

GREYHOUND RACING NSW

12 MONTHS OF REFORM

THEN – February 2015

NOW – February 2016

INTEGRITY



- Failed in its duties to properly police the industry allowing illegal acts such as 'live baiting' to occur in NSW

- New Compliance Unit created to boost industry supervision and improve integrity outcomes
- Development and implementation of risk-based Industry Supervision Strategy to ensure Compliance resources are being applied where the risk of wrongdoing is greatest

- Review of GRNSW drug testing operational practices to ensure any potential weaknesses are identified and rigour of program enhanced

BREEDING



- No licensing requirements for breeders
- No restrictions on breeding
- Blue Paws Scheme – designed to promote and encourage breeding of greyhounds in NSW (established in 2006)

- Closure of Blue Paws Scheme on 1 July 2015
- Breeding restrictions introduced which limits the number of litters a female greyhound can have to three in total without veterinary approval
- Limitations to frequency of litters so female greyhounds cannot give birth to more than two litters in the space of 18 months

- Breeders must obtain a license and have facilities inspected every two years
- 47% year on year reduction of greyhounds born since breeding restrictions introduced (2,168 to 1,153 - for period 1 July – 31 October)

VETERINARY



- No veterinary service oversight or senior management
- Poor injury data collection
- Inadequate welfare monitoring & reporting

- Engagement of a Chief Veterinary Officer
- Introduction of evidence based policy development such as adoption of synthetic only lure policy

- Increased investment in Veterinary Services including additional veterinary staff

INVESTIGATIONS



- No internal investigations or intelligence capability

- Establishment of a dedicated Investigations and Intelligence Unit to collect and analyse information and conduct intelligence led investigations into suspected wrongdoing

- Establishment of Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Hotline to ensure allegations of wrongdoing are collected, assessed and acted on www.greyhoundwelfare.com.au

RE-HOMING



- GRNSW Greyhounds As Pets program was not proactively advertised and had a limited capacity to accept and re-home retired greyhounds

- Tripled investment in Greyhounds As Pets in 2015.
- 253 adoptions in 2015. A 132% increase on 2014.

- Introduced a Rehoming Rebate to assist independent re-homing organisations find more homes for retired greyhounds

LICENSING



- Licensing only available for trainers and attendants with these accreditations. Others involved in the industry were not required to be registered (eg breeders)
- No skill requirements needed to obtain any level of licence

- Licensing of breeders in July 2015 with rearers, educators and whelpers to be licensed in 2016 ensuring greyhounds are in the custody of a licensed person at all lifecycle stages

- Development of comprehensive tiered licensing system requiring core educational competencies be met prior to receiving accreditation to be introduced in July 2016

STRATEGIC DIRECTION



- No strategic plan to set direction for industry in accordance with requirements under Greyhound Racing Act 2009

- Developed high level Strategic Plan to lead industry crisis recovery and set direction for industry reform to achieve vibrant and sustainable future
- Established Joint Working Group with industry stakeholders to further develop detail of Strategic Plan and prepare implementation map

- Initiated, developed and implemented 'www.embracingchange.com.au' campaign as part of strategic communications to reposition industry and promote reform

EDUCATION



- No education or training provided to participants

- Establishment of dedicated Industry Education and Development Unit to support industry participants with educative, guidance and awareness material

- Education Seminars conducted for 200 participants in 2015

RESEARCH



- No investment in research and development was not consistent with the levels expected of a sporting governing body

- GRNSW commissioned Working Dog Alliance to undertake paper on best practice rearing, socialisation, education and training for greyhounds (released July 2015)

- Call for research into optimal track design and injury reductions, as well as chase motivation with additional topics scheduled for research in 2016

See more at www.embracingchange.com.au