

## **REPORT ON INJURIES AT DAPTO 10 APRIL 2013**

Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) has reviewed the three fatalities that occurred at Dapto on Wednesday 10 April 2013. It has been found that there was no interdependency between any of the three incidents and the preparation or state of the track for the meeting.

The track preparation methods (Attachment 1) in the lead up to the meeting and on the night itself were consistent with agreed track management protocols. There was no rainfall in the area and the track was of a consistent nature, prepared by an experienced grounds man and the lure driven by a qualified lure driver with 15 years experience (Attachment 2). Whilst the track was spiked the day prior to the meeting, the remedial work conducted in the lead up was again consistent with previous preparation of the Dapto track.

Dr Brian Daniel, GRNSW Head Racing Veterinarian with more than 30 years of experience in greyhound racing was the on-track veterinarian and confirmed that there was no correlation between the injuries sustained and the preparation of the track on 10 April 2013.

Each of the injuries were independent and non-related.

The stewards have investigated the history of each trainer and the prior racing form of each greyhound.

### **Shez's Way – trainer Craig Moffitt**

The greyhound was having its second performance trial after trialling satisfactorily at Bulli nine days prior. Mr Moffitt reported that the bitch was only trialling again due to the winning greyhound in its Bulli trial nominating for the Bulli meeting the following week. In essence, he was avoiding the possibility of racing that greyhound again.

He said there had been no prior issues with Shez's Way. She had been checked by leading greyhound veterinarian Dr Chris Papantonio prior to and after the Bulli trial and Dr Papantonio found no injury.

Shez's Way fractured its hock at the first turn in the trial and was subsequently euthanased due to the severity of the injury.

### **Kool Brock – trainer Rudolph Drapiewski**

This greyhound was having its 85th race start. It had suffered an injured back at Dapto on 6 January 2011 but had raced continuously and successfully after resuming racing on 5 March 2011.

It won 12 races subsequent to that injury and had not been treated for any significant injury subsequent to that time. It had more than 20 race starts at Dapto.

Kool Brock was the victim of severe interference at the first turn, falling heavily and fracturing its neck.

### **Sniffles – trainer Marie Burton**

This greyhound was having its 20th race start after winning its maiden at its first start at Dapto. It was competing for the 6th time at Dapto.

Sniffles left the boxes a little awkwardly and at the winning post, faltered badly. It was subsequently found to have broken its back and was euthanased due to the severity of the injury. Sniffles did not race between 12 October 2012 and 23 January 2013 due to a seasonal spell. She had no injury after a race at Dapto on 7 March 2013, but failed to secure a start between that time and 10 April 2013.

According to the trainer, Sniffles was checked weekly by a physiotherapist and veterinary surgeon and had no pre-existing injuries prior to the incident on 10 April 2013.

### **Conclusion**

- 1. There was no correlation between track preparation methods and the three fatalities.**
- 2. All three incidents occurred at different points on the track and were not found to be pre-existing injuries.**
- 3. All three greyhounds had been prepared well for their events with no abnormalities detected in the pre-race veterinary check. They paraded normally.**
- 4. There is no pattern of injury prevalent with any of the trainers, all of whom have many years of experience in the preparation of greyhounds for racing.**

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

The preparation of the Dapto Greyhound Racing track prior to Wednesday 10 April 2013 was consistent with standard procedure as follows:

**Monday 8 April**

Trials were conducted from 7am till noon.

Surface was then leveled with heavy rubber matting.

Track surface then watered at 1.30pm.

**Tuesday 9 April**

6am track spiked to a depth of 50mm.

Track then grade with blade attachment on tractor.

Track then brushed and surface leveled with heavy rubber matting.

Track watered in afternoon.

**Wednesday 10 April**

Track brushed in morning then leveled with heavy rubber matting.

Track was watered four times throughout the day prior to the track inspection.

## ATTACHMENT 2

### Staff

All track preparation was performed by Trevor Suckley who has more than 25 years experience in track preparation and lure driving.

Race night

Lure Driver: Ron Bonanno – 15 years lure driving.

Catching Pen Gate: Gary Charlton – two years as race day attendant.

Return Gate: Don Wellington – seven years as race day attendant.

Starter: Dale Richardson – five months experience as starter, one year as track attendant.

Temperature on Wednesday 10 April

**Highest temp:** 24.2°C 10 April 2013

**Lowest temp:** 9.1°C 10 April 2013

**Average temp:** 17.2°C

No Rainfall in the Illawarra region was recorded on 10 April 2013.