

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	1 May 2025
Decision-maker:	Senior Steward Zane Turner
Name of relevant person:	Darryl Wilson
Track	Maitland
Date:	20 January 2025
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Mr Darryl Wilson presented the greyhound 'Quick Biscuit' for the purpose of competing in race 6 at the Maitland meeting on 20 January 2025 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	Tapentadol
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a Disqualification of 5 months, to commence May 1 2025 and to expire on October 1 2025

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, dated 18 February 2025, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Quick Biscuit" at the Maitland meeting on 20 January 2025.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Wilson is a registered Owner Trainer and Breeder and the trainer of "Quick Biscuit" ("**the Greyhound**"). The Greyhound competed in race 6 of the Maitland meeting on 20 January 2025. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post-event swab revealed the presence of Tapentadol.

3. Tapentadol is a permanently banned prohibited substance under Rule 139(1)(f) of the Rules.
4. On 9 April 2025 Mr Wilson was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**"). In the Notice, the decision makers charged Mr Wilson with an offence under Rule 141(1)(a) of the Greyhound Racing Rules, which reads:
Rule 141(1), Rules
(1) The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound:
(a) nominated to compete in an Event;
...
must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
...
(3) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound presented contrary to subrule (1) of this rule shall be guilty of an offence.
5. The Notice invited Mr Wilson to attend a hearing on Thursday 24 April 2025 at which time he would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the Charge. On the morning of Thursday 24 April 2025 Decision Makers requested the hearing be rescheduled to Thursday 1 May 2025, to which Mr. Wilson consented.
6. On Thursday 1 May 2025 the decision maker heard the matter via Microsoft Teams. Mr Wilson attended the hearing and entered a plea of guilty and made verbal submissions in respect of the Charge.
7. During the hearing medical evidence was provided by Mr Wilson which offered a plausible explanation as to how the substance came into the greyhound's system, which was corroborated by further evidence. The Decision maker was of the opinion that this evidence provided by Mr. Wilson warranted a degree of leniency in any penalty that may be imposed.
8. Following consideration of Mr. Wilson's guilty plea and submissions, the decision maker found the charge proven and issued Mr Wilson with a Notice of Proposed Penalty, which outlined the penalty that they were considering imposing in relation to the offence.
9. Following consideration of Mr Wilson's submissions in respect of the proposed penalty, the decision maker determined to take the following disciplinary action against Mr Wilson:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a Disqualification of 5 months, to commence 1 May 2025 and to expire on 1 October 2025

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all the material and evidence before them, including:

- Mr Wilson's Guilty plea;
- Mr Wilson's disciplinary history over a registration period of 25 years, with no prior prohibited substance offences;
- Mr Wilson's verbal submissions;
- The medical evidence provided by Mr Wilson;
- Principles of general and specific deterrence;
- Mr Wilson's personal and professional circumstances; and
- The objective seriousness of the offence.

11. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 6 at the Maitland meeting on 20 January 2025 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....