

Stewards' Report

Date:	Thursday, 8 September 2022
Panel:	Ms A Turner (Chairperson), Mr A Flymen, Mr K Dean
Person:	Mr Robert Lound
Rule:	GAR 141(1)(a)
Charges:	Mr Robert Lound presented the greyhound Young Rob to compete in Race 6 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 21 June 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance
Substance:	Dexamethasone
Penalty:	Three (3) month licence suspension

On 8 September 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Dexamethasone was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Young Rob when it competed in, and won, Race 6 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 21 June 2022.

Submissions were made by Mr Robert Lound as the licensed trainer of Young Rob at the relevant time.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(1)(a), which provides:

The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound, nominated to compete in an Event, must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

The specifics of the charge were as follows:

That Mr Robert Lound, as the trainer of the greyhound Young Rob, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 6 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 21 June 2022 with a prohibited substance in its system, namely Dexamethasone 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 21 June 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 explanation as to the likely source of the prohibited substance, being the meat that was fed to the greyhound being sourced from a knacker;

- Mr Lound's immediate review of, and amendment to, his animal husbandry practices upon being notified of the positive sample by changing the type of meat that is fed to his greyhounds and also now sourcing the meat locally;
- Mr Lound's personal circumstances, specifically his living arrangements/requirements;
- Mr Lound's disciplinary history, noting Mr Lound has four (4) prior breaches of the same rule in the past seven (7) years, with the most recent breach being in April 2022;
- the nature of the prohibited substance, being Dexamethasone, and how the feeding of knackery meat to greyhounds may create a risk of inadvertent exposure to the substance;
- the need to maintain the integrity of greyhound racing and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- the need for both specific deterrence to Mr Lound, noting his four (4) prior breaches with the most recent breach being only a short time ago, and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed a penalty of a three (3) month suspension of Mr Lound's licence to commence at midnight on 8 September 2022 and to expire at midnight on 8 December 2022.

Stewards permitted Mr Lound seven (7) days from midnight 8 September 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 Young Rob be disqualified from Race 6 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 21 June 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.