

Stewards' Report

Date:	Tuesday, 4 June 2024
Panel:	Mr N Thorneycroft (Chairperson), Ms A Turner, Mr J Philp, Ms B McErlean
Person:	Mr Corey Mutton
Rule:	GAR 141(1)(a)
Charges:	Mr Corey Mutton presented the greyhound Rapid On Fire to compete in Race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 18 April 2024 when it was not free of a prohibited substance
Substance:	Arsenic
Penalty:	Three (3) month licence suspension wholly and conditionally suspended for twenty-four (24) months together with a \$1,500.00 fine

On 4 June 2024, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) stewards concluded an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance arsenic was detected at a level in excess of the mass concentration limit of 800 nanograms per millilitre in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Rapid On Fire when it competed in, and won, Race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 18 April 2024.

Submissions were made by Mr Corey Mutton as the licensed trainer of Rapid On Fire at the relevant time.

After considering all of the evidence, stewards issued a charge pursuant to the 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 Corey Mutton, as the trainer of the greyhound Rapid On Fire, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 18 April 2024 with a prohibited substance in its system, namely arsenic 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 800 nanograms per millilitre in the post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound on 18 April 2024.

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

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Mutton's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Mutton's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately sixteen (16) years;

- Mr Mutton's good character, together with his forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Mutton's disciplinary history noting no prior breaches of a similar nature;
- Mr Mutton's personal circumstances, specifically that he derives his income solely from the greyhound racing industry;
- the nature of the prohibited substance, being Arsenic and the explanation provided as to the likely source of the substance, being the feeding of sardines to the greyhound pre-race;
- Mr Mutton's immediate review of, and amendment to, his animal husbandry practices upon being notified of the positive analysis;
- 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 Mutton and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- relevant penalty precedents;
- the QRIC Greyhound Racing Penalty Guidelines; and
- the Human Rights Act 2019.

Accordingly, stewards determined that the appropriate penalty was a three (3) month licence suspension, electing to wholly suspend the suspension pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 174(3) for a period of twenty-four (24) months conditional upon no further breach of a similar nature, together with a monetary penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), stewards directed that Rapid On Fire be disqualified from Race 11 at the Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club on 18 April 2024 (1st place).

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

Mr Mutton was advised of his right to a review of the decision.