8 February 2021

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**STAN BAUER**

**Date of hearing:** 3 February 2021

**Panel:** Justice Shane Marshall (Deputy Chairperson) and Dr June Smith.

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

Mr Stan Bauer 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 *“Angie Ling”.*

3. *“Angie Ling”* was nominated to compete in, Race 5, TOPCAT VIDEO, Grade 5, conducted by the Meadows Greyhound Racing Association at The Meadows on 26 February 2020 (**the Event**).

4. On 26 February 2020, you presented *“Angie Ling”* at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

(a) A pre-race sample of urine was taken from *“Angie Ling”* at the Event (**the Sample**);

(b) Procaine was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

**DECISION**

1. Mr Stan Bauer is a registered greyhound trainer and the trainer of the greyhound “Angie Ling”. Angie Ling competed in Race 5 at the Meadows on 26 February 2020. A pre-race swab showed the presence of procaine.
2. Stewards of Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) have charged Mr Bauer under Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 83(2) for presenting a greyhound for an event while not free of a prohibited substance. Mr Bauer has pleaded guilty. Until being advised of the positive swab, he fed his greyhounds knackery meat. Since being advised of the positive swab he no longer feeds his dogs knackery meat.
3. Procaine is a prohibited substance under the GAR’s. It is used to aid a local anaesthetic and provides pain relief to sick cattle. GRV has advised trainers as early as 2016 not to use knackery meat due to the risk of inadvertent contamination. Procaine is capable of affecting the performance of a greyhound in a positive way by inducing a pain free state.
4. Mr Bauer has been a trainer for about 14 years in his current period of training. In that time he has transgressed once against GAR83(2). One of his greyhounds in 2018 returned a positive swab to pholcodine. He told the Stewards that he has learned his lesson and now feeds kangaroo and chicken meat.
5. In setting a penalty, we take into account general and specific deterrence, the importance of maintaining a level playing field by having a drug free industry, recent penalties in like matters, the guilty plea and Mr Bauer’s prior transgression relating to pholcodine.
6. In all the circumstances we impose a penalty of 3 months suspension wholly suspended for 24 months and a $2,000 fine with $1,000 suspended for 24 months. Angie Ling is disqualified from race 5 at the Meadows on 26 February 2020.

Mark Howard
Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal