

Stewards' Report

Date:	Thursday, 18 July 2024
Panel:	Mr A Flymen (Chairperson), Mr J McIntosh
Person:	Mr Christopher Scifleet
Rule:	GAR 141(1)(a)
Charges:	Mr Christopher Scifleet presented the greyhound Lusty Lovin' to compete in Race 7 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 12 April 2024 when it was not free of a prohibited substance.
Substance:	Dexamethasone
Penalty:	\$1,500.00 fine

On 18 July 2024, 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 Lusty Lovin' when it competed in, and won, Race 7 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 12 April 2024.

Submissions were made by Mr Scifleet as the licensed trainer of Lusty Lovin' 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 Christopher Scifleet, as the trainer of the greyhound Lusty Lovin', did present that greyhound to compete in Race 7 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 12 April 2024 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 12 April 2024.

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

Stewards considered the following when determining penalty:

- Mr Scifleet's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Scifleet's time in the greyhound racing industry, being approximately four (4) years;

- Mr Scifleet's forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Scifleet's disciplinary history, noting no prior breaches of a similar rule;
- the nature of the prohibited substance, being Dexamethasone;
- the need to maintain the integrity of greyhound racing and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- the Human Rights Act 2019;
- the need for both specific deterrence to Mr Scifleet and general deterrence to the wider industry; and
- relevant penalty precedents, including the QRIC Greyhound Penalty Guidelines.

Accordingly, Stewards determined that the appropriate penalty was a monetary fine in the amount of \$1,500.00.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), Stewards directed that Lusty Lovin' be disqualified from Race 7 at the Townsville Greyhound Racing Club on 12 April 2024 (1st place).

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

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