



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

**Date of decision:** 28 November 2019  
**Decision-maker:** Chief Executive Officer, Judith Lind  
**Name of relevant person:** Mr Stephen Howarth  
**Track:** Maitland  
**Date:** 18 July 2019  
**Rule no.:** Rule 83(2)(a)  
**Charge(s):** (1) Mr Howarth presented the greyhound 'Kiowa Princess' ("Greyhound") for the purposes of competing in race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 18 July 2019 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.  
**Prohibited substance(s):** 17-methylmorphinan-3-ol  
**Disciplinary action taken:** Fine: \$800.00

**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, 'Kiowa Princess' ("Greyhound") at the Maitland meeting on 18 July 2019.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory, confirming the presence of 17-methylmorphinan-3-ol.

After considering the evidence, the Commission charged Mr Howarth 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 17-methylmorphinan-3-ol

Mr Howarth admitted the charge at the earliest opportunity.

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

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Howarth is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the Greyhound. The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 18 July 2019 (“**Event**”) and a pre-Event urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-Event swab revealed the presence of 17-methylmorphinan-3-ol. 17-methylmorphinan-3-ol is a prohibited substance under Rule 1 of the Rules and category 4 prohibited substances under the NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines.
3. The Commission charged Mr Howarth 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 Howarth 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 Howarth:

To impose of a fine in the sum of \$800.
6. In taking this disciplinary action, the Commission considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Howarth has been a registered trainer for approximately 11 years;
  - Mr Howarth has no history of any prohibited substance matters;
  - NSW greyhound racing penalty guidelines and precedents;
  - Mr Howarth’s admission at the earliest opportunity;
  - Mr Howarth’s submissions in mitigation of penalty, including the review of his animal husbandry practices.
7. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Maitland meeting on 18 July 2019 pursuant to Rule 83(4).

.....End.....