Date of Hearing:  Tuesday, 19 March 2019  
Venue of Hearing:  Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation  
49 Elizabeth Street, Richmond, Victoria  
Panel:  Mr. Shane Marshall (Chairman), Ms. Gail Owen (Deputy Chairman)  
and Mr. Phillip Pryor  
Appellant:  Mr. Graham James  
Town:  Woodleigh  
Track:  Sandown  
Date:  11 March 2019  
GAR No:  69 (B)(1)  
Matter:  The greyhound ‘Sure To Excite’ was charged with failing to pursue the lure with due commitment by reason of injury.

REPORT:

The RADB received an Appeal lodged by Mr. Graham James against a decision handed down by the Greyhound Racing Victoria Stewards at Sandown on 11 March 2019.

The Stewards determined, under the provisions of Greyhounds Australasia Rule 69 (B)(1) that the greyhound ‘Sure To Excite’ was guilty of failing to pursue the lure by reason of injury during Event 6 at Sandown on 11 March 2019. Subsequently, ‘Sure To Excite’ was directed to perform a satisfactory trial all tracks pursuant to GAR 69 (B)(1)(a) before any future nomination would be accepted.

Mr. Graham James represented himself at the hearing.

Mr. Brayden Jinks (GRV Steward) represented the Stewards.

DECISION:

1. On 11 March 2019 the greyhound “Sure To Excite” competed in race 6 at Sandown. After the race Stewards charged the greyhound under Greyhounds Australasia Rule (“GAR”) 69 B (1) with failing to pursue the lure with due commitment for the first time by reason of injury.

2. After the race the officiating veterinary surgeon examined the greyhound and found that it had an injury to the left stopper bone. A subsequent examination showed an injury to the right calf off femur.
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3. The trainer of the greyhound, Mr. James, has appealed from the decision of the Stewards. He concedes that the greyhound broke down during the course of the race. The Stewards and the trainer seem to be in agreement that an injury caused the greyhound to fail to pursue the lure with due commitment at the third turn of the race. There is no reason to treat the breaking down as anything but an injury.

4. The Stewards omitted to bring the video of the race to the hearing but we were able to view it on the telephone of the Deputy Registrar.

5. After easing on the third turn the greyhound appeared to gain ground then eased again. It appears to us that the decision of the Stewards was open to them. The greyhound failed to pursue the lure with due commitment by reason of injury. We dismiss the appeal.

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