

Stewards' Report

Date: Thursday, 17 June 2021
Panel: Mr D Broxham (Chair), Mr W Hadley.
Person: Mr Garry Cluse
Rule: GAR 83(2)(a)
Charge: Mr Garry Cluse presented the greyhound Willy Eve to compete in race 2 at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 8 March 2021 when it was not free of a prohibited substance.
Substance: Pholcodine
Penalty: \$1500

On Thursday, 17 June 2021 the Queensland Racing Integrity (QRIC) Stewards conducted an inquiry into analyst's findings, which stated the prohibited substance Pholcodine was found in a sample taken from Willy Eve when it competed and won at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 8 March 2021.

Submissions were made by Mr Cluse, the licensed trainer of Willy Eve.

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:

As the trainer of the greyhound Willy Eve, Garry Cluse did fail to present that greyhound free of a prohibited substance when it competed and won at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club in Race 2 on 8 March 2021 and a sample taken from that greyhound was found upon analysis to contain the prohibited substance Pholcodine.

Mr Cluse pleaded guilty to the charge and made submissions in relation to penalty to Stewards.

The QRIC Stewards considered the following on penalty:

- Mr Cluse's guilty plea;
- Mr Cluse's time as a trainer being approximately 50 years;
- Mr Cluse's forthright evidence and cooperation;
- Mr Cluse's submissions of changes to his husbandry routines;
- Mr Cluse's has one prior breach of a similar rule;
- The nature of the prohibited substance Pholcodine;

- 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 the following:

A monetary penalty of \$1500.

Acting under the provisions of GAR 83(4), Stewards ordered Willy Eve be disqualified from Race 2 on 8 March 2021 at Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club with the placings amended accordingly. Mr Cluse was advised that all prizemoney associated with this event must be returned to Racing Queensland.

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