

6 June 2017

## **NOTICE OF INQUIRY RESULT**



**STEWARDS: L.G. Michalanney, D.J. Southgate, D. Jonas**

Greyhound Racing South Australia Stewards today inquired into the analysis of a post-race urine sample taken from the greyhound LIKE A TORNADO trained by Mr. Steve Hoffman, which had shown the presence of COBALT at the race meeting held at Gawler on Sunday 12 February, 2017.

The reserve portion of the urine sample was tested and the presence of COBALT was confirmed, in excess of 100ng/mL as determined by GAR 83(10).

Evidence was taken from Mr. Paul Zahra (Scientific Manager at Racing Analytical Services Limited), Dr. Steven Karamatic (Veterinary Surgeon) and Mr. Hoffman.

After considering the matter and all the evidence before them, Stewards believed there was sufficient evidence to charge Mr. Hoffman with a contravention of 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*

*(3) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound presented contrary to sub-rule (2) shall be guilty of an offence.*

Mr. Hoffman pleaded guilty to the charge.

Mr. Hoffman was disqualified for a period of five (5) months. The disqualification period will commence at midnight on Thursday 15 June, 2017.

In assessing penalty Stewards took into consideration his plea of guilt, the levels of cobalt found in the sample and his cooperation and forthrightness during the inquiry. However, there should be a deterrent for himself and others in relation to this type of offence; as well as ensuring the onus is on Trainers to present their greyhounds free from any prohibited substances.

Mr. Hoffman was also issued with a charge against GAR 84A(1) which reads:

*The person in charge of a greyhound must keep and retain records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitics and medical treatments administered to a greyhound from the time the greyhound enters their care until the greyhound leaves their care and for a minimum of two (2) years. Such record of treatment must be produced for inspection when requested by a Steward or a person authorised by the Controlling Body. Any person responsible for a greyhound at the relevant time who fails to comply with any provision of this rule shall be guilty of an offence.*

Mr. Hoffman pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$150.

Furthermore, Stewards acting under GAR 83(4) disqualified LIKE A TORNADO from winning Race 7 at Gawler on Sunday 12 February, 2017, and directed that the placings in the race be amended accordingly.

Mr. Hoffman was advised of his rights of appeal.

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

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