

**TUESDAY 19 MAY 2020**

## Professional trainers invited to sit on injury panel

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission is seeking expressions of interest from professional NSW greyhound trainers to expand its list of trainers who participate on the Race Injury Review Panel.

The Commission's Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr Michelle Ledger, said the panel is the first of its kind in the greyhound racing industry, with a fundamental purpose of better understanding the underlying causes of racing injuries.

"We have been operating this panel for over a year now and have received valuable contributions from a number of professional trainers in NSW," Dr Ledger said.

"The panel meets monthly to analyse the contributing factors in relation to serious and catastrophic race injuries and works to develop and implement preventative measures that will reduce the rate and severity of injuries to racing greyhounds," Dr Ledger said.

"All catastrophic injuries or deaths at NSW tracks are subject to a detailed case by case review by the Panel."

In its review the Panel identifies and analyses all contributing factors to each case which could be training-related, race-related, track-related or greyhound-related. Causal factors also considered could include race factors, such as collisions and falls, the greyhound's racing history, breeding and genetics, training influences, previous injuries, track conditions, environmental influences etc.

The Panel is chaired by the Commission's Chief Veterinary Officer and includes:

- The Commission's Chief Steward
- A member of the Greyhound Industry Animal Welfare Committee and/or other independent expert
- Nominated representative/s from GRNSW
- Professional greyhound trainer appointed by the Commission
- Any such expertise as the Chair deems appropriate.

"A representative pool of professional trainers is invited to sit on the panel on a rotating basis, and I thank those trainers who have been participating on the panel so far," Dr Ledger said.

"More trainers are being sought as they can bring a unique perspective on the preparation and exercise regimen of racing greyhounds, and the history of rearing practices, spelling, treatments and nutritional aspects."

Expressions of interest will close on **31 May 2020**.

For more information on the selection criteria visit the Commission's [website](#).

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