29 May 2020

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**MR DAVID BASILE**

**Date of hearing:** 21 May 2020

**Panel:** Judge John Bowman (Chairperson) and Justice Shane Marshall.

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

Mr David Basile represented himself.

**Charge:** Greyhound 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 (GRV) and a person bound by the GAR.
2. You were, at all relevant times, the trainer of the greyhound *“Rippa Regis”.*
3. *“Rippa Regis”* was nominated to compete in, Race 8, truckandtrailerpartsonline.com.au, Grade 5 T3, conducted by the Shepparton Greyhound Racing Club at Shepparton on 25 November 2019 (**the Event**).
4. On 25 November 2019, you presented *“Rippa Regis”* at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:
   1. A pre-race sample of urine was taken from *“Rippa Regis”* at the Event (**the Sample**);
   2. Procaine was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

**DECISION**

1. Mr David Basile is a registered trainer of greyhounds. He is the trainer of greyhound Rippa Regis. Rippa Regis competed in race 8 at Shepparton on 25 November 2019. A pre-race sample of urine taken from the greyhound showed the presence of procaine. Rippa Regis won the event.
2. Stewards of GRV have charged Mr Basile under GAR 83(2) with presenting a greyhound for an event while not free of a prohibited substance. Mr Basile has pleaded guilty to the charge.
3. Procaine is a prohibited substance. It is a short-acting local anaesthetic that is used for pain relief. It is used in the treatment of sick cattle and horses and inadvertent exposure to it is caused when greyhounds eat knackery meat. It can affect the condition or performance of a greyhound by inducing artificial pain free state.
4. Mr Basile has been a greyhound trainer for over three years. He trains about 22 greyhounds. He was feeding his greyhounds knackery meat. Once advised of the positive swab, he changed his feeding practices and now feeds his greyhound kangaroo and chicken. Mr Basile was aware of the GRV advice not to use knackery meat, but believed that the meat he was buying was not knackery meat. Although it came from a pet shop, he thought it was “normal beef”.
5. In setting a penalty in this matter we take into account the guilty plea, general deterrence and the importance of keeping a level playing field by having a drug free industry. In all the circumstances we impose a $1,500 fine on Mr Basile with $500 suspended for 12 months provided there is no breach of GAR 83 in the meantime. Rippa Regis is disqualified from race 8 at Shepparton on 25 November 2019.

Mark Howard  
Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal