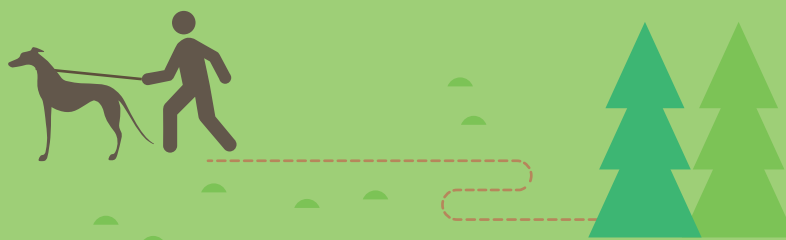





Hansen Report Year 1 Summary

A summary of Greyhound Racing New Zealand's progress in year one against the 20 recommendations from the Hansen Report.

February 2019

Overall animal health and welfare



Recommendations	Status	
<p>01 The Health and Welfare Standards currently under consideration by NZGRA should be finalised and made binding on members as soon as is practically possible. They should include provision for best practice standards for the socialisation and habituation of greyhounds.</p>	<p>The new GRNZ Health and Welfare Standards were distributed to LPs in June 2018 and were in place from 1 August 2018, with an accompanying education campaign. These standards have been enforced since 1 February 2019.</p>	
<p>02 All kennels used for breeding, rearing and training greyhounds for racing should be inspected by the RIU at least once a year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement has been reached with the RIU and annual inspections will be undertaken, including microchip scanning of all greyhounds on the property. • In addition, a new kennel inspection process is to be developed; and will now be confirmed once we know the outcomes from a review of the RIU, as part of the Massara Report recommendations. 	
<p>03 NZGRA should continue to encourage and facilitate training assessments and to publish educational materials for trainers with particular emphasis on generating awareness of the new welfare standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An education campaign for all new health and welfare standards was completed in October 2018. This included workshops, articles and other educational material being distributed to LPs. • Additional campaigns will follow to always keep education and awareness up to date. • Additionally, we have contracted QED Associates to undertake a scoping project to develop an overarching training and education program with qualifications that link to all licencing (e.g. Handler, Breeder, Trainer). 	

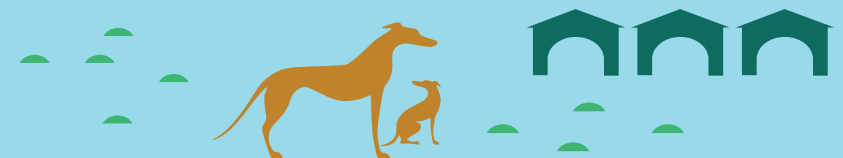
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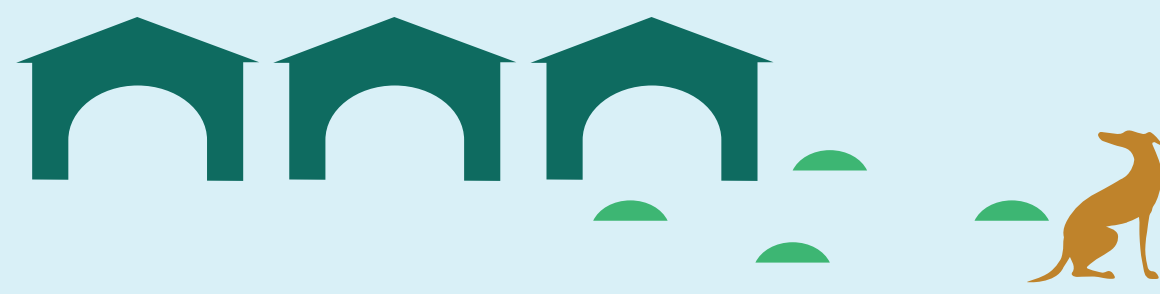
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<p>04 Steps should be taken to ensure that the vaccinations of greyhounds remain current by requiring proof of vaccinations on registration for naming and thereafter annually and/or as a condition of permission to race.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new GRNZ Vaccination Policy was approved and communicated to LPs prior to being put in place 1 August 2018. • The process and vaccination books are to be released May 2019. This provides LPs time to get all vaccinations up-to-date before enforcement from 1 August, when vaccinations will be a criteria to register a litter and to nominate to race. 	
<p>05 The NZGRA should consider whether it is necessary for ear branding to continue and, if it is, to require ear branding to be done under local anaesthetic or otherwise so as not to cause pain to puppies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution needs to be agreed by Greyhounds Australasia and meet integrity requirements around identification. We have begun these discussions. • In the interim, topical anaesthetic cream has been distributed to ear branders for use on all puppies since 1 October 2018. 	
<p>19 NZGRA should give effect to the recommendation in the WHK report to record the veterinary care of all greyhounds in a central database.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post race injury reporting rule in place as of 1 August 2018. • A new platform for recording and accessing vaccination details for each greyhound is currently under development and will be in place August 2019. • A centralised database is difficult to achieve, as discussed with NZVA, due to the inability to share information regarding individual animals across veterinary clinics nationwide. • We will continue to build on our database to include more information regarding individual greyhound health status. 	

Registry and database



Recommendations	Status
<p>06 The NZGRA should introduce a rule change to establish a separate register of breeding bitches, to require registration of a brood bitch prior to service and for deregistration on ceasing to be used for breeding purposes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new breeding female registry has been established. • The new GRNZ Registering a Breeding Female Policy has been in place since 1 August outlining the new regulations regarding number of litters, age of female and other criteria that needs to be met to register and breed a litter (eg up-to-date vaccinations and health checks).



07

The NZGRA should take steps to ensure that its database is revamped so as to ensure that up-to-date, easily accessible and accurate information is available on every greyhound born in New Zealand or imported into New Zealand until it is deregistered.

- An IT specialist was employed to project manage database improvements in April 2018.
- Welfare enhancements in the database to date include the breeding female registry, recording of service and whelping information, and new de-registration processes. We also completed implementing a system that automatically checks that each LP has the correct licences for the activity (e.g. breeding) in which they want to participate.
- Current developments either being scoped or underway include:
 1. A new tracking system that automatically alerts us to greyhounds that have not raced recently and puppies registered but not raced that may need to be de-registered.
 2. A new platform for recording vaccination details of individual greyhounds.
 3. A wider, larger database project that is in the first stages that moves the database to a web-based system, and includes improved data input and management processes and procedures.

08

The NZGRA should verify the accuracy of its database by: a) Making provision for the RIU to report on the dogs present in each kennel in the course of annual kennel inspections and by updating its database accordingly; b) Requiring trainers to provide a return of all dogs in their kennels when relicensing; c) Agreeing that thereafter the RIU audit the dogs recorded as present in kennels at the time of its annual inspection.

- The RIU completed a nationwide census, microchip scanning all greyhounds on LP properties.
- Re-licensing forms include a declaration of the number of greyhounds on the property.
- The annual process of kennel inspections will also include a report on greyhounds present at each kennel.
- 89% of 1,271 greyhounds reported as 'missing' in the database are now accounted for. A breakdown of these numbers was presented in the Fourth Quarterly Hansen Update.
- 11% of the 1,271 greyhounds were unable to be accounted for due to incomplete information received from the LP or some LPs being uncontactable.

09

The recommendation of WHK that audits of greyhounds registered as privately rehomed should be performed to verify their whereabouts should be acted on.

- Database enhancements around new de-registration processes now enable the capture of private rehoming information.
- Every new owner adopting a greyhound through private rehoming is now called for verification.
- All greyhounds privately rehomed have been followed up on since this was put in place August 2018.




11

NZGRA should take steps to ensure that greyhound owners comply with their obligations under the general law including by requiring proof of registration with a territorial authority as a condition of registration for naming and checks on race day to ensure that registration is up-to-date.

- We have formally requested the reclassification of greyhounds as a working dog as part of creating a National Register. We have done this with the responsible Minister and the Ministerial Advisory Committee overseeing the Messara Report.
- We are awaiting the outcome of these change requests.
- If these requests are unsuccessful, then we will be faced with undertaking a local authority by local authority process.

