

**Submission
No 518**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Mr Allen Hansen

Date received: 6/11/2013

My name is Allen Hansen I am currently a registered owner and public trainer with GRNSW. I have been involved in this industry for over 10 years.

(a) The economic viability of the greyhound racing in NSW, when our CEO tells us greyhound racing in NSW is unsustainable on our current funding arrangements, as a participant in NSW it is cause for concern. I have found the costs of keeping a small racing team has grown far more than any opportunity for financial return/ prizemoney. Cost of fuel and transport, meat, kibble, vitamins and additives to help keep the greyhound healthy, cost of trialling, breaking in, rearing pups, vet costs etc have all risen quite a bit. Prizemoney has hardly improved. As an example, 10 years ago I was racing at Bathurst on a Saturday NON-TAB meeting and if lucky enough to win a race could collect \$400 now 10 years on, Bathurst track converted to a TAB track and racing every week with healthy betting turnover providing tax for gov. profit for Tab and betting agencies, jobs, yet at the 26 tab c meetings if lucky enough to win a race will collect \$540 just 140 dollars more and much higher costs.

(a) Its very clear to most participants in NSW that greyhound racing is loved by many and can thrive and grow with the right support as is clearly demonstrated by Victoria and other states also, what is most clear to us is that NSW is dropping off the pace so far that myself and others I speak with have intentions to follow what more successful people in NSW are doing and send their dogs outside of NSW to race.

(c) In the 10 years ive been involved I have seen nothing done for greyhound racing yet millions spent on horse tracks and new grandstands, trots got a brand new track and they can even fulfil their percentage of the unfair un Australian intercode agreement that is strangling greyhound racing

(e) Murray Nicol resigns from NCA and pops straight onto the board, couple of years on clearly the damage and cost the NCA has inflicted on greyhound racing in NSW is there for all to see, now with an enquiry looming Murray Nicol resigns? I would call that selection process many things but satisfactory is not one of them.

(g) What integrity auditor, is this a joke?

(h) The biggest issue I feel is the lack of information given to participants, many people make commitments and invest their hard earned dollars into this industry while administrators take their pay every week. The participants need to have some sort of leadership which I personally feel has been lacking for a while. It seems since this inquiry was announced GRNSW's efforts have picked up.

(k) I believe that greyhounds are treated exceptionally well by most involved in greyhound racing, if one was to do anything cruel to their dog their peers would not shy away from the issue. How many other canines in our society get inspected by a vet almost weekly, get enough exercise, treated for worms and flea's regularly? I don't feel like there is any genuine concerns regarding the welfare and practises within the greyhound industry and believe most would welcome any improvements for the sake of the dogs we love.

(n) As a greyhound owner trainer and breeder I cant help but feel that our industry has been let down by Government regarding the unfair un Australian intercode agreement. Who in their right mind with the opportunity of giving due diligence would commit an entire industry to such a restriction of trade for 99 years????