














RACE INJURY REDUCTION ACTION PLAN 2023

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION	IMPLEMENTATION
Pilot program for Double Arm Lure and Preferred Box Draw (PBD)	Analysis of injury data shows that the majority of serious racing injuries are attributable to racing collisions. Accordingly, the industry will conduct pilots of double arm lures and preferred box draws to determine the efficacy of these strategies in reducing collisions and serious injuries.	Pilots to be conducted at three tracks selected. Data from pilots to be analysed by UTS. Should pilots prove appreciable reduction in serious injuries consideration will be given to expanding the use of these strategies by the industry.		Mid 2023
Return to racing after long injury layoff	Analysis of injury data showed that greyhounds returning to racing from long layoffs from injury are at substantially higher risk of sustaining a serious injury.	Introduction of a local racing rule requiring a greyhound returning to racing from a long injury layoff to obtain a veterinary clearance or complete a trial.		May 2023
Trainer Education	Analysis of injury data showed that some trainers are potentially overly represented in injury statistics.	Serious injury data to be reviewed and GWIC to visit trainers to discuss strategies for reducing the injuries sustained by their greyhounds.		April 2023
Pilot GWIC OTV's at trials	Analysis of data suggested that some serious injuries are attributable to a greyhound having a pre-existing injury. The Summit identified that an onsite OTV assessment of injuries that occur at trials could assist with addressing this causation.	GWIC to conduct a pilot of its On-Track Veterinarians attending racing trials to vet dogs injured during trialing, interact with trainers about the return to or commencement of racing.		May 2023
Research into (a) Diet and husbandry; and (b) race distance and injury	Summit participants concluded that there is a correlation between diet/husbandry/training and serious injuries. Where races are started from was also considered a factor.	Data analysis research will be carried out to test the significance of these causations in regard to serious injury rates. If shown to be significant mitigating strategies will be developed and implemented.		Commenced

OTHER STRATEGIES TO BE EXPLORED...

STRATEGY	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION
Drop on boxes	Information to the summit from GRV indicated that drop on boxes assisted in reducing collisions as the boxes could be placed closer to the rail.	Possible inclusion of drop on boxes in future new track design to be explored.	
Development of Curators	Summit participants agreed that track curation is an important factor in reducing racing injuries. It was recognized that more needs to be done to attract, develop and retain high quality curation talent.	Create professional career pathways for curators including the roll out of Cert IV training developed by GRV.	
Development of the use of pressure plates	The summit heard veterinary advice regarding the importance of pressure plate examination in the prevention of serious racing injuries.	Further research into pressure plate examination, development of specialist training in the examination of pressure plates.	
Industry veterinary succession planning	The summit heard about the aging population of greyhound industry veterinarians. Pathways and scholarships need to be provided to ensure future capacity and capability of greyhound special veterinarian services.	Explore potential scholarships and other means for attracting, developing and retaining high quality greyhound skilled veterinary services required by the industry.	
Longer and more robust examination of greyhounds on-track pre-racing	Summit participants agreed that time does not permit GWIC OTV's sufficient time to appropriately assess greyhounds in relation to fitness to race.	Explore extending kenneling time to allow OTV's sufficient time to carry out thorough pre-race examinations.	
Review of travel money payments to participants	The summit discussed the likelihood of higher injury rates involving trainers nominating and attending meetings with under prepared greyhounds in order to receive travel moneys from GRNSW	Research this hypothesis and report back the results.	
The resumption of performance trials or a requirement for new greyhounds to trial at a track prior to nominating	Summit participants expressed the view that injuries result from a lack of familiarity of a track, particularly younger greyhounds. If true, consideration should be given to requiring a greyhound to trial at a track prior to being allowed to nominate for racing at that track.	Research this hypothesis and report back the results.	
Trial of deep harrowing at tracks with comparatively high injury rates	Summit participants expressed the view that failure to regularly deep harrow results in injuries, particularly at tracks that high injury rates.	A trial of deep harrowing at a track with high injury rates to be explored.	

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