22 August 2023

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**GLYNN WOOD**

**Date of hearing:** 15 August 2023

**Panel:** Magistrate John Doherty (Deputy Chairperson) and Ms Amanda Dickens.

**Appearances:** Mr Anthony Pearce appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

Mr Glynn Wood represented himself.

**Charge:** Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 141(1) states:

(1) The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound:

(a) nominated to compete in an Event;

(b) presented for a satisfactory trial or such other trial as provided for by the Rules; or

(c) presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a stand-down period being varied or revoked

must 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 “Bart’s Girl”.

3. Bart’s Girl was nominated to compete in Race 3, PARKER PUMPS (300+ RANK), Maiden, conducted by the Geelong Greyhound Racing Club at Geelong on 18 October 2022 (the Event).

4. On 18 October 2022, you presented Bart’s Girl at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

(a) A pre-race sample of urine was taken from Bart’s Girl at your registered kennel address (the Sample);

(b) Dexamethasone was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

**DECISION**

Mr Glynn Wood has pleaded guilty to a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 141(1) for presenting the greyhound, “Bart’s Girl”, in Race 3 at Geelong on 18 October 2023 whilst not free of a prohibited substance, namely dexamethasone.

Dexamethasone is a prohibited substance because it can affect the performance of a greyhound by creating an artificial pain free state.

This is yet another case where the ingestion of knackery meat is the most likely source of the presence of the prohibited substance. Mr Wood has admitted feeding his greyhound knackery meat, but since the discovery of dexamethasone in the pre-race urine sample of Bart’s Girl, he now feeds fit for human consumption meat only.

Mr Wood is 60 years old and for the past 23 years has been working as a school bus driver. He is a hobby trainer and was first registered in 1985. This is the first time that he has been charged with a ‘presentation’ offence relating to a prohibited substance. Otherwise, he has a very good record in relation to prohibited substances.

In fixing a penalty, we are conscious of the importance of maintaining a level playing field for all participants and the need for drug free racing. Furthermore, there is a requirement for consistency in penalties and reinforcement of general deterrence. We are aided by the table of cases, submitted by the Stewards, referring to recent penalties and note Mr Wood’s plea of guilty and cooperation with the Stewards.

In the event, we impose a penalty of a fine of $1,500. In addition, Bart’s Girl is disqualified from Race 3 at Geelong on 18 October 2022.

Kathleen Scully

Assistant Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal