

# Stewards' Report

**Date:** Tuesday, 27 May 2025  
**Panel:** Mr A Spence (Chair), Mr C Ferguson, Ms R Pedersen  
**Person:** Mr Gary Pearce  
**Rule:** GAR 141(1)(a)  
**Charges:** As the trainer of Hara's Hudson, he did present that greyhound to compete in race 7 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 26 September 2024 with a prohibited substance in its system  
**Substance:** Carprofen  
**Penalty:** \$1000

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On 27 May 2025, Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Stewards conducted an inquiry into analysts' findings that the prohibited substance Carprofen was detected, in a post-race urine sample collected from the greyhound Hara's Hudson when it competed in, and won, race 7 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 26 September 2024.

After considering all the relevant exhibits, and Mr Pearce's submissions at the inquiry, 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:

As the trainer of Hara's Hudson, Mr Gary Pearce did present that greyhound to compete in race 7 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 26 September 2024 with a prohibited substance in its system, namely Carprofen as detected by the Racing Science Centre and confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in the post-race urine sample.

Mr Pearce pleaded guilty to the charge and made further submissions on penalty.

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

- Mr Pearce's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mr Pearce's time in the racing industry, being approximately thirteen (13) years;
- Mr Pearce's disciplinary history, noting no prior breaches;
- Mr Pearce's good character, together with his forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mr Pearce's personal circumstances;
- The nature of the prohibited substance, Carprofen;
- The need to maintain the integrity of greyhound racing and to ensure a level playing field for all participants;
- The need to safeguard the welfare of all animals that are or have been involved in racing;

- The need for both specific deterrence to Mr Pearce and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- The relevant penalty precedents;
- The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Greyhound Racing Penalty Guidelines;
- The Human Rights Act 2019 (HRA);

Subsequently, a fine of \$1000 was imposed by the panel.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), Stewards directed that Hara's Hudson be disqualified from Race 7 at the Ipswich Greyhound Racing Club on 24 September 2024, where is finished in First (1<sup>st</sup>) place. Further, pursuant to GAR 141(5)(b), Hara's Hudson was disqualified from the maiden final conducted on 3 October 2024, in which the greyhound finished in Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) place.

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

Mr Pearce was advised of his right to appeal.