

16 November 2018

## **NOTICE OF INQUIRY RESULT**

**STEWARDS: L.G. Michalanney, G. Barber, M. Herrmann**



On Friday 16 November, 2018, Greyhound Racing South Australia (GRSA) Stewards inquired into the analysis of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound BANJO BONITO trained by Mr. Robert Wombwell at the race meeting held at Mount Gambier on Sunday 22 July, 2018.

The prohibited substance METFORMIN was confirmed in the analysis of the sample.

Evidence was taken from Mr. Paul Zahra (Racing Analytical Services Limited), Dr. Steven Karamatic (Veterinarian) and Mr. Wombwell.

After considering the matter and all evidence before them, Stewards believed there was sufficient evidence to issue a charge against Mr. Wombwell under GAR 83(2), which reads:

*The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound –  
(a) nominated to compete in an event;  
shall present the greyhound free from any prohibited substance*

Mr. Wombwell pleaded guilty to the charge.

Mr. Wombwell provided evidence that METFORMIN was a prescribed personal medication he had taken on a daily basis for more than a decade. Stewards acknowledged the positive result most likely came about from contamination from this medication and noted that he had taken a number of steps to mitigate the risk of this occurring again.

Mr. Wombwell was suspended for a period of three (3) months and was fined \$500. The suspension period will begin immediately.

In assessing penalty Stewards took into consideration his plea of guilt, his length of time holding a licence, his clean record in relation to this Rule and his cooperation during the inquiry process. However, there should be a deterrent for himself and others in relation to this type of offence; to ensure that greyhounds are presented to race free from prohibited substances. Stewards continue to remind all trainers to be proactive with their husbandry practices to reduce the risk of personal medications being ingested by a greyhound.

Furthermore, Stewards acting under GAR 83(4) disqualified BANJO BONITO from Race 3 at Mount Gambier on Sunday 22 July, 2018, and directed that the placings in the race be amended accordingly.

Mr. Wombwell was advised of his rights of appeal.

**L.G. MICHALANNEY**  
**INTEGRITY MANAGER**

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