

MEDIA RELEASE

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World-leading technology sees GWIC enters new era of accurate and transparent injury reporting

Utilising a world leading digital solution to enhance animal welfare outcomes and transparency – that is what the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission has delivered in its new Standards for Reporting Greyhound Racing Injuries.

In announcing the Standards for Reporting Greyhound Racing Injuries today, the Commission has both reaffirmed its status as an innovative regulator and its commitment to increased accuracy and reliability of data.

Since its inception the Commission has been the only industry regulator in Australia which separately reports numbers of greyhounds that are seriously injured at a race meetings and subsequently die or are euthanased in the care of a private veterinarian due to that injury.

However, with the introduction of the pioneering eTrac digital participant portal, the Commission can now systematically and more reliably identify these cases.

As such, the Commission has formulated new Standards for Reporting Greyhound Racing Injuries to ensure consistent recording and classification of greyhound injuries and mortalities.

As the Commission's Acting Chief Executive Officer Matthew Tutt explains, this enhanced data will be used to implement robust and effective injury management programs.

"The reporting standards are the first across all greyhound racing jurisdictions in that they extend the period for reporting mortalities that occur from a race-related injury up to 90 days after the injury," Mr Tutt said.

"Any greyhound that dies from an injury incurred while racing within that 90-day period will now be reported as a race related injury.

"This new rigorous approach provides stronger data insights and will facilitate improved strategic planning when it comes to reducing the incidence and severity of greyhound racing injuries.

"It will highlight the welfare outcomes which post-race injury treatment and rehabilitation facilitate."

This new authoritative approach sees each case reviewed by the Commission's Chief Veterinary Officer to confirm that, based on the evidence and criteria, the mortality is causally related to an injury sustained in a race or trial.

While it consolidates the Commission's position as a leader of transparent public reporting of data, Mr Tutt noted that it is vitally important to note the data provided by this enhanced methodology is not comparable to previous reports.

"These new standards allow us to use the eTrac database to systematically and more reliably identify these cases and as such, the data should not be compared to that which was previously reported," he said.

"The introduction of these standards follow on from the second successive financial year in which the Commission has reported record low rate of on-track euthanasia and sudden death."

The new Standards for Reporting Greyhound Racing Injuries can be found here.

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Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission is the independent regulator for the greyhound industry in NSW. The Commission was established to promote and protect the welfare of greyhounds, safeguard the integrity of greyhound racing and maintain public confidence in the greyhound racing industry.

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