



MEDIA RELEASE

WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST 2018

A million reasons for greyhound racing participants to fully comply

A new welfare and integrity program specific to the GRNSW + Ladbrokes Million Dollar Chase is set to be launched by the NSW Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission.

The Commission's Chief Executive Officer, Judy Lind, said given the high stakes of this race series, the Commission will be increasing the number of vets and stewards at race series events to ensure any wrongdoing is identified and dealt with accordingly.

"Vets will be monitoring greyhounds before races to ensure they are fit to race, during races to observe their performance, to identify any signs of stress, to carry out post-race reviews, to check on greyhound recovery and to supervise the collection of samples for prohibited substance analysis," Ms Lind said.

"Stewards will oversee race day activities to ensure integrity through compliance with the racing rules."

Any participant the Commission identifies as not demonstrating the highest welfare and integrity standards, risks not being allowed to participate in the series.

"The recent announcement of the new Million Dollar Chase has generated much interest and enthusiasm within the industry, however at the Commission the integrity of the industry, and welfare of all greyhounds remains a top priority," Ms Lind said.

All participants in the NSW greyhound racing industry, whether competing in the million dollar race series or not, must fully comply with the Commission's rehoming policy available on the Commission's website www.gwic.nsw.gov.au

The Commission will be ramping up kennel inspections for those likely to compete to ensure kennels meet expected standards, and that all greyhounds are properly cared for.

There will also be an increase in swabbing tests carried out to detect any use of prohibited substances.

The Commission will be working with inter-state counterparts to ensure any participant from interstate also upholds the highest of standards in relation to welfare and integrity.

"We are here to ensure greyhound racing in NSW is governed by the highest animal welfare standards and to ensure everyone in this industry adopts these standards as the norm, not the exception," Ms Lind said.

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