

18th July 2021

NOTICE OF INTEGRITY HEARINGS PANEL RESULT – Ms Kirin Corby

PANEL: Mr Timothy McGrath (Chair), Ms Tanya Johnston and Mr Graham Loch.

STEWARDS REPRESENTATION: Mr Derek Kordick, Risk & Compliance Manager and Mr Des Jonas, Chief Steward.



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On 19th May 2021 Ms Corby appeared before the Integrity Hearings Panel (IHP) in relation to matters arising from:

1. The participation of greyhound Harbor Blues at Murray Bridge Greyhound Racing Club on 18th December 2020, and;
2. A post-race sample of urine was taken from Harbor Blues and was subsequently determined to contain Prednisolone and Prednisone, both prohibited substances.

Following consideration of various sources of information, Stewards considered it appropriate to subsequently charge Ms Corby with the following charge:

- Breaching Greyhounds Australasia Rule 83 (2)(a) in that on 18th December 2020, Ms Corby presented Harbor Blues at an event, namely, Race 1 at Murray Bridge Greyhound Racing Club not free of any prohibited substance(s). The prohibited substances identified following a post-racing sample being taken from Harbor Blues was analysed and determined to be Prednisolone and Prednisone .

Ms Corby elected to enter an early guilty plea to the charge.

The IHP heard submissions from Ms Corby, and from Messrs Kordick and Jonas on behalf of the Stewards.

No irregular betting was identified in relation to the race Harbor Blues raced in that relate to the charge.

Of significance, it is important to note that, without in any way seeking to diminish the seriousness of the allegation, Stewards accept that the presence of the prohibited substances noted in the charge, were not intentionally administered by Ms Corby. Stewards accept that the likely source of the identified substance was through inadvertent transference (the substances detected are found in prescribed personal medication that is legally possessed within the home of Ms Corby).

As noted in previous matters, the IHP is ever mindful of the underlying importance of presenting greyhounds free of prohibited substances. Presentation offences have been rightly condemned through past decisions of the Stewards, a stance that has been supported by the Racing Appeals Tribunal on many occasions. Such offences invariably result in suspensions or disqualifications. However, matters will invariably differ in their surrounding circumstances.

The IHP have formed the view that this matter should be differentiated from those offences that have resulted in immediate suspensions and disqualifications. The IHP have formed this view, for the following reasons, all of which were undisputed by Stewards:

- Ms Corby is a highly respected participant with a significant history in greyhound racing.
- She has undertaken to commit to stronger regime of hygiene throughout her operation, and in particular, in the handling of personal medications to ensure transference of this nature cannot occur in the future.
- Through her admission to the charge at the earliest opportunity, along with the clear depth of remorse displayed before the IHP.
- Ms Corby was fully co-operative and polite with Stewards throughout their investigation.

As has been noted previously by the IHP, although a lenient approach should be sparingly considered when addressing matters involving prohibited substances, the IHP have formed a view, in all of the circumstances, that this is indeed a case that is deserving of such an approach.

In all the circumstances, the IHP have resolved to finalise this matter as follows:

- Ms Corby will be suspended for a period of 3 months.
- Considering her early guilty plea, that suspension will be reduced to a period of 2 months and 14 days.
- Given the circumstances of the offence, and all matters personal to Ms Corby, that 2 months and 14 days will be fully suspended for a period of 12 months.
- A fine of \$300 reduced to \$200 considering her early guilty plea will be imposed.

It necessarily follows that the IHP endorse the recommendation of GRSA Stewards, acting under GAR 83(4), to direct that:

1. Harbor Blues be disqualified from Race 1 at the Murray Bridge Greyhound Racing Club held on 18th December 2020, and;



Stewards will direct that the placings in the event be amended accordingly and that the \$805.00 prizemoney be returned to GRSA for redistribution where appropriate.

Both parties were advised of their right of appeal.

T. M.

Timothy McGrath

GRSA INTEGRITY HEARINGS PANEL CHAIR

