31 March 2021

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**BARRY MILLS**

**Date of hearing:** 24 March 2021

**Panel:** Judge Graeme Hicks (Deputy Chairperson) and Judge Julie Nicholson.

**Appearances:** Mr Marwan El-Asmar appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

Mr Barry Mills represented himself.

**Charge:** Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 83(2) states:

The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound-

1. nominated to compete in an Event;
2. presented for a satisfactory, weight or whelping trial or such other trial as provided for pursuant to these Rules; or
3. presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a period of incapacitation or prohibition being varied or revoked

shall present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

**Particulars of charge:** 1. You are, and were at all relevant times, a trainer licensed by Greyhound Racing Victoria and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules.

2. You were, at all relevant times, the trainer of the greyhound “Nunniong Bear”.

3. “Nunniong Bear” was nominated to compete in, Race 1, CONGRATULATIONS SIMON TOLD HELEN, Maiden, conducted by the Meadows Greyhound Racing Association at The Meadows on 29 July 2020 (**the Event**).

4. On 29 July 2020, you presented “Nunniong Bear” at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

1. A post-race sample of urine was taken from “Nunniong Bear” at the Event (**the Sample**);
2. Meloxicam was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

**DECISION**

Mr Barry Mills, you have pleaded guilty to a breach of Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 83(2).

You presented your greyhound, “Nunniong Bear”, in Race 1 at The Meadows Greyhound Racing Association meeting held on 29 July 2020 when it was not free of a prohibited substance, namely Meloxicam.

Meloxicam is a substance which can be used for pain relief and is capable of affecting the performance of a greyhound.

On 29 September 2020 you told Stewards that you had fed your greyhound knackery meat. Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) has previously alerted those in the industry of the risks involved in feeding knackery meat to greyhounds.

The likely cause of you presenting your greyhound in Race 1 at The Meadows Greyhound Racing Association meeting held on 29 July 2020 when not free of a prohibited substance is due to you feeding your greyhound knackery meat.

You have an outstanding record in the greyhound racing industry. You have been a trainer for over 50 years and never had a charge of this nature brought against you. You are 72 years of age, in poor health and you train your greyhounds on your own.

We have taken into account your plea of guilty, your cooperation with the Stewards, your personal circumstances and your training history.

General deterrence and, to a far lesser extent, specific deterrence each have their part to play in arriving at an appropriate penalty.

In all the circumstances, we find the charge proven and impose a fine of $1,500, with $500 of that fine to be suspended for a period of 12 months on condition that you do not breach this Rule over that period.

We order that Nunniong Bear be disqualified from Race 1 at The Meadows on 29 July 2020 and that the placings be amended accordingly.

Kathleen Scully
Assistant Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal