

Stewards Decision
Tasracing Integrity Unit
and
Ross Work

Inquiry Decision Greyhound Burnie Ross positive sample to Metformin.

Date of hearing: 23 October 2025

Stewards Panel: Dominic Tyson (Chair), Ebony Morice-Smith, Thomas Barnes.

Present by Telephone: *Mr Ross Work (Public Trainer)*

Rule: *Greyhound Australasia Rule 141(1)(a) The owner, trainer, or other person in charge of a greyhound nominated to compete in an Event must present the greyhound free of any prohibited substance.*

Charge: That Mr Ross Work, being the trainer of Burnie Ross, did present the greyhound to race at a meeting of the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club on Monday 2nd of June 2025 in race 2 when not free of a prohibited substance.

Prohibited Substance: Metformin

Plea: *Guilty*

Inquiry Decision: *Penalty imposed.*

Penalty: *\$750 Fine. Burnie Ross Disqualified from race.*

1. Summary of Facts

Mr Work is a licensed greyhound trainer based in the Northwest of Tasmania.

Burnie Ross competed in Race 2 at the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club, won and was subject to a post-race urine sample.

The sample obtained was given the unique sample number R035984.

On 9 July 2025, Racing Analytical Services Ltd issued a Certificate of Analysis reporting that Metformin had been detected in the "A" portion of the sample.

On 30 July 2025, the Chem Centre in Western Australia confirmed by certificate the presence of Metformin.

Metformin

Metformin is a Diabetic treatment for Diabetes 2 in Humans.

At a kennel inspection of Mr Works property, it was established that a member of Mr Work's household used Metformin. However, upon investigation of the husbandry methods used with his greyhounds he was at a loss to explain how any possible contamination could have occurred.

At a subsequent inquiry into the findings at the Tas Racing Integrity Unit in Launceston on 23 October 2025, Mr Work pleaded guilty to a charge of presenting the Greyhound to race when not free of a prohibited substance under the provisions of GAR 141(1)(a).

2. Penalty Discussion

In a racing context it is very important that a penalty has the effect of deterring others from committing similar offences through the consideration of both general and specific deterrence.

That penalties imposed upon those offending the prohibited substance rules should reflect the industry's disapproval of prohibited substances being detected in racing greyhounds and the negative public perception of the sport in general.

Penalty

In determining the penalty in this matter, the stewards are mindful of penalties imposed for similar breaches in Tasmania.

The Stewards believe this matter is best dealt with by way of a fine.

The panel is placing much emphasis on Mr Work's clean record regarding judicial matters of this nature in Tasmania over the past five years of holding a trainer's licence.

When addressing the Panel on penalty Mr Work stated he has no previous offences under the rule and that he has no other employment and he earns his living through training greyhounds.

Stewards note Mr Works's cooperation throughout the investigation and his guilty plea to the charge of presentation.

Disqualification Of Greyhound

Pursuant to GAR 141(4) Burnie Ross will be disqualified from Race 2, at the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club on Monday June 2nd 2025.

Mr Work was advised of his right to appeal.

Decision Date: 23 October 2025.