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## Greyhound trainer allegedly gave dog alcohol to 'fix' race



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A greyhound trainer has been charged after allegedly giving his dog alcohol before placing a successful \$4000 bet on a rival dog during a race meeting in the state's Central West last year.

Augustus Leslie Weekes, 63, will face Orange Local Court on Thursday after police stumbled across the alleged crime as part of a separate investigation.

In April 2021, NSW Police began inquiries into a criminal syndicate, suspected to be involved in the supply of prohibited drugs between Sydney and the Central West. Five men have since been charged over their alleged involvement.

There is no suggestion Weekes was part of the alleged syndicate.

During the investigation, detectives identified a greyhound race meeting in June 2021 that had allegedly been subject to fraudulent activity.

Police will allege the man administered alcohol to one of his greyhounds prior to a race meeting before wagering a successful \$4000 bet on a rival dog.

Detectives executed a search warrant at a property in Larass Lee on Wednesday before he was arrested and taken to Orange police station.

He was charged with two counts of using corrupt conduct information to bet on an event, and one count each of engaging in conduct that corrupts the betting outcome of an event, and possessing corrupt conduct information to communicate to others.

He was granted conditional bail and will appear in Orange Local Court on Thursday.

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