

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

2013 Greyhound racing in NSW (Inquiry) Submission

I would like to submit this document for consideration into the Greyhound Industry in NSW inquiry. In it, I wish to address the issues of animal welfare and make the following recommendations –

1. That all greyhound puppies are required to be tattooed, micro chipped and registered with Greyhounds NSW within two weeks of whelping. The record should include full details of the litter including any puppies that were stillborn or that are deceased prior to registration. This would allow a proper record of numbers bred to be maintained.
2. That the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) in NSW be funded fully by the industry by way of appropriate levies upon registration of puppies. This would allow proper kennel and other facilities to be maintained.
3. That all participants in the industry are mandated to offer any greyhounds that are deemed to be either not suitable for racing or that have finished their racing careers to be offered to GAP for rehoming. This would again allow for proper record keeping on the numbers of greyhounds breed and their ultimate fate.
4. The birth registration details should be compared with the GAP intake details and these along with any deaths recorded between these times (which should also be mandatory) be used to check any irregularities in the numbers reported which would allow full investigation and suitable penalties to be imposed for noncompliance.
5. While the green collar schemes run by GAP in other states (Queensland and Victoria for example) are working well there seems to be a lot of concern about the scheme in NSW. There is anecdotal evidence that suggests that -
 - Some non GAP “rehoming” organisations are being used as a backdoor euthanasia source by some unscrupulous participants and assessors.
 - There are also suggestions that these non GAP rehoming groups are unwittingly being used to move stolen greyhounds by the removal of microchips and tattoo alteration.
 - That the quality of assessments being carried out by non GAP entities is sadly lacking despite the training being carried out to alleviate this. This could result in either a higher euthanasia rate than is necessary or unsafe dogs being placed into the community as pets.
6. Should the inquiry decide that the current greenhound programme is to continue then it would be appropriate for any assessors used by the programme to be full time residents of NSW. It is not appropriate to have assessors from outside of NSW involved in the NSW industry.
7. I would strongly support all greyhound rehoming/adoption is carried out via GAP (NSW) and not be organisations who do not have the dog’s best interests at heart.

Thank you for accepting this submission and considering its contents.

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