

**Submission
No 297**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Mr Sam Simonetta

Date received: 29/10/2013

Simonetta Sam.

Submission to the Greyhound Inquiry.

I am the owner of a business in the hospitality industry and I am also a substantial greyhound public trainer and am considering purchasing land and increasing my involvement in greyhound racing. If I was not in greyhound racing I would be twenty kilos heavier because I love food.

I really love the people and the greyhounds in the game and I treat everyone the same in racing and in business. I think that everyone should do the same thing.

My main concern at the moment is the drop off in participants. The owners and the punters are important and we need to keep them happy. The prize money is too low by interstate and other standards.

While owners do racing for the love of the sports there is a need for them to get a better return.

I have had about two hundred swabs taken over the years with not one positive and at \$200 a go I am a \$40,000 dollar man at the expense of prize money to everyone. I am glad I don't run my business along these lines.

The prices of travelling to racetracks keeps going up and because there are less trainers and dogs we have to race more for the same prize money.

Every time I ring the control board with a problem if they find the problem to hard I am left on the phone until it disengages. I would be a lot happier if they took my number and rang me back. This is what I do in business and the customers appreciate it. The control board needs to be more consumer friendly. When the offices of the control board make a mistake they do everything not to admit it, everyone makes mistakes so why not admit it and move on.

Your Faithfully,

Sam Simonetta.