation considered by the decision makers, and ultimately were responsible for reducing the proposed penalty from a 12-week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended, to the ultimate penalty of a 9-week suspension, wholly and conditionally suspended.
9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 7 at the Richmond meeting on 13 August 2021 pursuant to Rule 83(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....