

WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST 2019

Commission's latest report shows decline in greyhound racing injuries

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission has published the latest [injury report](#) which shows a decrease in the total injury rate when compared to the last two quarters.

The Commission's Chief Veterinarian, Michelle Ledger, said that while an overall reduction in injuries is good news, the reduction in catastrophic injuries is especially encouraging.

"The rate of catastrophic injuries, or injuries that result in the death of a greyhound, are the lowest rate observed since reporting began in 2016," Dr Ledger said.

"It is a really positive sign to see these numbers start to decrease and I think this is largely due to a number of strategies that have been introduced by the Commission over the past twelve months. We will continue to drive initiatives aimed at decreasing racing injuries even further".

The Commission has also released the first report of the findings of the Race Injury Review Panel.

The Panel was established by the Commission in February 2019 to better understand the underlying causes of racing injuries and develop regulatory interventions aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of injuries to racing greyhounds.

The initial findings of the Panel concluded that of the 51 catastrophic injuries considered since February, 41.2% are likely due to racing related factors such as collisions resulting in a fall, and 29.4% are a result of greyhound related factors such as previous injury history and race frequency.

Similarly, of the 51 serious or Major II injuries considered 39.2% were found to be the result of greyhound related factors and 27.5% were likely due to racing related factors.

The panel has so far identified six strategies that may assist with reducing the incidence and severity of racing related injuries over time. These can be viewed on the Commission's [website](#).

The panel will continue to undertake monthly injury analysis of all catastrophic and serious injuries each month.

Media contact: Katie 0448 193 270