

## Stewards' Report

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 16 November 2022
<b>Panel:</b>	Mr W Hadley (Chairperson), Ms A Turner, Mr R Doss
<b>Person:</b>	Mr Trent Thorley
<b>Rule:</b>	GAR 141(1)(a)
<b>Charges:</b>	Mr Trent Thorley presented the greyhound: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Spot On Albert to compete in Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 31 August 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance</li><li>2. Spot On Polly to compete in Race 3 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 7 September 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance</li><li>3. Spot On Harper to compete in Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 14 September 2022 when it was not free of a prohibited substance</li></ol>
<b>Substance:</b>	Ostarine
<b>Penalty:</b>	Charge 1: Twelve (12) month disqualification Charge 2: Twelve (12) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 1 Charge 3: Twelve (12) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 1

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On 16 November 2022, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the permanently banned prohibited substance Ostarine was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Spot On Albert when it competed in, and won, Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 31 August 2022, Spot On Polly when it competed in, and won, Race 3 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 7 September 2022, and Spot On Harper when it competed in, and won, Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 14 September 2022.

Upon receiving the results of the confirmatory analysis in respect of the abovementioned samples, Stewards had elected to suspend Mr Thorley's licence and registration pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 169(5)(c) pending the outcome of the stewards' inquiry.

Extensive written submissions were tendered by Mr Trent Thorley and further oral submissions were made by Mr Thorley as the licensed trainer of the greyhounds Spot On Albert, Spot On Polly and Spot On Harper at the relevant times.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued three (3) charges 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 Charge 1 were as follows:

That Mr Trent Thorley, as the trainer of the greyhound Spot On Albert, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 31 August 2022 with a permanently banned prohibited substance in its system, namely Ostarine, 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 31 August 2022.

The specifics of Charge 2 were as follows:

That Mr Trent Thorley, as the trainer of the greyhound Spot On Polly, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 3 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 7 September 2022 with a permanently banned prohibited substance in its system, namely Ostarine, 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 7 September 2022.

The specifics of Charge 3 were as follows:

That Mr Trent Thorley, as the trainer of the greyhound Spot On Harper, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 14 September 2022 with a permanently banned prohibited substance in its system, namely Ostarine, 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 14 September 2022.

Mr Thorley entered a plea of guilty to all three (3) charges and made submissions in respect of penalty.

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

- Mr Thorley's plea of guilty to all three (3) charges at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Thorley's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately twenty-five (25) years;
- Mr Thorley's good character, together with his forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;

- that Mr Thorley did not have an opportunity to review and amend his animal husbandry practices prior to receiving notice of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) positives as he was only notified of the first (1<sup>st</sup>) positive result after 14 September 2022, being the date of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) positive result;
- Mr Thorley's immediate review of, and amendment to, his animal husbandry practices upon being notified of the initial positive result;
- Mr Thorley's personal circumstances, specifically that he is currently a hobby trainer and does not derive his primary income from the greyhound racing industry;
- Mr Thorley's disciplinary history, noting one (1) prior breach of the same rule in 2017 involving Arsenic;
- the nature of the permanently banned prohibited substance, being a Ostarine, noting that it is a permanently banned prohibited substance across all codes and therefore a clear message needs to be sent to the industry that any breach involving permanently banned prohibited substances is serious and cannot be tolerated;
- 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 Thorley and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed the following penalties:

**Charge 1:** Twelve (12) month disqualification

**Charge 2:** Twelve (12) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 1

**Charge 3:** Twelve (12) month disqualification to be served concurrently with Charge 1

with the total period of disqualification being twelve (12) months backdated to 1 November 2022, being the date Mr Thorley's licence and registration were suspended by the Stewards.

Further, Stewards permitted Mr Thorley fourteen (14) days from midnight 16 November 2022 to transfer all greyhounds from his care and custody, with Stewards permission being required for each transfer.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), Stewards directed that:

1. Spot On Albert be disqualified from Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 31 August 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> place);
2. Spot On Polly be disqualified from Race 3 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 7 September 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> place); and
3. Spot On Harper be disqualified from Race 8 at the Rockhampton Greyhound Racing Club on 14 September 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> place).

Stewards ordered that the placings be amended accordingly and Mr Thorley was advised that all prizemoney associated with these events must be returned to Racing Queensland.

Further, Mr Thorley was advised that Spot On Albert, Spot On Polly and Spot On Harper would be ineligible to be nominated for any further event pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 139(4) until a clear sample has been collected from each greyhound respectively.

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