

DECISION ON AN INTERNAL REVIEW APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 91 OF THE *GREYHOUND RACING ACT 2017*

Matter for determination	Decision dated 27 th September 2025
Internal review decision date	30/09/2025
Internal review decision by	Dean Deagan – Senior Steward
Internal review decision summary	Uphold the decision to impose a failure to pursue due to injury endorsement for “SUPER MAXI” at Wentworth Park on 27 th of September 2025

REASONS FOR DECISION

1. These are the reasons for decision following an application by Jane Carruthers for internal review under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* (“**Act**”) of a decision of A/Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel of the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (“**Commission**” or “**GWIC**”). That decision was to impose a penalty of failure to pursue due to injury GAR 125 upon “Supermaxi” (“**Greyhound**”) at Wentworth Park on 27th of September 2025.
2. This is a reviewable decision within the meaning of section 91(1) of the Act. As I was not substantially involved in making the reviewable decision, I have dealt with this application.
3. Under section 91(7) of the Act, an internal reviewer is empowered to:
 - Confirm the reviewable decision the subject of the application; or
 - Vary the reviewable decision; or
 - Revoke the reviewable decision.

Background

4. On 27th of September 2025 the greyhound competed at Wentworth Park in Race 3 for trainer Jane Carruthers.
5. Following the event, the greyhound was subject to a veterinary examination when the Stewards had concerns with incidents in running, and the greyhound’s actions in the home straight.
6. The veterinary examination revealed offside deltoid soreness, and an incapacitation period of 7 days was issued.
7. Trainer representative Mr John Carruthers was subsequently interviewed by the stewards, and he stated that he believed the greyhound was responding to interference incurred and the greyhound’s actions of looking inwardly was minor and he was of the belief the greyhound did not ease in its action.

Findings

8. After viewing the patrol films and interviewing Mr Carruthers, the stewards were satisfied that through the home turn the greyhound glanced inwardly and during the home straight the greyhound eased in its action then looked inwardly towards a runner to its inside.
9. Having regard to this, the stewards issued an endorsement for failure to pursue due to injury GAR 125. The greyhound is now stood down from racing for 7 days and subject to a satisfactory steward's trial involving two other greyhounds under GAR 132 before being eligible to race.

The internal review application

10. On 30 of September 2025, Jane Carruthers lodged an application for internal review via email registrations@gwic.nsw.gov.au
11. Ms Carruthers was seeking an internal review against the penalty imposed.
12. In the application, Ms Carruthers submitted that:
 - a. That the greyhound got checked coming out of the first bend.
 - b. That the greyhound was flying down the back straight and picks up dog 4 and they are at least a dog width apart
 - c. Supermaxi gets his head, neck in front of his shoulder in front of dog 4, maintaining the distance between them
 - d. When he heads for the rail increasing his speed chasing the winner home
 - e. At no stage did Supermaxi show any interference with dog 4

Ms Carruthers also attached photos in support.

Decision

13. In considering this internal review, I have had regard to the following:
 - a) The greyhound has had no previous offences relating to performance in its 18 previous starts.
14. After reviewing the films, I was satisfied the greyhound had taken its focus off the lure and was not pursuing the lure with due commitment (due to injury) for the entire event. And the endorsement received was appropriate, I have had reference to:
 - a. Internal review application from Ms Carruthers containing written submissions
 - b. The Stewards Report

c. The Patrol Films

d. The greyhound's previous Penalty History

15. In accordance with section 91(7)(a) of the Act, having reviewed all of the material, I confirm the original decision made by A/ Chief Steward Paul Van Gestel on 27th of September 2025.

16. The greyhound is stood down from racing for 7 days and is subject to a satisfactory steward's trial involving two other greyhounds under GAR 132 before being eligible to race.



Dean Degan

Senior Steward

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