

## **CALENDAR NOTICE (to be published 3 November 2016)**

### **Disciplinary Committee Inquiries**

The Disciplinary Committee of the GBGB were in attendance at a meeting held on 13 October 2016:-

Mr R Woodworth CBE (in the chair)

Mr R Coughlan

Mr M Elks

#### **1. MR I HAMILTON - Application to have indefinite withdrawal of licence rescinded**

The Disciplinary Committee considered the application of Mr Ivan Hamilton to have the indefinite withdrawal of his licence rescinded in order that his daughter Miss Lauren Sawyer could apply to the GBGB to train greyhounds from Mr Hamilton's address. By order of the Stewards of the NGRC (GBGB's predecessor) on the 22 January 2004 Mr Hamilton's licence had been withdrawn indefinitely after he had been found in breach of rules 49(iv), 152 (i) & (ii), 174 (i)(a) & (xi) and 217. He had been observed administering a substance by injection to a greyhound racing at Mildenhall Stadium on the 5 August 2003. The dog had been tested positive for a banned substance, azaperone.

Mr Hamilton denied that he had in fact injected the greyhound at Mildenhall and blamed the positive sample "on the food chain". An explanation that the Committee did not find credible. However, he went on to express his sincere regret regarding the incident. His daughter had developed an enthusiasm for greyhounds, had gained some experience at the kennels of Trainer John Mullins and wished to apply for a licence. As she lived in an apartment and would find it too expensive to rent kennels elsewhere she intended to keep her greyhounds at her father's house (which had kennelling for 4 dogs) and be assisted by Mr Hamilton's wife. In view of the gravity of Mr Hamilton's breach the Director of Regulation made clear that he would not be willing to consider an application from Mr Hamilton. However, if the Committee decided to rescind Mr Hamilton's licence withdrawal the Director of Regulation said he would **consider** an application (which would be considered on its merits) being made by Miss Lauren Sawyer to train greyhounds at Mr Hamilton's house as the GBGB wished to encourage young trainers to enter the sport. There was some discussion on how Mr Hamilton would "insulate" himself from any greyhounds which his daughter would train if granted a licence. While emphasising that the issue of any licence to Miss Lauren Sawyer was entirely at the discretion of the Director of Regulation and not a matter for the Disciplinary Committee they determined that it would be unfair, after a period of 12 years to punish Mr Hamilton's daughter for his conduct. Accordingly, the licence withdrawal of the NGRC issued on the 22 January 2004 was rescinded.

#### **2. BRIGHTON & HOVE STADIUM – TIMBERLEE LASS**

This Inquiry was adjourned until further notice.

### **3. Perry Barr Stadium – BOUNTY BOUND – Former Professional Trainer Mrs JL Eccles**

Former Professional Trainer Mrs JL Eccles was found in breach of rules 152(i), 174(i)(b) and 217 of the GBGB Rules of Racing in that a urine sample taken from the greyhound BOUNTY BOUND at Perry Barr Stadium on 3 May 2016 was analysed by LGC Health Sciences as containing the presence of ampyrone.

Mrs Eccles had been made aware of the proceedings but declined to attend. Mrs Paula Clare (Area Stipendiary Steward) and Professor Tim Morris (Independent Scientific Adviser) were in attendance. Mr Martin Seal racing manager at Perry Barr Stadium apologised for his absence.

The Committee heard evidence from Professor Morris that while specific studies have not been reported ampyrone is a metabolite of aminopyrine which in other species has analgesic, anti-inflammatory and antipyretic properties with the risk of causing blood disorders. It is therefore by its nature a substance which could affect the performance of the greyhound or could prejudice its wellbeing. Ampyrone (also known as 4-aminoantipyrine) is also a metabolite of dipyrone (also known as metamizole). While ampyrone is not easily obtained, Dipyrone is a constituent of a veterinary medicine, Buscopan Compositum. It contains butylscopolamine bromide which relieves muscle spasms and so is pain relieving with particular activity on the smooth muscle of the digestive and urinary systems and also metamizole which is a Non-Steroidal Drug with pain killing and anti-inflammatory properties. While Buscopan Compositum is licensed for use in cattle horses and dogs as a veterinary Prescription Only Medicine no record existed of its use in the Treatment Book of BOUNTY BOUND. Professor Morris reviewed Mrs Eccles feeding regime and it was noted that she fed only Category 3 ABP beef and chicken (which wouldn't be the source of the ampyrone). Category 3 meat should not be the source of any drug residues and the Committee spent some time reviewing the labelling of the meat used by Mrs Eccles. The meat had originated in Italy/Poland, was out of date and had been correctly described by Mrs Eccles's supplier as "Category 3 – Unfit for Human Consumption". Professor Morris expressed the opinion that there could have been some "diversion" in this case ie uncertified meat being added to the certified carcass. In the circumstances while he believed the source of the ampyrone in BOUNTY BOUND's urine was caused by exposure to Buscopan Compositum he could not be sure if this was by way of ingestion of meat from an animal treated with Buscopan Compositum or via treatment of the dog with Buscopan Compositum.

The Committee noted that in the race in which BOUNTY BOUND had given a positive sample the Racing Manager had called a preliminary inquiry for improved performance but had accepted Mrs Eccles explanation. The Committee also noted that there had been no unusual betting activity on the race.

In all the circumstances the Committee was not satisfied on the balance of probabilities that Mrs Eccles had deliberately administered ampyrone but breaches of those rules with strict liability had occurred and therefore found her in breach of rules 152(i), 174(i)(b) and 217 of the GBGB Rules of Racing. They cautioned her but levied no financial penalty.