

14 March 2023

## DECISION

### GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA

and

### TROY DORRINGTON

- Date of hearing:** 1 March 2023
- Panel:** Judge John Bowman (Chairperson) and Mr Des Gleeson.
- Appearances:** Mr Anthony Pearce appeared on behalf of the Stewards.  
Mr Troy Dorrington represented himself.
- Charge:** Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 141(1) states:  
(1) The owner, trainer or other person in charge of a greyhound:  
(a) nominated to compete in an Event;  
(b) presented for a satisfactory trial or such other trial as provided for by the Rules; or  
(c) presented for any test or examination for the purpose of a stand-down period being varied or revoked,  
must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.
- Particulars of charge:**
1. You are, and were at all relevant times, a trainer licensed by Greyhound Racing Victoria and a person bound by the Greyhounds Australasia Rules.
  2. You were, at all relevant times, the trainer of the greyhound “Blue Bandana”.
  3. Blue Bandana was nominated to compete in Race 6, BARN BAR & FUNCTION ROOM, Grade 5 T3, conducted by the Warragul Greyhound Racing Club at Warragul on 16 June 2022 (the Event).
  4. On 16 June 2022, you presented Blue Bandana at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

(a) A pre-race sample of urine was taken from Blue Bandana at the Event (the Sample);

(b) Pentobarbitone was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

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## **DECISION**

Mr Troy Dorrington, you have pleaded guilty to a breach of Greyhounds Australasia Rule ("GAR") 141(1). It relates to the dog, "Blue Bandana", trained by you and which was nominated to compete in Race 6 at Warragul on 16 June 2022. A pre-race sample of urine proved positive to the prohibited substance pentobarbitone. As Dr Steven Karamatic has indicated, this has the potential to have a negative effect on performance. There is also little doubt but that the positive return was the result of the dog being fed knackery meat, as suggested by Dr Karamatic.

Your situation is that you are effectively a hobby trainer, with three kennels behind your residence. You have one retired dog and one racing. Although you have only been a registered public trainer since 1 March 2019, you have had a long-held interest in greyhound racing and been a registered owner since 2004. You work as a truck driver on a part time basis.

We accept that you have an excellent record, with no prior offences of any significance. We also accept that you have a great love of greyhound racing and of your involvement in it. We also accept that your financial position is not great, given the burden of mortgage repayments.

However, you were aware of the risks associated with knackery meat. Because you had never had a positive return from it, effectively you ignored the industry warnings published by the Stewards. The problems associated with knackery meat are well known in the industry. It may be cheaper, but the risks associate with it are not worth taking. Prohibited substances regularly turn up in it. We are satisfied that you have learned your lesson and switched to meat that is fit for human consumption. Nevertheless, an appropriate penalty must be imposed. Further, the Stewards have enough to do without having to concern themselves with the ongoing knackery meat problem.

The bottom line is that you are fined the sum of \$2,000 with \$1,000 suspended for a period of 12 months.

Further, Blue Bandana is disqualified from Race 6 at Warragul on 16 June 2022 and the finishing order is amended accordingly.

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Kathleen Scully  
Assistant Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal