

Thursday, 29 February 2024

## Stewards' Notice

### Integrity Hearings Panel

#### Inquiry Determination of the Integrity Hearings Panel

##### Greyhound Racing SA Limited v G Stirling

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024, the Integrity Hearings Panel ("IHP") determined the Stewards' Inquiry relating to a prohibited substance found in a registered greyhound, Emerley Neith, trained by G Stirling.

Members:	T McGrath (Chair), T Johnston (Member)
Registered greyhound:	Emerley Neith (549504)
Racetrack:	Adelaide (Angle Park)
Date:	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Event:	We Love Our Dogs Maiden Stake PR 2 Division 1
Race No.:	1
Placing:	1 <sup>st</sup>
Type of sample:	Urine
Substance:	Dexamethasone
Concentration/mass:	Not available
Offence:	Present greyhound at event not free of prohibited substance
Rule:	R141(1)(b) & (3), <i>Greyhounds Australasia Rules</i>
Penalty category:	Not applicable (pre-5 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 amendments to Local Rules)
Nature of substance:	Prohibited
Effect on performance:	No evidence to substantiate that substance directly affected performance
Plea:	Guilty
Antecedents:	9 <sup>th</sup> August 2022, Present greyhound at event not free of prohibited substance (then penalty 2-months 14-days suspended, fully suspended for 12-months)
Circumstances:	Mr Stirling, a trainer, nominated Emerley Neith in the event that was We Love Our Dogs Maiden Stake PR 2 Division 1, race 1, conducted by the Adelaide Greyhound Racing Club on 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2023. Emerley Neith placed 1 <sup>st</sup> . Stewards took a post-race sample of urine and caused its analysis, the result being the return of a positive result for Dexamethasone. Mr Stirling did not admit to intentional administration of the substance. He submitted that a greyhound kept in the kennel next to Emerley Neith was being administered prescribed dexamethasone for treatment. That greyhound may have urinated in a direction that some urine ended up in Emerley Neith's kennel (and/or water bowl) and Emerley Neith unintentionally consumed it. Veterinarian advice suggested this scenario was plausible.
Winnings:	\$500.00, ordered to be returned
Degree of remorse:	Noted. Mr Stirling did not normally keep racing greyhounds in kennels next to greyhounds that were spelling; it was an oversight, and he has increased his vigilance in this regard.
Penalty:	Fine \$500.00. Suspension 3-months (commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024), reduced to 2-months and 14-days to take into account guilty plea + Suspended sentence from 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 of 2-months and 14-days, fully suspended for 12-months revoked, and resentenced to 4-months to be served concurrently with the penalty from 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024 (taking into account a part cumulative effect). So, total suspension is 4-months. Emerley Neith disqualified.

The above penalty follows the rules of racing on penalties, specifically Part 10, *Greyhounds Australasia Rules* and L94, *Local Rules*, and reflects the need for personal and general deterrence as relevant to these offences. The penalty can be appealed, subject to the rules of the Racing Appeals Tribunal.

Rules and policies of GRSA can be found [here](#).

For further advice, contact the Chief Steward via 08 8243 7100 or [admin@grsa.com.au](mailto:admin@grsa.com.au).