

Stewards' Report

Date: Tuesday, 9 June 2020
Panel: A. Kitching, A. Spence, D. Broxham & N. Thorneycroft
Person: Mr Gregory Short
Rule: GAR 83(2)(a)
Charges: Presented the greyhound Fernvale Ruby to compete in race 9 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 23 February 2020 when it was not free of a prohibited substance.
Penalty: Disqualified for 3 years

Report:

On Tuesday, 9 June 2020 the Queensland Racing Integrity (QRIC) Stewards conducted an inquiry into analyst's findings, which stated the prohibited substances Amphetamine and Methamphetamine were found in a sample collected from the greyhound Fernvale Ruby when it competed at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 23 February 2020.

Submissions were made by Mr Short, the licensed trainer of Fernvale Ruby.

After considering all the evidence, Stewards issued a charge 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.

Specifics of the charge:

Mr Gregory Short did fail to present the greyhound Fernvale Ruby free of a prohibited substance when it competed at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club in Race 9 on 23 February 2020 and a post-race sample collected from that greyhound was found upon analysis to contain the prohibited substances Amphetamine and Methamphetamine.

Mr Short pleaded not guilty to the charge and made further submissions.

After further consideration, Stewards formally found Mr Short guilty of the charge and considered the following on penalty:

- Mr Short's not guilty plea;
- Mr Short being a registered owner for approx. 3 decades;
- Mr Short's time as a trainer being approximately 1.5 years;
- Mr Short having one prior breach in 2017 to the same substances;
- The nature of the prohibited substances;
- The need to maintain integrity of greyhound racing and ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- The need for both specific and general deterrence; and,
- Relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the QRIC Stewards issued Mr Short with a 3 year Disqualification. Stewards advised Mr Short that the start date of the disqualification would be backdated to 25 May 2020 on which day Mr Short had an interim suspension placed against his licence.

Acting under the provisions of GAR 83(4), Stewards ordered Fernvale Ruby be disqualified from the respective race with the placings amended accordingly.

Mr Short was advised that all prizemoney associated with this event must be returned to Racing Queensland.

Mr Short was advised of his right to an Internal Review.