

Stewards' Report

Date:	Thursday, 17 March 2022
Panel:	Mr M Braunberger (Chairman), Ms A Turner, Mr A Flymen, Mr K Dean
Person:	Ms Nancy Maynard
Rule:	GAR 83(2)(a)
Charges:	Ms Nancy Maynard presented the greyhound Closer To Rain to compete in Race 5 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 11 January 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance
Substance:	Cobalt
Penalty:	Twelve (12) month suspension with eight (8) months wholly suspended for twelve (12) months

On 17 March 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards conducted an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Cobalt (at a level in excess of the mass concentration limit of 100 nanograms per millilitre) was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Closer To Rain when it competed in Race 5 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 11 January 2022.

Submissions were made by Ms Nancy Maynard during the inquiry as the licensed trainer of Closer To Rain at the relevant time.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 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.

The specifics of the charge are as follows:

Ms Nancy Maynard, as the trainer of the greyhound Closer To Rain, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 5 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 11 January 2022 with a prohibited substance in its system, namely Cobalt as detected by the Racing Science Centre and confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited at a level in excess of the mass concentration limit of 100 nanograms per millilitre in the post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound on 11 January 2022.

Ms Maynard entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made further submissions in respect of penalty.

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Ms Maynard's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Ms Maynard's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately fifteen (15) years;
- Ms Maynard's disciplinary history, noting Ms Maynard has no prior breaches;

- Ms Maynard's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Ms Maynard's reasonable explanation as to how the substance came to be present in the greyhound's system at a level in excess of the regulatory threshold;
- subsequent review of, and amendment to, Ms Maynard's animal husbandry practices;
- 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 imposed a penalty of a twelve (12) month suspension of Ms Maynard's licence, with Stewards electing under Greyhound Australia Rule 95(3) to wholly suspend eight (8) months of the penalty for a period of twelve (12) months conditional upon no similar breach of the rules, with the balance of the penalty to commence at midnight on 18 March 2022 and to expire at midnight on 18 July 2022.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 83(4), Stewards directed that Closer To Rain be disqualified from Race 5 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 11 January 2022 (1st place).

Stewards ordered that the placings be amended accordingly and Ms Maynard was advised that all prizemoney associated with this event must be returned to Racing Queensland.

Ms Maynard was advised of her right to an Internal Review.