

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision:	28 October 2025
Decision-maker:	Acting Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel and Steward Peter Phillips
Name of relevant person:	Bronwyn Merzi
Track	Gosford
Date:	12 August 2025
Rule no.:	141(1)(a)
Charge(s):	Ms Bronwyn Merzi presented the greyhound 'My Crabby' for the purpose of competing in race 4 at the Gosford meeting on 12 August 2025 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance
Prohibited Substance(s):	5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol
Plea:	Guilty
Disciplinary action taken:	To issue a 14 Month Disqualification, to commence 28 October 2025 and expire 28 December 2026.

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited, dated 10 September 2025, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a pre-event urine sample taken from the greyhound, "My Crabby" at the Gosford meeting on 12 August 2025.

Further analysis of the sample was conducted by the Racing Science Centre confirming the presence of 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol at a concentration above 10 nanograms per millilitre.

DECISION:

1. Ms Merzi is a registered Owner Trainer and the trainer of "My Crabby" ("**the Greyhound**"). The Greyhound competed in race 4 of the Gosford meeting on 12 August 2025. Prior to the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The pre-event swab revealed the presence of 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol.

3. 5 β Androstane-3 α , 17 β -Diol at a concentration above 10 nanograms per millilitre in a sample of urine taken from a female greyhound is a permanently banned prohibited substance, under Rule 139(1)(t) of the Greyhound Racing Rules (“**Rules**”).
4. On Friday 17 October 2025, Ms Merzi was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action (“**Notice**”). In the Notice, the decision makers charged Ms Merzi with an offence under Rule 141(1)(a) of the 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 Ms Merzi to attend a hearing on Tuesday 28 October 2025, at which time she 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 two year disqualification.
6. On Tuesday 28 October 2025, decision makers heard the matter via Microsoft Teams. Ms Merzi entered a plea of guilty and made verbal submissions in respect of the charge and proposed penalty.
7. In considering the matter, decision makers considered Ms Merzi’s plea and submissions, as well as all available evidence. The decision makers found the charge proven and determined to take the following disciplinary action against Ms Merzi:

Charge 141(1)(a): To issue a 14 Month Disqualification, to commence 28 October 2025 and expire 28 December 2026.

8. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all the material and evidence before them, including:
 - Ms Merzi’s guilty plea (25% reduction);
 - Ms Merzi’s short registration history, with no prior prohibited substance offences;
 - Ms Merzi’s verbal submissions;
 - Principles of specific and general deterrence; and
 - The objective seriousness of the offence.

9. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 4 of the Gosford meeting on 12 August 2025 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.

.....End.....