

## Stewards' Report

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, 23 June 2020
<b>Panel:</b>	A. Kitching (Chair), A. Spence & N. Thorneycroft
<b>Person:</b>	Mr George Clegg
<b>Rules:</b>	GAR 83(1A)(a) & GAR 83(2)(a).
<b>Charges:</b>	(1) & (2) - Administered a prohibited substance to Cut The Talk, which was detected in samples taken from such greyhound when presented for race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 22 March 2020 and race 5 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 27 March 2020.  (3) & (4) – Presented the greyhound Cut The Talk for race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 22 March 2020 and race 5 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 27 March 2020 when not free of a prohibited substance.
<b>Substance</b>	Cobalt
<b>Penalty:</b>	12 month suspension (9 months suspended for 15 months)

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### Report:

On Monday, 23 June 2020 the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards concluded an inquiry into analyst's findings which stated the prohibited substance Cobalt in excess of the prescribed threshold, was found in samples taken from the greyhound Cut The Talk when it competed at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 22 March 2020 and the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 27 March 2020.

Submissions were made by Mr George Clegg, the licensed trainer of Cut The Talk.

After considering all the evidence, Stewards issued the following charges under GAR 83(1A)(a), which reads:

*A person who administers, attempts to administer or causes to be administered a prohibited substance to a greyhound, which is detected in any sample taken from such greyhound that has been presented for an Event or when subject to any other contingency provided for pursuant to these Rules, shall be guilty of an offence.*

#### Charge 1

That Mr George Clegg, was the registered trainer at all relevant times of the greyhound Cut The Talk. Cut The Talk was presented and competed in Race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 22 March 2020. Mr George Clegg administered, or caused to be administered, to Cut The Talk, a prohibited substance, being Cobalt, in excess of the prescribed threshold, which was detected in the sample collected from Cut The Talk taken on 22 March 2020.

#### Charge 2

That Mr George Clegg, was the registered trainer at all relevant times of the greyhound Cut The Talk. Cut The Talk was presented and competed in Race 5 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 27 March 2020. Mr George Clegg administered, or caused to be administered, to Cut The Talk, a prohibited substance, being Cobalt, in excess of the prescribed threshold, which was detected in the sample collected from Cut The Talk taken on 27 March 2020.

Stewards also issued the following alternative charges under GAR 83(2)(a), which reads:

*The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound, nominated to compete in an event, shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.*

### Charge 3

That when Cut The Talk, of which Mr George Clegg, was the registered trainer at the relevant time, was on the 22 March 2020, presented at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club to compete in race 11 and a post-race urine sample collected from Cut The Talk was found upon analysis to contain the prohibited substance, Cobalt, in excess of the prescribed threshold.

### Charge 4

That when Cut The Talk, of which Mr George Clegg, was the registered trainer at the relevant time, was on the 27 March 2020, presented at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club to compete in race 5 and a post-race urine sample collected from Cut The Talk was found upon analysis to contain the prohibited substance, Cobalt, in excess of the prescribed threshold.

Mr Clegg pleaded guilty to all charges and addressed the Stewards on penalty.

The QIC Stewards considered the following on penalty:

- Mr Clegg's time as a trainer being approximately 17 years with one prior breach in 2010;
- Mr Clegg's time in the industry as a whole, being approximately 5 decades;
- Mr Clegg's remorsefulness, honesty and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Clegg's participation in the industry is that of a hobbyist;
- The nature of the substance;
- The importance of keeping a level playing field for all participants; and
- Mr Clegg's guilty pleas.

The QRIC Stewards issued the following penalties regarding the administration charges:

Charge 1 – 12 month suspension.

Charge 2 – 12 month suspension.

Stewards ordered the penalties to be served concurrently and that 9 months of the suspension be suspended for a period of 15 months, pending no further breaches of a similar rule.

There are also 2 charges under GAR 83(2) of presenting a greyhound for an event while not free of a prohibited substance in which Mr Clegg pleaded guilty to. Stewards found the charges proven and elected to impose no extra penalty on the presentation charges which arise out of the same substratum of facts.

Stewards ordered Cut The Talk be disqualified from the respective events and Race 7 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 3 April 2020, the resulting final from winning race 5 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 27 March 2020.

Mr Clegg was advised of the right to an internal review.