Track safety



Recommendations	Status	
<p>17 NZGRA should remove restrictions on the inclusion in the steward's report of information relating to euthanasia at racetracks.</p>	<p>In place from December 2017.</p>	
<p>18 Trainers should be required to report injuries to greyhounds that occur or are detected outside the racetrack.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The post race injury reporting rule was put in place as of 1 August 2018. • Systems have been updated in the database to allow recording of post race injuries. • An education campaign will be undertaken to ensure compliance. 	
<p>20 NZGRA should continue with its program of improving safety at racetracks including: a) Undertaking or promoting further research into the causes of death and injury including into possible explanations for differences in casualty rates between race tracks. b) The completion of trials on the positioning of the lure and giving effect to any changes recommended as a result. c) Investigating the introduction of straight tracks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injury trends are being monitored track by track. • Expert track inspections were undertaken in October 2018. • A track design and injury prevention workshop was held at our Annual Conference in October 2018. • We are funding a Massey PhD student to investigate risk factors related to track injuries, including frequency of racing. • Research results reported reduced injuries using an extended lure arm, therefore the extended arm is being introduced at Addington in February 2019 prior to further roll out across all tracks. • Research results reported reduced congestion and reduced on track euthanasia rates with 6 dog fields, therefore 6 dog field trials will be undertaken in February 2019 at Addington. • Trials at our Manawatu track, where the 375m start was moved to a 410m start, resulted in a decrease in injuries and is now the new permanent sprint distance for Manawatu. • Analysis of injury rates at straight tracks in Australia will determine opportunities in NZ. 	



Dog tracking, de-registration and euthanasia



Recommendations	Status	
<p>10 NZGRA should give consideration to requiring the de-sexing of greyhounds as a condition of deregistration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is already a requirement for a greyhound to be desexed when going through GRNZ rehoming partners. • We are scoping options to enable the ease and implementation of desexing all privately rehomed greyhounds. • The introduction of this policy will be aligned with our new rehoming framework, as we will have more control over the rehoming process for all greyhounds. 	<div style="background-color: #FFD700; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>
<p>12 NZGRA should ensure that from registration as a puppy or following importation into New Zealand until deregistration every greyhound is tracked in its database. This will include:</p> <p>a) Making clear, if need be by a rule change, that the obligation to deregister applies to every greyhound, not just those registered for naming.</p> <p>b) Introducing a rule change to ensure that a registered greyhound is at all times kept in licensed premises in the care and control of a licensed person.</p> <p>c) Rigorously monitoring compliance with registration and deregistration obligations including by follow-up action when non-compliance is suspected and by the checks to be undertaken in the course of kennel inspections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive series of communications were undertaken with LPs educating them in regards to de-registration obligations and rules including puppies, unraced greyhounds and greyhounds they keep as pets. • A new rule requiring all greyhounds to be in the care and on the premises of a LP has been passed and was effective as of 1 August 2018. • We have planned database improvements to introduce an automated alert for greyhounds not raced for a determined period of time and any puppies not registered to race once they reach racing age for follow up, which will be put in place in the 2019/20 season. 	<div style="background-color: #0070C0; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>
<p>13 NZGRA should introduce a rule change to require approval before a dog is euthanised. This will include an assessment of whether the animal is suitable for rehoming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have passed a rule that allows GRNZ to establish a policy on euthanasia pre-approval. • The introduction of this policy will be aligned with our new rehoming framework, as we will have increased capacity and more control over the rehoming process for all greyhounds. 	<div style="background-color: #0070C0; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>
<p>14 The NZGRA should continue efforts to expand racing opportunities and extend the racing careers of greyhounds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were an extra 303 C1 sprint races in the 2016/17 season and an extra 529 races in 2018/19. • Collaborations with Australia on track improvements and new initiatives, including analysis of straight tracks, will continue and will determine the best options for NZ. 	<div style="background-color: #0070C0; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>

15

NZGRA should continue to increase rehoming opportunities for greyhounds while recognising that rehoming alone cannot solve the problems created by excessive numbers of greyhounds entering the industry each year.

- We increased rehoming funding by 60% in the 2017/18 season.
- Our Levin property upgrade is in the final stage of completion and has increased capacity to 60 kennels, allowing us to gradually build up to housing this number of retired greyhounds for adoption.
- The framework for our new rehoming program nationwide is well underway. We aim to have the new model in place in the 2019/2020 season.
- Great Mates Prison Program successfully trialled at Rimutaka Prison and is now a permanent program. Discussions to extend the program to other prisons is underway.

16

NZGRA should continue to develop the means of making accurate projections of future requirements for greyhounds and by education or, if necessary, regulation ensure that the numbers of greyhounds bred and/or imported do not exceed the requirements of the industry having regard to the capacity to rehome greyhounds who do not race or cease racing.

- A modelling tool has been developed and ongoing refinements will be made to it.
- We have a cap of 20 greyhounds (max five per training facility) per month that can be imported into NZ.
- We have conducted meetings with our large breeders to discuss reducing the number of litters.
- Our new Health and Welfare Standards include a reduction in litters a breeding female can have from seven to three, and a reduction in the maximum age they can be bred from eight to six years of age.



■ SCOPING

■ WORK IN PROGRESS

■ COMPLETE