

Disciplinary Committee Inquiries

The Disciplinary Committee of the GBGB were in attendance at a meeting held on 18 January 2011:-

Mr R Woodworth (in the chair)
Dr A Higgins
Dr E Houghton
Mr A Hunt

1. CRIMINAL CONVICTION – Mr Alexander Cameron

The Disciplinary Committee heard that Mr Alexander Cameron appeared before Edinburgh High Court on 10 November 2010. Having been convicted of offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act and the Theft Act, Mr Cameron was sentenced to six years imprisonment for cultivating and supplying Cannabis.

The Disciplinary Committee, having heard the evidence, ordered that Mr Cameron be made a 'warned off person'.

2. Crayford Stadium – CLASH COTTON – Sales Agent Mr A Williams

Sales Agent Mr Alan Williams was found in breach of rules 152 (i), 174 (i)(b) and 217 in that a urine sample taken from the greyhound CLASH COTTON at Crayford Stadium on 1 September 2010 was analysed by HFL Sports Science Laboratory as containing substances consistent with the metabolites of norethisterone.

Mr Williams and Mr Danny Rayment, racing manager of Crayford Stadium, apologised for their non-attendance. Having considered his written explanation together with the circumstances of the case, the Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Williams be reprimanded and fined £500.

The Disciplinary Committee expressed great concern at the number of positive samples which were occurring at some Sales. These adversely affected the confidence of purchasers and required disproportionate time to identify the appropriate arraigned party. It was noted that the Director of Regulation was in touch with the Irish Greyhound Board regarding the use of prohibited substances in some greyhounds presented at the Sales. The Disciplinary Committee encouraged the Director of Regulation to (i) formulate a process for the formal registration by the GBGB of Sales Agents as a pre-condition to the GBGB, authorising Sales at a GBGB licensed track and (ii) require for every greyhound presented, a form on which the Sales Agent would provide their name and address, details of the greyhound to be sold and the signature of the Sales Agent signifying that they understand the GBGB Rules of Racing and their responsibility should a greyhound presented at a Sales Trial provide a 'positive' urine sample.

3. Crayford Stadium – ELIOS ISIS – Sales Agent Mr P Duffy

Sales Agent Mr Pat (Paddy) Duffy was found in breach of rules 152 (i), 174 (i)(b) and 217 in that a urine sample taken from the greyhound ELIOS ISIS at Crayford Stadium on 1 September 2010 was analysed by HFL Sports Science Laboratory as containing the drug 19-norepiandrosterone and 19-noretiocholanolone,

Mr Duffy and Mr Danny Rayment, racing manager of Crayford Stadium, apologised for their non-attendance. Having considered the evidence together with the circumstances of the case, the Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Duffy be reprimanded and fined £500.

The Disciplinary Committee found it disappointing that Mr Duffy was neither present at the hearing nor prepared to give a statement for them to consider.

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4. Newcastle Stadium – MOHANE MUSIC / ASHANTI JO – Professional Trainer Mr T Edgar

Professional Trainer Mr Thomas Edgar was found in breach of rules 152 (i), 174 (i) (a), 214 and 217 in that urine samples taken from the greyhounds MOHANE MUSIC and ASHANTI JO at Newcastle Stadium on 9 September 2010 were analysed by HFL Sports Science Laboratory as containing the drug morphine; and the administration of any substance that could affect the performance and/or well being of the greyhound.

Mr Edgar was in attendance. Mr Iain Hillis, racing manager of Newcastle Stadium, apologised for his non-attendance. Having considered Mr Edgar's explanation together with the circumstances of the case, the Disciplinary Committee accepted his explanation of the causes of the breach and, noting his good record in the sport over a long period, cautioned him but imposed no fine.

The Disciplinary Committee asked the Director of Regulation to request Stipendiary Stewards to contact suppliers of non-proprietary meal to Trainers to ensure that the meal was labelled as inappropriate for racing greyhounds as it could contain poppy seeds.