

**Submission  
No 238**

## **INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW**

**Name:** Ms Toni Brown

**Date received:** 23/10/2013

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To: Legislative Council Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in NSW

Date 21.09.13

Thank you for taking the time to hear my submission.

Background Information:

My father has been in the Greyhound Industry for as long as I can remember, I have been Involved with the Greyhounds for over 20 years.

My Father did a lot for the Industry, he donated land for a slipping track, supplied a room on our property for a vet to come every Sunday, allowing trainers to have their dogs checked at a cheap rate, opened a shop for trainers to purchase there meat and kibble.

He also donated his cattle each year to the Dapto Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc Dapto Greyhound racing club Rodeo to raise money for them, never asking for anything in return.

I am associated with a number of Greyhound participants through racing, personal friends and Trainers who come to our property; the number of Greyhound Trainers leaving the industry is increasing by the day this saddens me and cannot be healthy for the future of Greyhound Racing.

The most important issue to be addressed is the Inter- Code agreement, why a contract would be signed off for 99 years just amazes me. 15 years ago I was earning a lot less money than I am earning today, imagine if I signed a work place agreement agreeing to the same wage for the next 99 years but still having to deal with inflation and costs rising all the time, how could I survive?

I am fortunate enough to have a full time job to provide income to support my Dogs, I sympathize with the Trainers that rely 100% on their winnings to survive.

With the Inter Code Agreement that is currently in place it makes it increasingly difficult for these Trainers to continue to be involved in this Industry putting them under a great deal of financial strain.

The next issue is Animal Welfare, I agree there is a small minority that does the wrong thing in every sport and Organisation, but we are all being painted with the same brush. The majority of trainers and owners look after their dogs and treat them like family members; I can supply you with hundreds of photographs showing well cared for and loved dogs.

If Trainers and Owners have nothing to hide they will not be concerned with Animal welfare being raised in this Inquiry. The Trainers and Owners that are treating their Dogs badly or using

Performance enhancing drugs deserve to be exposed and run out of this sport.

This Inquiry is the best thing that has happened to this Industry in a long time and hopefully GRNSW will work with the participants to get the Industry back on the right path and secure the future of Greyhound Racing in NSW.

Kind Regards

Toni Brown.