

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

<b>Date of decision:</b>	26 August 2025
<b>Decision-maker:</b>	Acting Senior Steward Ben Boyce Mortlock and Acting Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel
<b>Name of relevant person:</b>	Paul Roach
<b>Track</b>	Richmond
<b>Date:</b>	22 June 2025
<b>Rule no.:</b>	141(1)(a)
<b>Charge(s):</b>	Mr Paul Roach presented the greyhound 'Still Around' for the purpose of competing in race 9 at the Richmond meeting on 22 June 2025 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
<b>Prohibited Substance(s):</b>	Sotalol
<b>Plea:</b>	Guilty
<b>Disciplinary action taken:</b>	To issue a fine of \$1,000

**INVESTIGATION**

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 15 July 2025, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Still Around" at the Richmond meeting on 22 June 2025.

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

**DECISION:**

1. Mr Roach is a registered Public Trainer and Whelper and the trainer of "Still Around" ("the **Greyhound**"). The Greyhound competed in race 9 of the Richmond meeting on 22 June 2025. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post event swab revealed the presence of Sotalol.
3. Sotalol is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the Rules

4. On Monday 11 August 2025 Mr Roach was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 11 August 2025 the decision makers charged Mr Roach 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.
6. The Notice invited Mr Roach to attend a hearing on Tuesday 26 August 2025 at which time he would have the opportunity to enter a plea and make submissions in relation to the charge and proposed penalty. The penalty proposed in the Notice was a 4-month suspension.
  7. On 25 August 2025 Mr Roach contacted decision makers and;
    - Provided written submissions
  8. At the hearing held on Tuesday 26 August 2025 via Microsoft Teams Mr Roach;
    - Entered a plea of Guilty; and
    - Made verbal submissions
  9. In considering the matter, decision makers considered Mr Roach's plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and took the following disciplinary action against Mr Roach:

**Charge 141(1)(a):** To issue a fine of \$1,000

10. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
  - Mr Roach's guilty plea (25% reduction);
  - Mr Roach's 48-year registration record, with no prior prohibited substance offences;

- Mr Roach's plausible explanation, supported by his cooperative and forthright evidence;
- GWIC penalty guidelines

11. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 9 at the Richmond meeting on 22 June 2025 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules

.....End.....