

Stewards' Report

Date:	Friday, 22 July 2022
Panel:	Mr M Bruanberger (Chairperson), Ms A Turner, Mr K Dean
Person:	Mr Robert Lound
Rule:	GAR 83(2)(a)
Charges:	Mr Robert Lound presented the greyhound Aston Galahad to compete in Race 11 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 5 April 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance
Substance:	Procaine
Penalty:	Six (6) week suspension and a \$2,000.00 fine

On 22 July 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Procaine was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Aston Galahad when it competed in, and won, Race 11 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 5 April 2022.

Submissions were made by Mr Robert Lound as the licensed trainer of Aston Galahad 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 Charge 1 were as follows:

That Mr Robert Lound, as the trainer of the greyhound Aston Galahad, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 11 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 5 April 2022 with prohibited substance in its system, namely Procaine as detected by the Racing Science Centre and confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in the post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound on 5 April 2022.

Mr Lound entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made brief submissions in respect of penalty.

In determining the matter of penalty, Stewards considered the following:

- Mr Lound's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Lound's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately twenty-five (25) years;
- Mr Lound's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Lound's disciplinary history, noting Mr Lound has three (3) prior breaches of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 83(2)(a) in the past seven (7) years, with one (1) prior breach of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 83(2)(a) in July 2018 in respect of a similar substance;

- Mr Lound's explanation as to how the substance likely came to be present in the greyhound's system, that being from the meat fed to the greyhound;
- Mr Lound's reluctance to immediately amend his animal husbandry practices;
- 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 six (6) week suspension of Mr Lound's licence to commence at midnight on 26 July 2022, together with a \$2,000.00 fine.

Stewards permitted Mr Lound seven (7) days from midnight 26 July 2022 to transfer all greyhounds from his control, with Stewards permission being required for each transfer.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), Stewards directed that Aston Galahad be disqualified from Race 11 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 5 April 2022 (1st place).

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

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