



#### **APRIL 7**

Stewards present: DM Ryan (chairman), D Kays (Investigations), Mrs E Murray (Registrar).

Stewards opened an inquiry in relation to circumstances that resulted in the greyhound bitch Shady Macbeth being inseminated with semen from Royal Assassin instead of Brett Lee.

Stewards took evidence from Mr G Wakefield, Mr A Brett, Mr R Lambert, Mr D Stagg, Dr P Thomas and written statements from several others.

Evidence clearly confirmed that Dr Thomas had inseminated Shady Macbeth with the incorrect semen.

However, there were mitigating circumstances that contributed greatly to the mistake. The travel canister delivered to Dr

Thomas, unknown to him, contained numerous draws of semen from various stud greyhounds.

There was never any indication, and no person ever indicated, that this was the case. There was paperwork that matched the vials numbered accordingly to Royal Assassin. No paperwork had been provided, as the Rules require, to identify any other semen contained in the delivery canister.

Quite clearly arrangements had been made to add semen to the original shipment of Brett Lee semen without notifying the original receiver of the shipment.

Further, those in NSW who made the arrangements to add additional semen to the shipment had provided no paperwork. This action made it impossible for Dr Thomas, upon opening the travel canister, any option of identifying any semen, and nor should he, other than that for which paperwork was provided.

A general following of procedures of those involved in NSW would certainly have helped this avoidable mistake.

In conclusion, stewards could only deduce on evidence provided, that a genuine mistake had been made and any further action by any person involved would be of a civil nature.