

### STEWARDS INQUIRY DECISION

**Date of Decision:** 11 November 2020

**Stewards Panel:** H Edgecombe (Chairman), L Lord

**Name:** Mr Edward Howard

**Track/Race:** North West Greyhound Racing Club –Ladbroke's backs Tas greyhound trainers Grade 5 :

**Date of Race:** 23 June 2020

**Rule no:** GAR83(2)(a)

**Charge(s):** The particulars of the charge were:

Mr. Edward Howard, the trainer of WINKLEE CASEY, presented that greyhound to compete in Race 2 at the North West Greyhound Racing Club on Tuesday 23 June 2020, the LADBROKES BACKS TAS GREYHOUND TRAINERS Grade 5 over 452 metres. A post-race urine sample was taken from WINKLEE CASEY and upon analysis, was found to contain arsenic above the allowable threshold of 800ng/mL.

**Prohibited Substance:** ARSENIC

**Inquiry Decision:** Mr. Howard was fined the sum of \$2,000 for the breach of GAR83(2)(a).

**FACTS:** Arsenic above the permitted threshold has been detected in a post-race urine sample collected from WINKLEE CASEY after it competed in and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the LADBROKES BACKS TAS GREYHOUND TRAINERS, GRADE 5, 452 Metres at the North West Greyhound Racing Club on 23 June 2020.

**INQUIRY:** Office of Racing Integrity Stewards inquired into reports from the analysts, that arsenic in excess of the prescribed allowable threshold had been detected in a post-race urine sample taken from WINKLEE CASEY at the North West Greyhound Racing Club on 23 June 2020.

Stewards heard verbal evidence tendered by trainer Mr. Edward Howard as to his feeding and husbandry practices. Written evidence was tendered by the Office of Racing Integrity regulatory veterinarian, Dr. Adam Richardson, in relation to the effects of arsenic on greyhounds.

After giving due consideration to the evidence tendered, Mr. Howard was charged pursuant to GAR83(2)(a) for presenting WINKLEE CASEY to race when not free of the prohibited substance arsenic.

When determining penalty, Stewards took the following things into account:

- Mr. Howard's guilty plea;
- His current personal circumstances;
- His prior offence record;
- His extensive length of time in the industry;
- The seriousness of an offence under these rules;
- The need for any penalty to act as a deterrent, both specific and general;
- Precedents of breaches of the prohibited substances rules and penalties that have been issued within Tasmania and throughout Australia.

**DECISION:**

**GAR83(2)(a)** - Mr. Howard was fined the sum of \$2,000

Acting under the provisions of GAR83(4), Stewards ordered that WINKLEE CASEY be disqualified from the above mentioned race and the placings will be amended accordingly.

Mr. Howard was advised of his rights of appeal.

**ENDS**