

Greyhound Racing New South Wales

GRNSW Quarterly Greyhound Racing Injury Report

1 January 2016 to 31 March 2016

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Overview

This report is published by Greyhound Racing New South Wales (GRNSW) and details greyhound injuries and fatalities that occur at race meetings in New South Wales (NSW), as well as related euthanasia of greyhounds. The primary purpose of this report is to keep GRNSW stakeholders including greyhound racing industry participants, wagerers, business partners and the community informed of greyhound racing injury, fatality and related euthanasia in the interests of transparency.

This is a quarterly report covering the period 1 January 2016 to 31 March 2016. As the preceding preliminary report covered the period 15 November 2015 to 1 February 2016, the overlap results in some of the injuries being included in both reports.

This report has been prepared using the information on greyhound racing injury, fatality and related euthanasia recorded by on track veterinarians and maintained in the OzChase system by GRNSW.

Injury severity classification

All greyhounds with an on-track veterinary reported injury have been included in this report. As the injuries range from very mild and requiring no incapacitation period (stand-down period) to catastrophic injuries leading to death or euthanasia the following rating guide has been used to estimate injury severity.

Table 1: Greyhound injury rating guide indicating expected stand down periods and examples of related injury types.

Rating	Incapacitation period	Typical injury types
Minor Class I	0 days	Mild skin abrasions/grazes
Minor Class II	1- 10 days	Grade 1 muscle injury Mild skin laceration
Medium	11- 21 days	Joint /ligament sprain Skin laceration Grade 2 muscle injury
Major	Greater than 21 days	Grade 3 muscle injury Bone fractures
Catastrophic	Deceased or euthanased immediately	Severe skull or spinal trauma Complex /open/joint fractures

Part 1. Reported greyhound racing injuries

Between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016 (inclusive) 279 race meetings were conducted across NSW at TAB and non-TAB racing venues. During these race meetings a total of 4910 individual greyhounds raced in a total of 21,530 race starts. There were an average number of 4.4 starts per greyhound throughout the reporting period.

There were a total of 584 incidents where a greyhound with at least one injury was identified by an on track veterinarian after participation in a race in NSW during this period. These injury incidents affected a total of 548 individual greyhounds.

The total number of reported greyhound racing injury incidents during the period represents an injury rate of 27.1 injury incidents per 1000 race starts and 11.2% of the total number of individual greyhounds to have raced incurred at least one injury. The severity of these injuries is indicated in the following table.

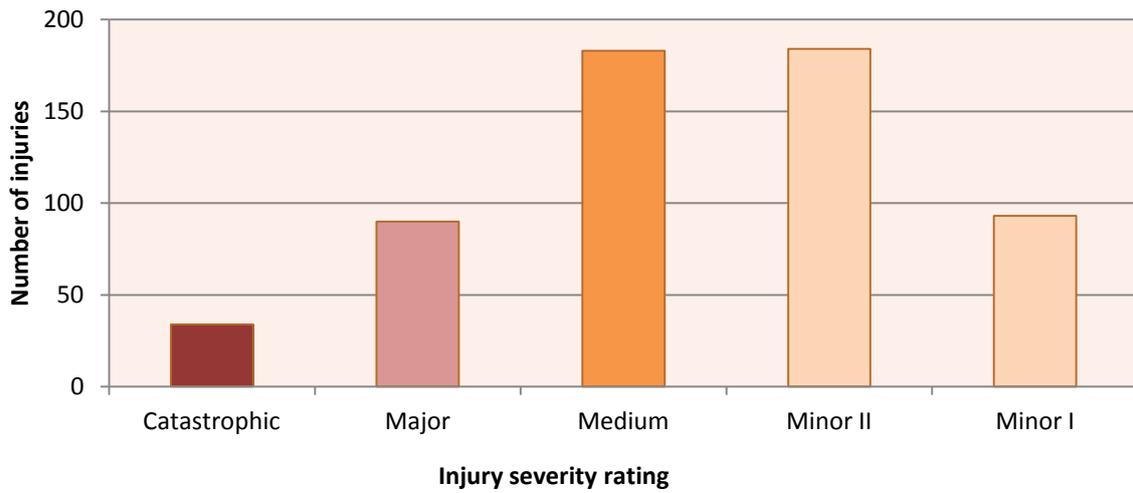
Table 2: Number of injury incidents, injury rates and severity in NSW race meetings between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016

Rating	Incapacitation period	Total numbers of injury incidents	Injury rate (injury incidents/1000 starts)	Injury rate * (injured greyhounds/100 greyhounds)
Minor - I	0 days	93	4.3	1.9
- II	1 to 10 days	184	8.5	3.7
Medium	11- 21 days	183	8.5	3.7
Major	Greater than 21 days	90	4.2	1.8
Catastrophic	Deceased or euthanased immediately	34	1.6	0.7

*The percentage of individual greyhounds racing in the reporting period who suffered an injury in each of the injury severity rating categories.

Image 1: Graph describing the severity of the 584 injury incidents at race meetings between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Injury severity of 584 injury incidents at race meetings between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016

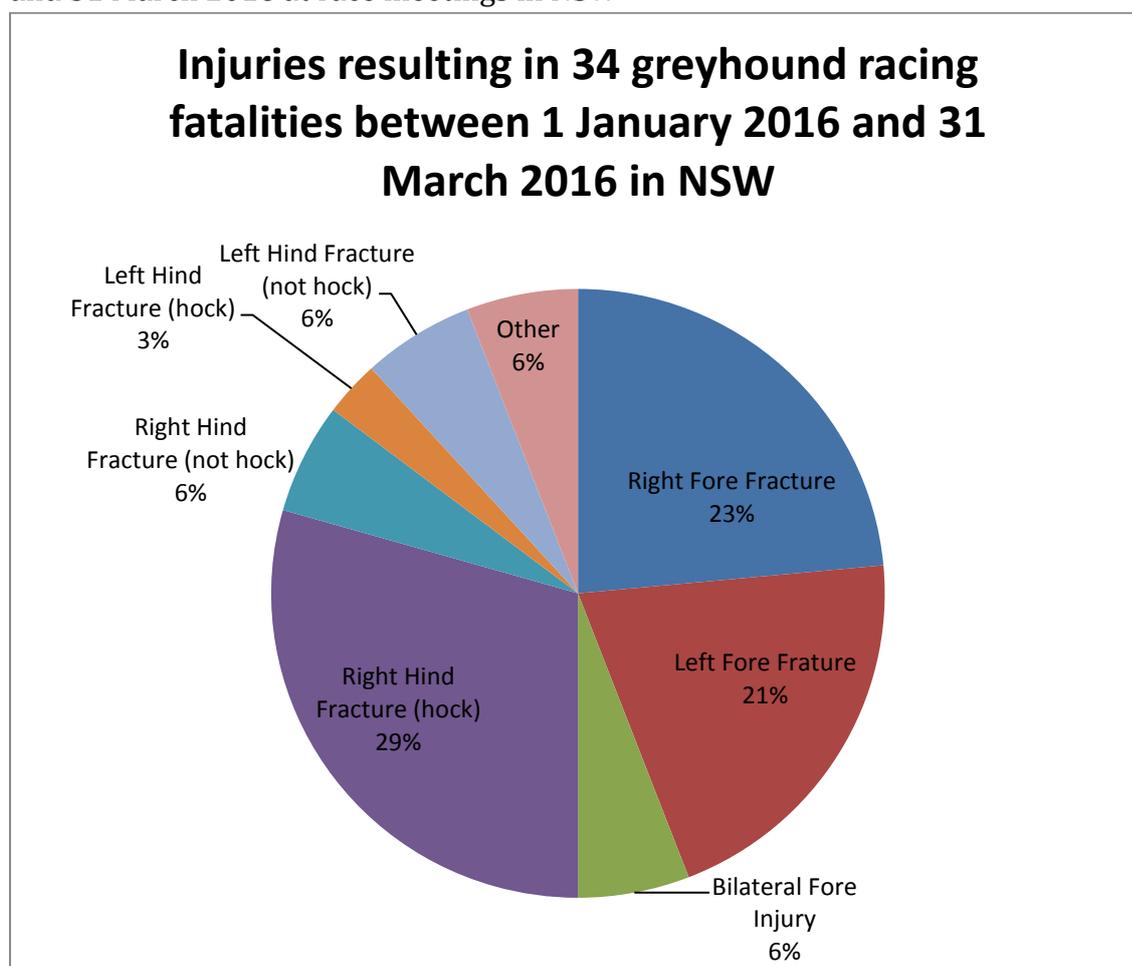


Part 2. Reported greyhound racing fatalities

GRNSW defines racing fatalities as all injuries and incidents occurring during or subsequent to a race resulting in death at the race meeting or requiring euthanasia at the race meeting.¹

There were a total of 34 reported greyhound racing fatalities between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016. All of these greyhounds were euthanased as a result of their injuries. The total number of reported greyhound racing fatalities during the period represents a fatality rate of 1.6 deaths per 1000 race starts.

Image 2: Injuries resulting in 34 greyhound racing fatalities between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016 at race meetings in NSW



Racing injury and fatality trend report

Due to limitations in historical injury data, a racing injury trend report will only be available at the second quarterly reporting period for comparison with the first quarter.

¹ This statistic does not include euthanasia that occurs subsequent to race meetings at private veterinary hospitals after further diagnostic or treatment advice is sought. While these greyhounds will be included in the injury statistics in Part 1 of this report, they are not recorded as a fatality in Part 2. An injury follow up process was implemented in February 2016 which will assist with reporting subsequent euthanasias in future. Additionally, through the GAR106 obligations, greyhound retirement outcomes will be reported to GRNSW and will be available as lifecycle tracking data in the GRNSW annual report.

Part 3. Greyhound trialling injury rates

Unlike NSW race meetings, not all trialling sessions are attended by a veterinarian. The following data represent a sample of the greyhound trialling population (monitored by GRNSW veterinarians) upon which some inferences can be made about trialling population injury rates.

Period: 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016

Sample: 10 tracks at NSW TAB venues

77 public trialling sessions + steward's trials

In excess of 2 070 starts

Table 3: Injury incident numbers described by injury severity for 77 public trialling sessions and steward's trials at ten NSW greyhound racing tracks.

Rating	Total numbers of injuries
Minor	15
Medium	1
Major	7
Catastrophic	2