

Stewards' Report

Date: Thursday, 12 August 2021
Panel: Mr G Meek (Chair), Mr R Doss
Person: Mr William Boon
Rule: GAR 83(2)(a)
Charge: Mr Boon presented the greyhound Velocity Justice to compete in Race 1 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 5 May 2021 when it was not free of a prohibited substance
Substance: Arsenic
Penalty: Four (4) month suspension and a \$2,500.00 fine, together with the reinstatement of a preceding wholly suspended four (4) month suspension to be served cumulatively

On 12 August 2021, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards conducted an inquiry into analyst's findings that the prohibited substance Arsenic was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Velocity Justice when it competed at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 5 May 2021.

Submissions were made by Mr William Boon as the trainer of Velocity Justice.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge under GAR 83(2)(a) which provides:

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:

As the trainer of the greyhound Velocity Justice, William Boon did fail to present that greyhound free of a prohibited substance when it competed at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club in Race 1 on 5 May 2021 when a post-race urine sample collected from that greyhound was found, upon analysis, to contain the prohibited substance Arsenic.

William Boon pleaded guilty to the charge and made submissions to the panel regarding penalty.

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Boon's guilty plea;
- Mr Boon's personal circumstances;
- Mr Boon's time in the greyhound racing industry, being approximately thirty (30) years;
- Mr Boon's disciplinary history, noting Mr Boon had three (3) prior breaches of a similar rule in the last three (3) years;
- The nature of the prohibited substance, being Arsenic;
- The need to maintain the integrity of greyhound racing and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- The need for both specific and general deterrence; and

- Relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the Stewards issued the following penalty:

A suspension of Mr Boon's licence for a period of four (4) months and a monetary fine of \$2,500.00. Stewards furthermore imposed a preceding wholly suspended four (4) month suspension for a similar breach under the provisions of GAR83(2)(a). Stewards ordered that the suspensions be severed cumulatively, being a total of an eight (8) month suspension. Mr Boon's suspension is to commence at midnight on 12 August 2021 until midnight on 12 April 2022.

Acting under the provisions of GAR 83(5)(b), Stewards directed that Velocity Justice be disqualified from Race 1 at Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 5 May 2021 with all other placings to be amended accordingly.

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