



STEWARDS REPORT: POSITIVE SWAB – *THUMP BOXER* – *W.P.*
20.12.08 – *DAVID RIGHETTI*

DATE: 21.4.09

Stewards today finalised an inquiry into the positive finding of d-AMPHETAMINE in the urine sample taken from 'THUMP BOXER' at Wentworth Park on the 20th December, 2008.

The inquiry opened on the 7th April, 2009 where evidence was taken from Mr. D. Righetti, the registered Trainer of 'THUMP BOXER' who was at a loss to explain the finding other than a possible contamination at a post race presentation. Mr. Righetti also provided written evidence from Dr. J. Lewis a consultant Toxicologist. Written evidence was also tendered by RASL and Dr. C. Suann, Senior Veterinarian of Racing NSW.

Mr. Righetti pleaded not guilty to a breach of Rule 83(2)(a) which provides:-

R83 Racing greyhound to be drug free

- (2) The owner, trainer or person in charge of a greyhound-
- (a) nominated to compete in an Event;
shall present the greyhound free of any drug.

The particulars of the charge being that he did on 20.12.08 present the greyhound THUMP BOXER for an event being Race (4) Castlewood Kitchen Staff Trophy held at Wentworth Park other than free of prohibited drugs in that the race day urine sample taken from the said greyhound has returned on confirmatory analysis positive to d-AMPHETAMINE (Rule 83(2)(a) Rules of Greyhound Racing).

After further consideration Mr. Righetti was found in breach of the Rule and guilty as charged. Mr. Righetti then sought and was granted an adjournment to prepare submissions on penalty. The Inquiry resumed on the 21st April, 2009 at which time Mr. Righetti entered submissions on penalty.

After consideration on the matter of penalty Mr. Righetti was disqualified for a period of 18 months from 21.4.09.

The following factors carried weight in the Stewards' decision:

- (1) Excellent references.
- (2) Previous record including 2 prior drug offences, of which one was for administration.
- (3) Any penalty imposed must act as a deterrent.
- (4) Serious nature of the drug we are dealing with and should not under any circumstances be found in a greyhound's system even if it was at a small level.
- (5) Professional Trainer (livelihood).
- (6) Length of time in industry.
- (7) 9 years since last offence.

Acting in accordance with Rule 83(4) which provides;

83(4) A greyhound presented for an Event contrary to sub-rule (2) shall be disqualified from the Event or any benefit derived from a trial or test.

And disqualified THUMP BOXER from its 1st placing in Race (4) at Wentworth Park and amended the placings to read:-

1 st	(7) DANA KNUCKLES
2 nd	(8) FORT SHAKIN'
3 rd	(6) BLACK BOLTER
4 th	(3) DILLIGENT
5 th	(2) BLUE TONGUE
6 TH	(1) MISS SCORPIO

Mr. Righetti was advised of his rights of appeal.

M. HURLEY,
Chair of Stewards(Greyhounds).