

6 November 2024

## **DECISION**

### **GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA**

**and**

### **JENNIFER HOLDEN**

- Date of hearing:** 30 October 2024
- Date of decision:** 30 October 2024
- Panel:** Judge Kathryn Kings (Deputy Chairperson) and Ms Judy Bourke.
- Appearances:** Ms Yana Podolskaya appeared on behalf of the Stewards.  
Ms Jennifer Holden represented herself.
- 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:**
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 "*Braemar Cora*".
  3. "*Braemar Cora*" was nominated to compete in Race 3, LIKE Healesville Greys ON FACEBOOK, Maiden, conducted by the Healesville Greyhound Racing Association at Healesville on 17 January 2024 (**the Event**).

4. On 17 January 2024, you presented “*Braemar Cora*” at the Event not free of any prohibited substance, given that:

(a) A post-race sample of urine was taken from “*Braemar Cora*” at the Event (**the Sample**);

(b) Ketoprofen was detected in the Sample.

**Plea:** Guilty

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## **DECISION**

Ms Jennifer Holden is a trainer licensed by Greyhound Racing Victoria (“GRV”) and is bound by the Greyhound Australasia Rules (“GAR”). She has been licensed for approximately 19 years. Ms Holden is the trainer of “*Braemar Cora*”.

Braemar Cora was nominated to compete in Race 3 at Healesville on 17 January 2024.

On 17 January 2024, Braemar Cora was presented at the event not free of any prohibited substance, given that a post-race sample of urine was taken from Braemar Cora at the event (the sample) and Ketoprofen was detected in the sample.

Ms Holden was charged with a presentation offence pursuant to GAR 141(1) – presenting Braemar Cora for an event when not free of any prohibited substance.

Ms Holden pleaded guilty to the charge.

The GRV Chief Veterinarian, Dr Steven Karamatic, provided a report dated 16 April 2024. Dr Karamatic confirmed that ketoprofen is a prohibited substance under the Rules and is placed in the category “therapeutic substances” in the GRV Penalty Guidelines. He confirmed that there were no products found during the kennel inspection that would be labelled or expected to contain Ketoprofen. The treatment records did not detail the administration of ketoprofen.

Dr Karamatic said that ketoprofen is capable of affecting the condition or performance of a greyhound and any effect on performance is more likely to be positive, such as producing an artificially pain free state. Dr Karamatic said unfit for human consumption meat (Maffra Meats – knackery meat) was fed to the greyhound and that this is the most likely cause of the positive sample. He referred to the Notices provided to the industry in 2016 and in 2020, warning of the potential risks of Inadvertent positive swabs resulting from feeding knackery meat.

Ms Holden confirmed that the greyhound was fed knackery meat supplied by the owner which would have come from Maffra Meats.

Ms Holden said that because of the positive finding, she immediately stopped feeding knackery meat to the race dogs. She now feeds the race dogs human consumption meat purchased from Rosedale butchery.

In imposing a penalty, we take into account her guilty plea, her cooperation with the Stewards and the importance of general deterrence. We also acknowledge the importance of maintaining a level playing field by having a drug free industry. We take into account penalties in like matters.

We note that this is Ms Holden's first relevant offence and her long history in the industry.

We accept the submissions of the Stewards in relation to penalty. In all the circumstances, we impose a fine of \$1,500 with \$1,000 suspended for 24 months pending no further relevant offences during that time.

Braemar Cora is disqualified from Race 3 at Healesville on 17 January 2024 and the finishing order is amended accordingly.

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Mark Howard  
Registrar, Victorian Racing Tribunal