



Disciplinary Committee Inquiry

The Disciplinary Committee of the GBGB were in attendance at a meeting held on 25 August 2011:

Mr J Akerman (in the chair)
Mr R Coughlan
Mr A Hunt
Dr A J Higgins

(*denotes where Dr Higgins was present in an advisory capacity as Chair of DMAP)

***Kinsley Stadium – PEQUOID – Professional Trainer Mr S Carrington**

The Disciplinary Committee considered the report of a local inquiry held by the area stipendiary steward on 19th May 2011 into the positive analysis of a urine sample taken from the greyhound PEQUOID at Kinsley Stadium on 15th March 2011.

Professional Greyhound Trainer Mr S Carrington was in attendance, accompanied by his granddaughter. Mr Andrew Mascarenhas, Racing Manager of Kinsley Stadium, apologised for his non-attendance.

A preliminary investigation took place at Kinsley Stadium on 16th May 2011 due to the improved performance of the greyhound PEQUOID on 15th March 2011, when she improved her best recent time by 0.42 secs in winning a trouble free A7 graded race by 7 ½ lengths.

A post-race sample was taken by local official Mrs Parks. A urine sample taken from the greyhound PEQUOID was analysed by LGC Ltd. as containing the presence of 19- norandrostenedione.

Mr Carrington suggested that contaminated meat could have been the source of the contamination. He stated that he had purchased 100lb of stained meat from an intermediary over February and March 2011. The meat was intended for greyhound pups but was occasionally given to other greyhounds on site. He also stated that he was unaware of GBGB Rule 218, prohibiting the feeding of stained meat to greyhounds within 24 hours of a race or trial. Mr Carrington stated that he stopped feeding meat to his greyhounds following notification of the positive sample.

The Committee noted the 'Statement of Opinion' from the Drug and Medication Advisory Panel, in which 19-norandrostenedione was described as an anabolic prohormone and a precursor of the anabolic steroid nandrolone. It is a Class C drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. It has performance enhancing properties and is known to be misused in human sports. There is no veterinary licensed product available worldwide containing this substance. The Committee heard that 19-norandrostenedione is readily metabolized to nandrolone after oral administration.

In answer to questions from the Committee, the Chairman of DMAP advised that in his opinion it was unlikely that contaminated meat was the source of the prohibited substance. However, the absence of certain metabolites of 19-norandrostenedione in the sample analysed meant it was difficult to make an informed judgement as to how the prohibited substance had come to be present in the greyhound's urine.

The Committee noted the inconclusive nature of the scientific evidence, but pointed out that the GBGB Rules of Racing impose strict liability on the trainer. Having considered the circumstances of the case, in particular the significant improvement in the performance of PEQUOID on 15 March 2011 and the presence of a banned substance in the urine sample, Professional Trainer Mr S Carrington was found in breach of rules 174(i)(b), 217 and 218. The Committee ordered that Mr Carrington be cautioned and fined the sum of £300.

In imposing the fine the Committee took into account previous breaches of the rules of racing by Mr Carrington, but noted that this latest breach was the first positive sample. The Committee also noted that Mr Carrington had acted swiftly to change his greyhound feeding regime when notified of the positive sample.