

Submission
No 592

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 7/11/2013

Partially Confidential

I have been involved in greyhound racing for 9 years with moderate success. Over this period I have averaged approx 15 wins a year on TAB tracks. I believe for the number of dogs I have in work my success rate to be above average. My dogs have clean kennels dry beds and are exercised daily. To carry this through I believe I spend approximately \$5 to \$10 thousand a year out of my own pocket to train and race my dogs. Take into account 2 hrs morning and night training, exercising and feeding the dogs plus when I am racing could be at the track for 4hrs at a time. My fuel bill is between \$100 and \$150 per week taking the dogs to slip, Trial and race.

The industry needs to have a look at the grading system to allow dogs to be raced for a longer period. At present greyhounds are out graded to quickly which does not allow participants the opportunity to retrieve money spent purchasing, rearing and racing the dog.

Over the years facilities at the tracks have deteriorated to the point that just about all tracks in NSW require upkeep and maintenance. Currently GRNSW does not have the revenue to make these upgrades. Better facilities will encourage people to return to racing nights out which will drive more income.

The greyhound industry has a lot of work to do to improve the sport and unfortunately this cannot be carried out without more funding. All the industry requires for this to be able to carry on is a fair share of the revenue generated.

I would hope through this enquiry that commonsense show's its ugly head and the 99 year agreement is overturned with Greyhound racing to receive all the funds generated by this great industry. With these funds GRNSW could upgrade tracks, refine the grading system, put things in place to ensure all greyhounds are looked after correctly increasing the greyhound as pets programmes and finally increase prize money. Prize money should not just be for the first three place getters but extended to the first 5 and this will ensure more owners have the opportunity to receive funds they have put into the industry.

Animal welfare issues have been raised and this has improved enormously in the last 8 years on limited funds. As a trainer I would be happy to see Greyhound racing be a leader across all three racing codes for animal welfare which will happen when more money is available.

The outcome of this enquiry will affect a lot of people's lives because if the inter code agreement is not overturned and Greyhound NSW receive a higher share of the TAB dividends then Greyhound racing will not be sustainable in NSW. This will lead to more unemployment across the entire state and with no racing no Greyhounds.

Thankyou for reading my submission