



August 20, 2010

INQUIRY REPORT – MRS THELMA O’KEEFE

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club Stewards today conducted an inquiry into analyst’s reports that the urine sample taken from Osti’s Grace after that greyhound won Race 4, The Ranger Geale Final, 530m, run at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club’s meeting on 6 June, 2010, had been analysed and found to contain the prohibited substance Benzoylecgonine.

Evidence was taken from trainer, Mrs Thelma O’Keefe; Mr Terry O’Keefe who handled Osti’s Grace on the day in question; veterinary surgeon Dr John Vine from Racing Analytical Services Ltd, Victoria; Kellie Jenkins, Kennel Supervisor; and previous secretary/manager, Ellen Dwyer. Written evidence was tendered from Racing Analytical Services, Victoria.

Mrs O’Keefe subsequently pleaded not guilty to a charge under GAR 83(2)(a) in that she presented Osti’s Grace for the race in question other than free of any prohibited substance in that the urine sample taken from the greyhound was found to contain Benzoylecgonine.

Mrs O’Keefe was disqualified for 18 months and fined \$500. In determining penalty Stewards took into account Mrs O’Keefe’s not guilty plea, her record and the nature of the substance involved including previous penalties imposed in relation to the substance. Consideration was also given to Mrs O’Keefe’s personal circumstances.

Under GAR 83(4) Osti’s Grace was disqualified from the event and the placings amended to:

- 1st – Twitter Me
- 2nd – More to State
- 3rd – Dalgaz Lucky

Mrs O’Keefe was notified of her rights of appeal.