

# GWIC Industry Participant Advisory Council



## Minutes - GIPAC Monthly Meeting

<b>Date</b>	Friday 26 July 2024
<b>Time</b>	10:00am -11:00am AEDT
<b>Present:</b>	GIPAC - Tracy Hindmarsh (Council Chair), Martin Hallinan, Bryan Young, Glenn Midson GWIC – Steve Griffin, Wade Birch, Matthew Tutt, Kristy Harper, Anya Whitelaw
<b>Apologies:</b>	Luke Brown, Barry Ward
<b>Absent:</b>	Amanda Ginn, Gayle Masterson
<b>Secretariat:</b>	Nina Beeston

### 1. Welcome and apologies

### 2. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting

- The minutes from the meeting held on 28 June 2024 were formally adopted by the participants.

### 3. Outstanding action items

- *Speak to Stewards and comms to be sent regarding enforcing the dress code.* An email was sent to the team on 4 July 2024. Item to be marked completed.
- *Wentworth Park - Issue of late finish; travel/participant welfare to be raised at the joint GWIC/GBOTA meeting next week.* The issue has been raised with GBOTA and GRNSW. Item to be marked completed.
- *Discuss the issue of Thyroxine with Tony Kuipers and report back* - If prescribed, it can be used. It is a prohibited substance but not currently tested for, GWIC does not believe there is any abuse and will be looking at whether there should be an exemption. Dr Kuipers will be putting together some communications on appropriate uses and the need to keep treatment records. Item to be marked completed.

### 4. Feedback in relation to GWIC

- Nil. All is positive.

### 5. Emerging industry issues

- Appointment of Acting Commissioner Lea Drake to undertake an Inquiry into GRNSW operations.
  - More information will come through over the coming weeks and submissions to the Inquiry will be invited

### 6. Other business

- Proposed Rehoming Policy amendments will be coming to GIPAC for feedback.
- GWIC website refresh - GWIC Communications team are working on developing a new, more modern and informative website. A number of look and feel options are under consideration and feedback is invited.
- More Participant based videos will be posted over the coming weeks
- Race Well – some new enhancements including a feedback button are now available

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- eTracking – 98% of greyhounds have been checked in; with approx. 470 not checked in despite numerous emails and calls to Participants. Those who have not checked in will be prevented from nominating and GWIC will be taking action for non compliance with requirements.
- Injury reporting – there has been a decline in serious injuries. We are looking into contributing factors which could be replicated. May be a correlation between wet weather and lower injuries / watering of tracks may have an impact. Roll out of double arm lures. Results of soft sand track trials at Taree will be interesting.
  - Since painting the lure rail at Nowra, greyhounds are not colliding with it; new sand laid at Dapto in December has made a difference
  - Short course racing may be an issue; encourages bunching at the turn
    - Some greyhounds can't run longer courses; it's easier to train over a short course
    - Straight tracks are better for short course races. A straight track in each zone would be ideal.
  - All injuries need to be reported including those that result in minimal stand downs; for transparency and maintenance of trust in the Regulator
- GWIC is developing SOPs for interviewing of trainers subsequent to a serious injury leading to euthanasia; for the purpose of gathering information where there is no obvious cause of the injury/breakdown; looking for consistent issues that can be addressed. Will get some comms out to the industry about this. This is in addition to the work done looking at trainers with high injury rates, which is almost finalised with one remaining trainer to be looked at.
- Muscle checking and health checking; some trainers are better than others but few people complain about not being able to access a checker
  - GWIC Comms team will consider a refresh and redo of Marty's old checking video. Kristy and Marty to discuss off line.
  - Glenn is willing to work with Tony Kuipers on developing some education for Participants on greyhound basic care and attention. Kristy is considering running monthly information sessions where GWIC Vets can talk to Participants.
- GAP USA program
  - is currently paused. There were two deaths in June that have come to light that will be investigated by Lea Drake.
  - People have too many GAP dogs to look after and the future is somewhat uncertain, so they are not breeding. Number of dogs bred that never race is also an issue.
  - Participants have responsibility to make their greyhounds pet ready; could pay a provider to do this for them.
  - GWIC fully supports the USA program
- Industry Summit planned for September - has been postponed to February 2025. Will allow time for ideas coming from Nationals in August to be digested; and for a summit theme to be developed – possibly sustainability of the sport
- Thermal race rugs – can Participants use their own?
  - GWIC – The pattern would have to be appropriate; sponsors/branding may be an issue particularly for TAB races. Wade will speak with Dean Degan and either Wade or Dean will get back to Tracy.

## Action

1. Kristy to circulate the new website look and feel options to GIPAC for feedback
2. GIPAC to provide insights into what may be contributing to the decrease in the serious injury rate
3. Wade will speak with Dean Degan and either Wade or Dean will get back to Tracy re use of thermal race rugs and whether Participants can use their own.
4. Kristy and Marty to discuss the remaking of Marty's old checking video off line.

7. **Next meeting:** Friday 30 August 2024

8. **Record of action items**

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Action Ref		Action	Person responsible	Due date	Comments
	24/11/2023	Compile a list of tracks with shade sails and cool pools	Wade Birch		In progress. WB to discuss use of cool pools with Tony Kuipers
	15/12/2023	Look into eTrac functionality and whether notification of a swab result can be sent to the trainer.	Wade Birch		Currently in development. Will be ready for use in 3 – 6 month's time (Aug – Nov 24)
	25/1/2024	Tracking of interstate greyhounds racing in NSW – increased transparency. M.Tutt to discuss with GRNSW offline	GWIC		In progress. GWIC Policy Team to develop a paper
	16/2/2024	Look at the GRNSW rehoming assistance form (reference to desexing)	Wade Birch		Sitting with GRNSW. GRNSW does not have capacity to separate desexing from other parts of HAS.
	26/7/2024	Circulate the new website look and feel options to GIPAC for feedback	Kristy Harper		
	26/7/2024	Provide insights into what may be contributing to the decrease in the serious injury rate	GIPAC		
	26/7/2024	Wade will speak with Dean Degan and either will get back to Tracy re whether Participants can use their own thermal race rugs.	Wade Birch & Dean Degan		
	26/7/2024	Discuss off line the remaking of Marty's old checking video.	Kristy Harper & Marty Hallinan		