

# GREYHOUND RACING APPEAL COMMITTEE PUBLICATION

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| OWNER    | Mr. Raymond Hamilton Jnr.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| ADDRESS  | 132 Good Shepherd, Glen, Derry, BT47 2GA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| MATTER   | <p>Appeal of Greyhound Racing Control Committee (GRCC) decision dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025, made pursuant to section 46 of the Greyhound Racing Act 2019</p> <p><u>Greyhound Racing Control Committee (GRCC):</u><br/> The GRCC imposed the following sanctions in relation to an Adverse Analytical Finding for the greyhound 'Bartlemy Soldier' at Lifford Greyhound Stadium on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A fine of €5000</li> <li>- Costs of €750 payable to RCÉ</li> <li>- A Disqualification Order for a period of 15 months</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| FINDINGS | <p>The Greyhound Racing Appeal Committee (GRAC) considered the scope of the appeal and the matters properly before it. Having reviewed the Notice of Appeal, the members of the GRAC was satisfied that the grounds of appeal were confined to the contention that the substance may have been ingested through the food chain and to the severity and proportionality of the sanction imposed by the GRCC. The GRAC further determined that submissions made at the appeal hearing concerning the integrity of the urine sample, the chain of custody, storage conditions and temperature monitoring were not contained in the Notice of Appeal and therefore constituted new grounds of appeal. The GRAC declined to exercise its discretion to permit those additional grounds and determined that the appeal should be decided solely on the issues properly raised in the Notice of Appeal.</p> <p>The GRAC considered the submission contained in the Notice of Appeal that the prohibited substance detected in the greyhound may have been ingested unintentionally through the food chain and that the Appellant did not intentionally administer any prohibited substance to the greyhound.</p> <p>In this regard, the GRAC had regard to the evidence that was before the GRCC, including the expert evidence of the Head of the National Greyhound Laboratory (as recorded in the minutes of the GRCC hearing) who indicated that the possibility of contamination through meat products was highly unlikely in the circumstances of this case. The GRAC noted that this expert evidence was not contradicted by any expert or scientific evidence submitted by the Appellant either before the GRCC or on appeal. The GRAC is therefore satisfied that the GRCC was entitled to rely on that evidence in reaching its findings. In those circumstances, the GRAC did not accept that the suggestion of contamination through the food chain provided a credible explanation for the presence of the prohibited substance in the greyhound's system.</p> <p>During submissions relating to the sanction, the Appellant referred to a number of other cases where different sanctions had been imposed by the GRCC. While the GRAC noted those references, it also recognised the established principle that each disciplinary case must ultimately be considered and determined on its own facts and merits, having regard to the particular circumstances of the individual case.</p> <p>The GRAC considered whether the sanction imposed by the GRCC was disproportionate or unfair, as contended by the Appellant. The GRAC was satisfied that the sanction imposed by the GRCC was justified and proportionate in the circumstances. The GRAC was also satisfied that, in circumstances where this was the second occurrence involving the same prohibited substance, the imposition of both a fine and a Disqualification Order was within the range of sanctions reasonably open to the GRCC.</p> <p>The GRAC also rejected the submission that the Appellant's inability to attend the Control Committee hearing due to illness rendered the proceedings unfair. It found that the Appellant had expressly requested that the hearing proceed in his absence after obtaining legal advice and was therefore satisfied that no procedural unfairness arose.</p> <p>For the reasons set out above and in accordance with section 49 (3) (a) of the Greyhound Racing Act 2019, the GRAC confirms the decision of the GRCC, dated 17 September 2025, to which the appeal relates, including the sanctions imposed and the order as to costs.</p> <p>Pursuant to the Greyhound Racing Act 2019 this GRAC decision is published.</p> |