

Submission  
No 18

**INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND WELFARE AND  
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 30 November 2020

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Partially  
Confidential

Greyhound racing is a horrific 'sport' that psychologically & physically damages a very kind and sensitive breed.

The transparency that the GWIC have provided over the last nearly 3 years via the release of various reports has made it clear that despite an admittedly concerted effort to improve the greyhound racing industry, there are still hundreds of greyhounds that are dying each year directly because of it. I cannot see anything humane about that. Even 1 dead hound on the report should clearly highlight that racing animals to give a punter a shot at a bit of money is disgustingly cruel.

I am a retired greyhound owner & can appreciate that there are good and bad greyhound racing owners & trainers out there, but they cannot claim to have the hound's welfare as a priority when they are prepared to accept a very high chance of injury when that hound is on the track.

In only 6 months, between January and June of 2019, 97 greyhounds were euthanised due to catastrophic injury (according to 2018-2019 annual report), 2600 total injuries were reported in that time, ranging from minor to catastrophic. I cannot believe that we as a country can accept this kind of thing. The psychological trauma that these hounds endure can make it extremely hard for them to be rehomed, highlighted in the 2018/19 annual report with a total of 142 greyhounds either "euthanised at owner's request after rehoming attempts failed" or "after private veterinarian certified that the greyhound was behaviourally unsuitable for rehoming (typically aggressive)".

Are the GWIC going the extra mile and investigating the owners of these hounds and why they are so aggressive that they must be killed, and initiating penalties or suspensions? How is this acceptable to the commission? The animal racing industry is a stain on our country and when money is on the line, then ANYTHING will be done to make those dogs run that bit faster. I am ashamed that the commission can tout 'improvement' in the industry by citing that slightly less hounds have died than last year. If there was anyone on the commission with even an ounce of 'welfare' in them, they would not be supporting this industry in the slightest.