



INQUIRY INTO THE ANALYSTS' FINDINGS RELATIVE TO URINE SAMPLES TAKEN FROM THE GREYHOUND FRENCH MARTINI FOLLOWING ITS RUNNING IN RACE 10 AT WENTWORTH PARK ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2022, RACE 9 AT THE GARDENS ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2022, AND RACE 6 AT THE GARDENS ON 7 OCTOBER 2022.

By Video Conference

Stewards: Mr. W. Birch (Chairman), Mr. T. Vassallo

17 February 2023

Today Stewards commenced an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the analysts' findings relative to urine samples taken from the greyhound 'French Martini' following its running in race 10 at Wentworth Park on 24 September 2022, race 9 at The Gardens on 30 September 2022, and race 6 at The Gardens on 7 October 2022.

The analysts' finding revealed the presence of the prohibited substance ETHYNYLESTRADIOL in each of the samples certified by two (2) NATA Accredited Laboratories.

At the hearing today evidence was taken from the trainer of 'French Martini' Mr. Peter Lagogiane, Veterinary Surgeon Dr. Chris Papantonio and Scientific Manager for Racing Analytical Services Limited Dr. Adam Cawley.

Mr. Lagogiane provided evidence to Stewards explaining that the substance Primolut N had been prescribed by his veterinary surgeon Dr. Chris Papantonio to French Martini for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in the greyhound.

Dr. Papantonio confirmed the evidence provided by Mr. Lagogiane and further informed Stewards that the active ingredient in Primolut N is Norethisterone, an exempted substance pursuant to GR138 of the Rules when 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.

Dr. Adam Cawley provided evidence to the inquiry advising that a human study of the relevant substance, Primolut N had revealed that the active ingredient Norethisterone had been shown to metabolise to Ethynylestradiol 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.

Dr. Cawley further informed Stewards that the prescribed oral dosage of Primolut N was consistent with the analytical findings, and that of the study to which he referred within his evidence.

After considering the evidence provided by the parties and after taking into account Greyhound Rule 138(a), Stewards determined not to take any further action other than to refer the matter to Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Tony Kuipers for the purpose of conducting a body of work to ensure greyhound racing participants can be provided with clarity and certainty with regard to the use of the substance Primolut N in the future.



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.