

Stewards' Report

Date: Tuesday 10 October 2023

Panel: Mr R.Doss (Chairperson), Mr J Randal, Mr D Aurisch

Person: Mr Kevin Pershouse

Rule: GAR 142(1)(a)
GAR 151 (1)

Charges: 1. Mr Kevin Pershouse did administer a prohibited substance, being Dexamethasone, to the greyhound Street Scandal on or around 20 July 2023, with that substance being detected in a post-race urine sample when it was presented to compete in Race 5 at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 24 July 2023.

2. Failed to keep and retain written records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitic and treatments administered to the greyhounds in his care and custody at his registered kennel address on or around 31 August 2023

Substance: Dexamethasone

Penalty: **Charge 1.** Two (2) month suspension with one (1) month wholly suspended for two (2) years
Charge 2. \$200.00 fine

On 10 October 2023, Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards conducted an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Dexamethasone was detected in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Street Scandal when it competed at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 24 July 2023

Submissions were made by Mr Kevin Pershouse during the inquiry as the licensed trainer of Street Scandal.

After considering all of the evidence, Stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 142(1)(a), which provides:

An offence is committed if a person:
(a) administers, attempts to administer or causes to be administered a prohibited substance to a greyhound; which is established in any sample taken from a greyhound presented for an Event or when subject to any other contingency pursuant to the Rules

The specifics charge 1 were as follows:

That Mr Kevin Pershouse, as the trainer of the greyhound Street Scandal, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 5 at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 24 July 2023 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 24 July 2023.

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

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

- Mr Pershouse's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Pershouse's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately 14 years
- Mr Pershouse's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Pershouse's reasonable explanation of how the substance came to be in the greyhounds system, being that he had used an ointment that contained Dexamethasone and wasn't aware of the stand down time required (7 days instead of 3) and amendment to, his animal husbandry practices.
- Mr Pershouse's disciplinary history, noting a prior breach of a similar rule over three (3) years earlier
- 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 Pershouse and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- relevant penalty precedents.

Charge 2:

On 10 October 2023, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Stewards concluded an inquiry in respect of evidence obtained from a kennel inspection undertaken at the registered kennel address of licensed trainer Mr Kevin Pershouse on 31 August 2023, at which inspection Mr Pershouse's treatment records were found to be non-compliant.

Charge 2: Issued pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 151(1), which provides:

The person in charge of a greyhound must keep and retain written records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitic and treatments administered to the greyhound: (a) from the time the greyhound enters their care until the greyhound leaves their care; and (b) for a minimum of two years.

The specifics of Charge 2 were as follows:

That Mr Kevin Pershouse, being a trainer licensed with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission, failed to keep and retain written records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitic and treatments administered to the greyhounds in his care and custody at his registered kennel address on or around 31 August 2023.

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

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

- Mr Pershouse's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Pershouse's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately 14 years
- Mr Pershouse's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- 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 Pershouse and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- relevant penalty precedents.

Accordingly, the Stewards imposed the following penalties:

Charge 1. Two (2) month licence suspension with One (1) month wholly suspended for a period of Two (2) years conditional upon no breach of a similar rule.

Charge 2. Fine \$200.00

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 142(4), Stewards directed that Street Scandal be disqualified from Race 5 at the Bundaberg Greyhound Racing Club on 24 July 2023 and ordered that the placings be amended accordingly, and Mr Pershouse was advised that all prizemoney associated with this event must be returned to Racing Queensland.

Mr Pershouse was advised of his right to appeal.