29 November 2024

**DECISION**

**GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

**GLENN JUDD**

**Date of hearing:** 26 November 2024

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**Panel:** Judge Kathryn Kings (Deputy Chairperson) and Mr Des Gleeson.

**Appearances:** Ms Yana Podolskaya appeared on behalf of the Stewards.

Mr Glenn Judd 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:** 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 “Moraine Marvel”.

3. Moraine Marvel was nominated to compete in Race 11, SOUTHERN SHEETMETAL, Grade 5, conducted by the Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club at Ballarat on 13 March 2024 (the Event).

4. On 13 March 2024, you presented Moraine Marvel at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

(a) A post-race sample of urine was taken from Moraine Marvel at the Event (the Sample);

(b) Meloxicam was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

**DECISION**

Mr Glenn Judd is a trainer licensed by Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) and bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”). He has been in the industry for seven years. Mr Judd is the trainer of “Moraine Marvel”.

Moraine Marvel was nominated to compete in Race 11 at Ballarat on 13 March 2024. The greyhound was presented at the event not free of any prohibited substance, given that a post-race sample of urine was taken from the dog and meloxicam was detected.

Mr Judd has been charged with a presentation offence pursuant to GAR 141(1) on account of presenting Moraine Marvel for an event while not free of a prohibited substance.

Mr Judd has pleaded guilty to the charge.

GRV Chief Veterinarian, Dr Steven Karamatic provided a report dated 10 May 2024. Dr Karamatic confirmed that meloxicam is a prohibited substance under the GAR and is placed in the category of therapeutic substances in the GRV Penalty Guidelines. He said that there was no Swab Irregularity Inspection Report provided for his review. He understood from the Chief Steward that unfit for human consumption meat was fed to the greyhound, which is a potential source of meloxicam detection in a sample if fed to the greyhound close to racing. Treatment records were not provided for his review. Dr Karamatic said that, where residues of meloxicam are found in meat fed to a greyhound, a positive return could occur for around five days after feeding the meat. Accumulation could occur when there is repeat feeding of meat containing meloxicam is fed, leading to a longer detection time. He referred to the industry being on notice that meloxicam can be ingested and is commonly used in the treatment of sick and lame cattle. The feeding of knackery meat risks inadvertent exposure. In 2016, GRV’s Feeding, Medication & Supplementary Guidelines notified participants of the issues. In July 2020, Greyhound Monthly Victoria notified participants of the risks of feeding knackery meat. Dr Karamatic said that meloxicam is capable of affecting the condition or performance of a greyhound, and any effects on performance are more likely to be positive, by producing an artificially pain free state.

We accept Dr Karamatic’s evidence that the most likely cause of the positive test is the feeding of unfit for human consumption meat, and is the most likely explanation for the positive finding.

Mr Judd said that he fed knackery meat to racing greyhounds. Since the positive finding, he no longer feeds knackery meat. He now feeds race dogs chicken and kangaroo meat.

In imposing a penalty, we have taken into account Mr Judd’s guilty plea, his cooperation with the Stewards, his good record and the importance of specific and general deterrence. We also acknowledge the importance of maintaining a level playing field by having a drug free industry. We take into account penalties in like matters. We note that this is Mr Judd’s first offence. We note that participants in the industry have been on notice of the risks of feeding knackery meat for some time.

We accept the submissions of the Stewards in relation to penalty. In all the circumstances, we impose a penalty of a fine of $2,000 with $1,000 suspended for 12 months pending no further relevant offences during that time.

In addition, Moraine Marvel is disqualified from Race 11 at Ballarat on 13 March 2024 and the finishing order is amended accordingly.

Kathleen Scully

Assistant Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal