

**Supplementary
Submission
No 14e**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

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SUBMISSION TO SELECT COMMITTEE INQUIRING INTO GREYHOUND RACING
IN NEW SOUTH WALES

This submission is made by Susan Absalom

Terms of Reference (d)

the effectiveness of current industry regulation, including the level of autonomy of Greyhound Racing NSW,

In this submission I will restrict my comments to the stewarding functions. I am concerned at what appears to be a lack of training of stewards and their inability to properly perform their functions. Some of this could come down to the structure and job specifications, particularly with the control room operation.

I am concerned that too many mistakes are made with the stewards' reports and again this could be attributed to the control room. If there is only 1 steward on course he/she cannot see everything. Similarly in the control room the steward cannot be aware of all that is going on on course. It is no wonder then that they miss things such as marring. There is also too much steward discretion and not enough oversight of them.

I refer to recommendations 4, 5 and 6 of the Scott Report as follows:

4. The **Review recommends** that a new system and structure be put in place for the employment of stewards across all three codes of the racing industry.

That all stewards be employed by a single company, "*Stewards New South Wales Pty Ltd*".

The employing company will be responsible for the provision of stewards to race meetings across the three codes.

That a new position of "*Probity Auditor*" be created to oversee the identification of probity and integrity issues arising from the operations of the company.

5. The **Review recommends** that stewards be required to have obtained benchmark educational qualifications, those benchmarks varying depending upon the level of authority exercised by stewards.

6. The **Review recommends** that stewards be accredited by the Regulator of each of the three codes. Such accreditation being annually reviewed.

I am probably in favour of the recommendations in principle but I am concerned at the cost to the greyhound industry. I would like to see the greyhound industry subsidise the other two codes for anything else. This inquiry is already looking at funding whereby the greyhound industry is subsidising the other two codes. An example is that I might like what I get in a Rolls Royce but if I do not have the money and a Toyota does what I need then I go for the Toyota.

Recommendation

That the Select Committee look at the cost to the greyhound racing industry to implement recommendations 4,5 and 6 of the Scott Report.

Mrs Susan Absalom

6 November 2013