

Stewards' Report

Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2023

Panel: Mr D Aurisch (Chairperson), Mr D Broxham, Ms S Barr

Person: Ms Lisa Rasmussen

Rule: GAR 141(1)(a)

Charge: Presented the greyhound Victa Damian to race when found to contain a permanently banned prohibited substance.

Substance: Testosterone propionate

Penalty: Nine (9) month disqualification

On 19 March 2024, Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the permanently banned prohibited substance Testosterone propionate was detected in a pre-race hair sample collected from the greyhound Victa Damian when it competed in, Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023.

Submissions were made by Ms Lisa Rasmussen during the inquiry as the licensed trainer of the greyhound Victa Damian at the relevant time. Submissions were also made by Mr Paul Crawford, the legal representative of Ms Rasmussen.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(1)(a), which provides:

The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound, nominated to compete in an Event, must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

The specifics of the charge were as follows:

Ms Lisa Rasmussen, as the trainer of the greyhound Victa Damian, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023 with a permanently banned prohibited substance in its system, namely Testosterone propionate detected by the Racing Science Centre and confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in the pre-race hair sample collected from the greyhound on 7 July 2023.

Ms Rasmussen entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made submissions in respect of penalty.

In determining the matter of penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Ms Rasmussen's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity.
- Ms Rasmussen's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately twenty-five (25) years and her participation in the industry for approximately forty eight (48) years.
- Ms Rasmussen's disciplinary history, noting no prior breaches of a similar nature.
- Ms Rasmussen's personal circumstances,
- the nature of the permanently banned prohibited substances, being Testosterone propionate, and therefore a clear message needs to be sent to the industry that any breach involving permanently banned prohibited substances is serious and cannot be tolerated.

- The need for both specific deterrence to Ms Rasmussen and general deterrence to the wider industry.
- The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Greyhound Racing Penalty Guidelines, and,
- the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed a penalty of a nine (9) month disqualification effective immediately.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), Stewards directed that Victa Damian be disqualified from Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023 (5th place).

Ms Rasmussen was advised of her right to a review of the decision.