



GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 12 February 2020
Decision-maker: Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind
Name of relevant person: Mr John Antonelli
Track: Maitland
Date: 3 October 2019
Rule no.: Rule 83(2)(a)
Charge(s): (1) Mr Antonelli presented the greyhound 'Rusty Trick' ("**Greyhound**") for the purposes of competing in race 5 at the Maitland meeting on 3 October 2019 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.
Prohibited substance(s): Metformin
Disciplinary action taken: Fine of \$500

REPORT:

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from the Racing Analytical Services Laboratory, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-race urine sample taken from the greyhound, 'Rusty Trick' ("**Greyhound**") at the Maitland meeting on 3 October 2019.

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

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Antonelli with a breach of Rule 83(2)(a) of the Commission's Greyhound Racing Rules ("**Rules**") given that the pre-race urine sample taken from the Greyhound confirmed the presence of prohibited substance metformin.

Mr Antonelli admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

The disciplinary action was conducted in writing in accordance with the participant's election.

DECISION:

1. Mr Antonelli is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 5 at the Maitland meeting on 3 October 2019 (“**Event**”) and a pre-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-Event swab revealed the presence of metformin. Metformin is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules.
3. The Commission charged Mr Antonelli 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.
4. Mr Antonelli admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity, provided written submissions and elected to have the disciplinary proceeding conducted in writing.
5. The Commission found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Antonelli:

To impose a fine in the amount of \$500
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Antonelli has been a registered trainer for approximately 56 years;
 - Mr Antonelli’s contribution to the greyhound racing industry;
 - Mr Antonelli has no history of any prohibited substance matters;
 - NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents;
 - Mr Antonelli’s admission at the earliest opportunity;
 - Mr Antonelli’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including the review of and changes made to his animal husbandry practices.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 5 at the Maitland meeting on 3 October 2019 pursuant to Rule 83(4).

.....End.....