

GREYHOUND RACING CONTROL COMMITTEE REPORT

TRAINER	<i>Mr. Murt Leahy</i>
ADDRESS	Kilmacar, Conahy, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adverse analytical finding – Cetirizine – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Headinthefindow at Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium and Salubrious Izzy at Kilkenny Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Murt Leahy, registered trainer of the greyhounds Headinthefindow and Salubrious Izzy 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. Leahy where he was not challenging the sampling process or the laboratory findings but insisted, he could offer no explanation how the greyhounds returned an adverse analytical finding for this substance. He outlined that he administered the human version of ‘the pill’ to female greyhounds in his kennel and had a prescription from a vet to do this, but this prescription was not available on the day to the Committee.</p> <p>Mr. Herbert assisted the Committee with recent industry information that is in the public domain on the GBGB website. Information related to the administration of a non-licenced human hormone, preparations of norethisterone that was administered to female greyhounds in the UK to suppress their oestrous cycle. Cetirizine was detected in these female greyhounds afterwards.</p>

The Greyhound Racing Control Committee also noted the evidence from Dr. Healy of the National Greyhound Laboratory where he outlined in his evidence that they looked for metabolites of the hormone substance norethisterone and that it could be clearly seen in the sample provided by Salubrious Izzy but not in the sample obtained in the greyhound Headinthewindow but that this would not be unusual as it would depend on when the substance was administered.

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.

The Greyhound Racing Control Committee noted that the probability, was some level of contamination from an outside source. The Committee stated they would have been happier if they had been presented with documentation and veterinary evidence from Mr. Leahy as it would have been of major assistance.

Taking all the circumstances into account the Greyhound Racing Control Committee imposed a sanction payment of €100 for each of the two cases on Mr. Murt Leahy and the prize money of €20 won by the greyhound Headinthewindow and €315 won by the greyhound Salubrious Izzy in the events in question is forfeited. The Committee advised Mr. Leahy going forward to be extremely vigilant and careful in terms of always seeking veterinary advice in the use of therapeutic medication. The Committee also advised Rásaíocht Con Éireann to take steps to ensure the correct information pertaining to the use of appropriate hormones used for the oestrous suppression in female greyhounds is furnished to all owners and trainers and to incorporate the recent developments in the UK with the aim that all owners and trainers are aware of the issues that can arise going forward.

OWNER	<i>Mr. Derek Kehoe</i>
ADDRESS	Derryvilla, New Birmingham, Thurles, Co. Kerry
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse analytical finding – Cetirizine – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Slaneyside Riley at Waterford Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Derek Kehoe, owner of the greyhound Slaneyside Riley 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. Derek Kehoe had contacted the Secretary 24-hours earlier and advised he was not able to attend the meeting. However, Mr. Kehoe gave his consent for the Greyhound Racing Control Committee to deal with this matter in his absence.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee noted there was no substantive engagement with either the Board or the Committee by Mr. Kehoe and failed to submit an investigation report form by way of giving evidence in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee heard evidence in relation to the procurement of the sample and the laboratory analysis and noted that the attendance by Mr. Kehoe would have been of assistance.</p> <p>Having considered all the evidence tendered in relation to this matter, the Greyhound Racing Control Committee was satisfied that the case presented by Rásaíocht Con Éireann was proven.</p> <p>Taking all the circumstances into account the Greyhound Racing Control Committee imposed a sanction payment of €500 on Mr. Kehoe and the prizemoney of €60 won by the greyhound Slaneyside Riley in the event in question is forfeited.</p>

OWNER	<i>Ms. Sheila Higgins</i>
ADDRESS	Ballybeggan, Tralee, Co. Kerry
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse analytical finding – Ketoprofen – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Sheilas Friend at Tralee Greyhound Stadium.
OUTCOME	<p>Ms. Sheila Higgins, owner of the greyhound Sheilas Friend 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 Ms. Higgins contacted the Secretary and advised she was unable to attend the meeting. However, Ms. Higgins gave her consent for the Greyhound Racing Control Committee to deal with this matter in her absence.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee noted the evidence given by Ms. Higgins in the investigation report form where she said her husband administered the substance Ketoprofen by means of rubbing Fastum 2.5% w/w Gel into the greyhound three days before the race due to a sore muscle.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee heard evidence in relation to the procurement of the sample, the laboratory analysis and about the substance itself and the effect it would have on the greyhound.</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 imposed a sanction payment of €50 on Ms. Higgins and the prize money of €60 won by the greyhound Sheilas Friend in the event in question is forfeited.</p>

OWNER	<i>Mr. Donal Hanrahan & Mr Gerard Hanrahan</i>
ADDRESS	Johnstown, Glanworth, Co. Cork
MATTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse analytical finding – Caffeine – returned from a urine sample obtained from the greyhound Johnstown Magie at Youghal Greyhound Stadium on the 22nd of February 2024 and the 13th of July 2024
OUTCOME	<p>Mr. Gerard Hanrahan, joint owner of the greyhound Johnstown Magie 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. Hanrahan in which he stated he was not challenging the sampling process or the laboratory analysis but outlined that the greyhound Johnstown Magie was fed its breakfast on the morning of each of the races which consisted of toast, fish and tea which has been the feeding regime for many years. He highlighted that their greyhounds have been tested on numerous occasions over the years and there has never been a positive caffeine sample. The only conclusion he could come to was that Johnstown Magie is a light greyhound, 52 pounds in weight and that the races were during the day rather than at night. He highlighted that the second sample taken on the 13th of July 2024 was taken before he received the result of the first sample from the 22nd of February 2024 and as a result was not given the opportunity to change his feeding regime.</p> <p>The Greyhound Racing Control Committee took note of a statement from Mr. Herbert where he outlined the information referencing the dangers of feeding tea and caffeine related products to greyhounds that were available to Mr. Hanrahan at the time from website</p>

	<p>publications to industry advice published on the race programme.</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 imposed a sanction payment of €100 on Mr. Hanrahan and the prize money of €110 and €90 won by the greyhound Johnstown Magie in the events in question on the 24th of February 2024 and on the 13th of July 2024 is forfeited.</p>
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November 2024.