

Stewards' Report

Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2024
Panel: Mr Daniel Aurisch (Chairperson), Mr D Broxham, Ms S Barr
Person: Mrs Lisa Rasmussen
Rule: GAR 141(1)(a)
Charges: Mrs Lisa Rasmussen presented the greyhound Victa Damian to compete in Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023 when it was not free of a prohibited substance.
Substance: Testosterone Propionate
Penalty: Nine (9) month disqualification

On 19 March 2024, the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) stewards concluded an inquiry into analyst findings that the permanently banned prohibited substance Testosterone Propionate was detected in a pre-race hair sample collected from the greyhound Victa Damian when it competed in Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023.

Submissions were made by Mrs Lisa Rasmussen during the inquiry as the licensed trainer of the greyhound Victa Damian at the relevant time, together with submissions of Mr Paul Crawford as Mrs Rasmussen's legal representative.

After considering all the evidence, stewards issued a charge pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(1)(a), which provides:

The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound, nominated to compete in an Event, must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.

The specifics of the charge were as follows:

That Mrs Lisa Rasmussen, as the trainer of the greyhound Victa Damian, did present that greyhound to compete in Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023 with a permanently banned prohibited substance in its system, namely Testosterone Propionate as detected by the Racing Science Centre and confirmed by Racing Analytical Services Limited in the pre-race hair sample collected from the greyhound on 7 July 2023.

Mrs Rasmussen entered a plea of guilty to the charge and made submissions in respect of penalty.

In determining penalty, stewards considered the following:

- Mrs Rasmussen's plea of guilty to the charge at the earliest available opportunity;
- Mrs Rasmussen's time in the greyhound racing industry as a trainer, being approximately twenty-five (25) years and her participation in the industry for approximately forty-eight (48) years;
- Mrs Rasmussen's disciplinary history, noting no prior breaches of a similar nature;
- Mrs Rasmussen's good character, together with her forthright evidence and cooperation throughout the inquiry;
- Mrs Rasmussen's personal circumstances;
- the nature of the permanently banned prohibited substance, being Testosterone Propionate, noting that the substance is a permanently banned prohibited substance across all codes of racing and therefore a clear message needs to be sent to the industry that any breach involving permanently banned prohibited substances is serious and cannot be tolerated;
- the need for both specific deterrence to Mrs Rasmussen and general deterrence to the wider industry;
- relevant penalty precedents;
- the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Greyhound Racing Penalty Guidelines; and
- the Human Rights Act 2019.

Accordingly, stewards imposed a penalty of a nine (9) month disqualification effective immediately.

Acting under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 141(4), stewards directed that Victa Damian be disqualified from Race 7 at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on 7 July 2023 (5th place).

Stewards ordered that the placings be amended accordingly and Mrs Rasmussen was advised that all prizemoney associated with this event must be returned to Racing Queensland.

Mrs Rasmussen was advised of her right to a review of the decision.