

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **30 JUNE 2020**

## Commission is focused on education ahead of the new Code of Practice

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission has welcomed the NSW Government's introduction of a new Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice.

Chief Commissioner Alan Brown AM said that the greyhound racing industry will now have time to become familiar with the new Code and what is required of them to be compliant.

"For participants, the next six months will be about understanding the requirements of the Code and seeking support in areas of uncertainty or where improvements need to be made," Chief Commissioner Brown said.

"The Commission will be working closely with the industry in the coming months, developing resources that will make it easy for them to comply and providing assistance in areas such as greyhound housing."

Industry practice guides have been developed to provide participants with advice on how best to comply with various standards within the Code. The practice guides will be updated from time to time to reflect the latest research in relation to greyhound care and welfare.

"We know that many trainers and breeders are already compliant with the standards in the Code, so it remains business as usual for them," Chief Commissioner Brown said.

"We also acknowledge that there will be some who need assistance in ensuring they are compliant and that's what we will be focusing on in the lead up to the implementation of the Code on 1 January 2021."

The Commission's role in relation to the new Code of Practice will be centred around education and enforcement.

"As the industry regulator it will be the Commission's responsibility to enforce the new Code once it takes effect but let me be clear, the Code is not designed to catch participants out," Chief Commissioner Brown said.

"The Code is intended to be the industry's benchmark for expected conduct and behaviour."

"I know the industry will take this as an opportunity to demonstrates its commitment to securing a prosperous future for the sport by improving welfare and integrity."

For more information on the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice visit the Commission's <u>website</u> or call 13 49 42 (13 GWIC).

Contact: media@gwic.nsw.gov.au | 0448 193 270