

**Submission
No 159**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Mr Don La Hay

Date received: 18/10/2013

I am a registered owner and trainer with GRNSW license no.225430 and held my first trainers license in 1967. I believe in 2013 the sport is controlled by GRNSW and local race day stewards the best I have ever witnessed. A higher percentage of winners are swabbed and the minute amount of persons cheating are delt with by GRNSW and or the NSW police.The findings of all stewards hearings are published on the industry website with penalties if found guilty. We as regitered persons are duty bound by GRNSW to care for our animals health and welfare at all times and in the case of euthanising an animal it is done by regitered vets. in the most humane manner. I would compare our industry figures of greyhounds put down for various reasons (age, injury, welping,disease,race accidents etc.) to the number of other dog breeds put down by owners,vets.councils, RSPA, and other persons lam not privy to. I believe at the present time the registered persons in our industry use a code of ethics set by themselves and our governing body to present an image to attract new people to our sport and we are open to any inquiry. I also would like to say in my community I observe stray dogs, malnurished dogs, unregistered dogs, sick dogs ,dogs unmuzzled that are classified dangerous breeds under the dog act, and poor animals that have no shelter to the weather, but ldo not see any council rangers, RSPA officals, animal welfare people or police attending to any of these poor animals. We have our kennals inspected by our stewards for the safety and welfare of any dog in our care all dogs on site are checked for health, cleanliness, and identified the kennal is registered with GRNSW and local council. The industry has spent money at all race tracks in NSW on modern air conditioned race day kennals for greyhounds welfare (l do not know \$ spent). Therefore in my years as a dog lover and racing participant by pure observation I have seen greyhound progress better as prizemoney increases the the things that went on 40 years ago to cheat to win betting on dogs does not happen due to the diligents of our stewards. In all racing codes there are bad apples you would have to be blind not to see that, but our code has one of the better records compared to trotting and horce racing in 2013. The past is history and should treated as such, this is my opinion as an individual and feel we are being victimised.