

# Stewards' Report

**Date:** Tuesday, 31 August 2021  
**Panel:** Mr W Hadley (Chairman), D Broxham  
**Person:** Mr Craig Cassidy  
**Rule:** GAR 83(2)(a)  
**Charge:** Mr Craig Cassidy presented the greyhound Purple Flirt to compete in race 1 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 17 June 2021 when it was not free of a prohibited substance  
**Substance:** Cobalt  
**Penalty:** Twelve (12) months suspension with eight (8) months suspended for two (2) years

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On 31 August 2021, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards conducted an inquiry into analyst's findings that the prohibited substance Cobalt was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Purple Flirt when it competed at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 17 June 2021.

Submissions were made by Mr Craig Cassidy as the trainer of Purple Flirt.

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 Purple Flirt, Craig Cassidy did fail to present that greyhound free of a prohibited substance when it competed and won at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club in Race 1 on 17 June 2021 when a post-race urine sample collected from that greyhound was found, upon analysis, to contain the prohibited substance Cobalt.

Craig Cassidy pleaded guilty to the charge and made submissions to the panel regarding penalty.

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Cassidy's personal circumstances;
- Mr Cassidy's guilty plea and forthright evidence.
- Mr Cassidy's time in the greyhound racing industry, being approximately five (5) years;
- Mr Cassidy's disciplinary history, noting Mr Cassidy had no prior breaches of a similar rule;
- The nature of the prohibited substance, being Cobalt;
- 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 Cassidy's licence for a period of twelve (12) months. Stewards, acting under the provisions of GAR95(3), elected to wholly suspend eight (8) months for a period of two (2) years pending no similar breach of the rules. Mr Cassidy's suspension is to commence at midnight on 31 August 2021 until midnight on 31 December 2021.

Acting under the provisions of GAR 83(5)(b), Stewards directed that Purple Flirt be disqualified from Race 1 at Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on Thursday, 17 June 2021.

Mr Cassidy was advised of her right to an Internal Review.