

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my concerns about the greyhound racing industry in NSW. From 2003 - 2011, more than 80133 greyhounds were born in NSW, with approximately 71431 of these greyhounds now being dead. There are many reasons for such a high death rate: slow runners, injury, bad breeding, over crowding etc. All of such are just excuses that support an industry that IS killing an unacceptable amount of dogs in the name of "sport"

There are a few grey hound rescues around Australia, with GRNSW re-homing 300 greyhounds in this period.

In 2012 : More than 510 greyhounds either died at the track or broke bones. 90% of greyhounds that break bones are discarded.

So far in 2013 : More than 339 greyhounds have died at the track or broken bones. 12 died on the track or immediately after racing. These figures are only for 2/3 the tracks in Australia. Plus, there have been 11 189 injuries recorded.

These numbers are unacceptable and unnecessary. These creatures are living being, not just expendable pieces in a game of entertainment. The amount of killings and cruelty in the greyhound racing industry is disgusting, and I am calling on you to support changes in the industry to prevent such numbers and actions occurring in the future.

How do we change the industry? I can only put forward a few personal ideas and hope that these, plus other caring and concerned people of the communities idea also be taken into account.

* There should be a cut off in the numbers of dogs each owner/trainer should be able to own and race per/3year period. This includes a cap on the number of breeding/litters, a cap on the amount of trialled/raced dogs, and a cap on the number of dogs being killed each year. This will decrease the breeding numbers, decrease the kill rate and also bring some more responsibility to the owner in being more specific about their breeding procedures and training. Because of the cap, trainer/owners will have to be more diligent in their choice of breeding stock and dogs, as they only have a limited amount of tries/places.

* Plus, all dogs that are injured need to be processed and recorded. With recorded information including the injury and how/when the dog was euthanised/killed.

* And to add to that, dogs that do not make the grade in training, need to be given the chance to be re-homed, and if they cannot to re-homed, records need to be kept that indicate that rehoming was pursued, for how long was the re-homing option pursued (a reasonable time), and how/when the dog was euthanised if there was no other option.

* If dogs to need to be euthanised, they need to be humanly euthanised by a registered veterinarian. The industry needs to cut down on its "wastage", and take steps toward a more sustainable and cruelty free practice.

Regards