

GREYHOUND RACING CONTROL COMMITTEE REPORT

OWNER	<i>Colm Farrelly</i>
ADDRESS	Slieve Road, Knockagh, Hackballcross, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adverse analytical finding – Caffeine & Theobromine – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Seeger Sessions at Dundalk Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Colm Farrelly, registered owner of the greyhound Seeger Sessions was in attendance.</p> <p>Mr. Pat Herbert, Director of Regulation, Rásaíocht Con Éireann, represented Rásaíocht Con Éireann in this matter.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee noted the evidence given by Mr. Farrelly that the only explanation he could offer for the adverse analytical finding was that members of the household gave the greyhound tea and toast prior to the race. Mr. Farrelly also said he was happy with the sampling process, and he was not challenging the subsequent laboratory finding.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee, having considered all the evidence in this matter was satisfied that the case presented by Rásaíocht Con Éireann was proven.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee acknowledged the level of co-operation received from Mr. Farrelly. Taking all the circumstances into account the Greyhound Racing Control Committee imposed a sanction payment of €100 on Mr. Farrelly and the prize money of €35 won by the greyhound Seeger Sessions in the event in question is forfeited.</p>

OWNER	<i>Nigel Maguire</i>
ADDRESS	16 Hazel Wood, Dromore Road, Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh.
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse analytical finding – Hydrochlorothiazide – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Shelbymoonshine at Lifford Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Nigel Maguire, registered owner of the greyhound Shelbymoonshine was not in attendance.</p> <p>Mr. Pat Herbert, Director of Regulation, Rásaíocht Con Éireann, represented Rásaíocht Con Éireann in this matter.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee noted Mr. Maguire had contacted the Secretary and advised he was not able to attend the meeting. However, Mr. Maguire gave his consent for the Greyhound Racing Control Committee to deal with this matter in his absence. The Committee also noted correspondence submitted by Mr. Maguire where he was unable to give an explanation as to how the substance came to be in the greyhound and strongly objected to the findings. In further correspondence from Mr. Maguire he highlighted that he did feed greyhounds in his care Category 2 meat.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee, having considered all the evidence in this matter was satisfied that the case presented by Rásaíocht Con Éireann was proven and the adverse analytical finding on a matter of probability arose from the consumption of Category 2 meat.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee imposed a sanction payment of €150 on Mr. Maguire and the prize money of €50 won by the greyhound Shelbmoonshine in the event in question is forfeited.</p>

TRAINER	<i>Graham Holland</i>
ADDRESS	Athassel Abbey South, Golden, Co. Tipperary
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse analytical finding – Flunixin – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Ballinakill Alf at Kilkenny Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Graham Holland, licenced trainer of the greyhound Ballinakill Alf appeared before the Greyhound Racing Control Committee. Mr. Holland was accompanied by his legal representative, Mr. Denis A. Linehan, Denis A. Linehan & Co., Solicitors.</p> <p>Mr. Pat Herbert, Director of Regulation, Rásaíocht Con Éireann was also present accompanied by Mr. Pat McInerney, Solicitor, Beauchamps LLP.</p> <p>Mr. McInerney advised the committee that he and Mr. Linehan had discussed matters in advance of the hearing and that there was an acceptance on the part of Mr. Holland that the substance Flunixin was properly found in the urine sample obtained from the greyhound Ballinakill Alf at Kilkenny Greyhound Stadium on May 28th 2023. He told the Committee that ultimately, the matter before the Committee was how the substance came to be within the greyhound and the potential consequences of that.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee took into consideration in its deliberations a letter from Mr. Michael O'Connor M.V.B of O'Connor Julian Veterinary Hospital, Cashel Co. Tipperary on behalf of Mr. Holland, where it stated that in their professional opinion the greyhound was positive for Flunixin by the ingestion of meat on the day/days prior to the race.</p> <p>The Committee also took into consideration an Advisory Notice issued by Rásaíocht Con Éireann in 2015 and 2021, which is issued to each trainer on a yearly basis on the renewal of their trainers licence which advises owners and trainers of racing greyhounds, not to feed their greyhounds Category 2 meat as it may result in a subsequent adverse analytical finding and the responsibility for such a finding rests with the</p>

	<p>owner/trainer. The Greyhound Racing Control Committee also noted that Mr. Holland was subject to a previous hearing eight years ago in relation to a food contamination issue and Mr. Holland then advised the Control Committee that he would take steps to source Category 3 meat and was prepared to change his feeding regime following the publication of the Advisory Notice.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee considered all aspects of the case and took careful note of the various submissions from both parties before them. The Committee found the case presented by Rásaíocht Con Éireann was proven. The Greyhound Racing Control Committee imposed a sanction payment of €2,000 on Mr. Holland, warned him of his future conduct and the prize money of €1,265 won by the greyhound Ballinakill Alf in the event in question is forfeited.</p>
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December 2023.