



WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2023

Industry focused on injury reduction strategies

Experts and industry bodies from across greyhound racing jurisdictions have gathered in Bathurst, New South Wales today for the first Greyhound Industry Race Injury Reduction Summit.

Hosted by the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC) and Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW), the summit is focused on the analysis of race injury data and the development of injury reduction strategies across the board.

Chief Commissioner for the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, Alby Taylor said "The NSW Greyhound Racing industry is more focused than ever on increasing the safety of racing greyhounds."

"The industry recognises the need to protect our canine athletes, and as such the aim across all states and jurisdictions will always be zero deaths at tracks," Commissioner Taylor said.

"This common goal has brought industry experts here today to share their experience and knowledge, and work together for the better of the sport."

The summit will hear from Greyhound Racing New Zealand's Michael Dore, Professor David Eager from the University of Technology Sydney, Glenn Fish and Terrie Benfield from Greyhound Racing Victoria, Dr Cindy Blaney (GRNSW), Dr Miranda Gott and Dr Tony Kuipers (GWIC).

"We already understand the implications of serious track injuries on greyhounds, as well as their owners, trainers and track staff, but today is about understanding the numbers too, and how we can improve the racing environment and reduce the risk of injury to greyhounds."

Chief Executive Officer for Greyhound Racing NSW, Rob Macaulay, said "The industry is collectively focused on best welfare outcomes on and off the track."

"Events such as the Race Industry Reduction Summit are vitally important in our continuous evaluation and improvements process."

Catastrophic race injuries in NSW have shown a consistent decline since regular reporting began in 2016, with last financial year reporting the lowest ever catastrophic injury rate of 0.53/1000 starts.

Today's summit will focus on the continued reduction of all categories of injuries and initiate the development of a Race Injury Reduction Action Plan which will be presented to the industry later this year.

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