

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION
DISCIPLINARY ACTION DECISION

Date of decision: 26 November 2025

Decision-maker: Steward Shane O'Shae and Steward Stephanie Richards

Name of relevant person: Robert Hoare

Track: Gunnedah

Date: 11 August 2025

Rule no.: 141(1)(a)

Charge(s): Mr Robert Hoare presented the greyhound 'Quite Promising' for the purpose of competing in race 1 at the Gunnedah meeting of 11 August 2025 in circumstances where the Greyhound was not free of any prohibited substance.

Plea: Guilty

Prohibited Substance(s): Gabapentin

Disciplinary action taken: To issue a \$750 fine

INVESTIGATION

Following receipt of a certificate of analysis from Racing Analytical Services Limited dated 16 September 2025, the Commission conducted an investigation into the results of a post race urine sample taken from the greyhound, "Quite Promising" at the Gunnedah meeting on 11 August 2025.

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

DECISION:

1. Mr Hoare is a registered Public Trainer and the trainer of "Quite Promising" ("the Greyhound"). The Greyhound competed in race 1 at the Gunnedah meeting on 11 August 2025. Following the Event, a urine sample was taken from the Greyhound.
2. The post race swab revealed the presence of Gabapentin.
3. Gabapentin is a prohibited substance under Rule 137 of the GWIC Greyhound Racing Rules.

4. On Wednesday 5 November 2025 Mr Hoare was issued with a notice of charge and proposed disciplinary action ("**Notice**").
5. In the Notice issued on 5 November 2025 the decision makers charged Mr Hoare 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 Hoare to attend a hearing on Wednesday 26 November 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 2 month suspension.
7. On Wednesday 26 November 2025, Mr Hoare attended a hearing held via Microsoft Teams and;
 - Entered a plea of guilty; and
 - made verbal submissions.
8. In considering the matter, the decision makers considered Mr Hoare'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 Hoare:

Charge 141 (1) (a): To issue a \$750 fine

9. In taking this disciplinary action, the decision makers considered all evidence, including:
 - Mr Hoare's guilty plea (25% reduction)
 - Mr Hoare's 33-year registration history, with no prior prohibited substance offences; and
 - GWIC penalty guidelines and precedents
10. In addition, the Greyhound was disqualified from race 1 at the Gunnedah meeting on 11 August 2025 pursuant to Rule 141(4) of the Rules.