21 December 2023

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**TAMMY KENNEDY-HARRIS**

**Date of hearing:** 12 December2023

**Panel:** Magistrate John Doherty (Deputy Chairperson) and Mr Robert Abrahams.

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

Ms Tammy Kennedy-Harris represented herself.

**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: Charge 1**

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 “Quincee Bale”.
3. Quincee Bale was nominated to compete in Race 11, SPORTSBET EVERY DOG HAS ITS DAY, Grade 5, conducted by The Meadows Greyhound Racing Association at The Meadows on 21 January 2023 (the Event).
4. On 21 January 2023, you presented Quincee Bale at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:
5. A pre-race sample of urine was taken from Quincee Bale upon arrival at the Event (the Sample);
6. Guaifenesin was detected in the Sample.

**Charge 2**

* + - * 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 “Pinjarra Bale”.
        3. Pinjarra Bale was nominated to compete in Race 6, WARRNAMBOOL FENCING SPECIALISTS (250+), Grade 5, conducted by the Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club at Warrnambool on 28 February 2023 (the Event).
        4. On 28 February 2023, you presented Pinjarra Bale at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

1. A pre-race sample of urine was taken from Pinjarra Bale at the Event (the Sample);
2. Guaifenesin was detected in the Sample.

**Charge 3**

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 “Udellar Bale”.
3. Udellar Bale was nominated to compete in Race 4, MILLERS MUZZLES, Grade 5 T3, conducted by the Geelong Greyhound Racing Club at Geelong on 5 April 2023 (the Event).
4. On 5 April 2023, you presented Udellar Bale at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:
5. A post-race sample of urine was taken from Udellar Bale at the Event (the Sample);
6. Guaifenesin was detected in the Sample.

**Pleas:** Guilty

**DECISION**

Ms Tammy Kennedy-Harris has pleaded guilty to three presentation charges pursuant to Greyhound Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 141(1).

On 21 January 2023 at The Meadows, “Quincee Bale” competed in Race 11. On 28 February 2023 at Warrnambool, “Pinjarra Bale” competed in Race 6. On 5 April 2023 at Geelong, “Udellar Bale” competed in Race 4. Quincee Bale and Pinjarra Bale were swabbed prior to their races. Udellar Bale underwent a post-race swabe. Each swab disclosed a positive indication to the presence of guaifenesin.

Guaifenesin is a prohibited substance under the GARs. It is a muscle relaxant and therefore most likely to have a negative impact on the racing performance of a greyhound. The presence of the drug in the three greyhounds is thought most likely to result from their being fed not fit for human consumption meat (knackery meat) by Ms Kennedy-Harris. Ms Kennedy-Harris no longer feeds knackery meat and now only feeds her greyhounds meat fit for human consumption.

Ms Kennedy-Harris is a hobby trainer and was first registered in 1999. She is the mother of six children and currently has 13 racing dogs.

The Tribunal acknowledges her early plea of guilty to each charge and her cooperation with the Stewards. We are also mindful of the need for drug free racing and of issuing penalties in order to deter others from committing similar breaches of the Rule.

In the event, we impose the following penalties:

Charge 1: $1,500 fine with $500 suspended for 24 months.

Charge 2: $1,500 fine.

Charge 3: 2 months suspension which is wholly suspended for a period of 24 months pending no further breaches of the relevant Rule.

It is further ordered that the greyhounds, the subject of each charge, be disqualified from the relevant events and any prizemoney is forfeited to Greyhound Racing Victoria.

Kathleen Scully

Assistant Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal