

GIPAC Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date:	Friday, 26 February 2021
Time:	1:00-2:10pm AEDT
Location:	via Video Conference: Pexip 2 - https://my.cvjoin.com.au/meet/ & enter Conference Code: 35402336
Present:	GIPAC - Barry Ward, Tracy Hindmarsh (Council Chair), Jenny Barnett, Martin Hallinan and Gayle Masterson. GWIC - Richard Sollorz, Steve Griffin and Dr Abigail Groves (for Agenda Item 4).
Apologies:	Jason Lyne (GIPAC), Amanda Ginn (GIPAC) and Mark Bell (GIPAC).
Secretariat/ minute taker:	Katrina Ring (GWIC)

1. Welcome and apologies

Chair welcomed all participants.

2. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from meeting held on 29 January 2021 were formally adopted by the participants.

3. Outstanding action items

All outstanding action items from meeting held on 29 January 2021 have been actioned and are marked as completed.

Feedback in relation to proposed GWIC policies

4. Section 41 Matter

- Under Section 41 of the Act, Animal Exemption Orders will be implemented as part of the registration renewal process this year. Participants will be asked what other animals are kept at their premises, as part of the application process, and will be assessed as part of their application to register as a participant.
- GWIC has developed guidelines on what kind of animals participants need to declare and what not to declare. These guidelines are available on the GWIC website.
- Most applications for an exemption order are approved, however, if an application is not approved a review of the decision can be requested.
- Completion of the Animal Exemption Order would be required only once, however, if circumstances



have changed i.e. the animals that you keep have changed - a separate Animal Declaration Form can be completed to update the information.

- Query in relation to unexpected other animals that pass through a property. It was confirmed by that the Animal Exemption Order only applies for animals that are physically kept on someone's property.

5. Registration Renewal Process Update

- GWIC are currently working through a couple of things with the renewal portal, to ensure ease for customers and is aiming for everything to be settled by 8th March.
- GWIC are currently finalising a calendar for Track Visits so that GWIC staff will be out in the field during the Registration Renewal Process, to assist people with renewing.

Feedback in relation to GWIC

6. Race day, inspection and registration services

- Nil

Emerging Industry issues

7. Owner Accountability

- A discussion was had in relation to the Owners responsibility once a greyhound is retired at the end of its career and needing to be rehomed. Owners do not want accountability over the greyhound once retired and Trainers are, at times, left with needing to rehome a retired greyhound, thus, a proposal of a rule for this was suggested.
- Chair advised that GWIC do not get involved regarding disputes over who pays what of the greyhound, however, Owners are accountable for they greyhound as per the new Code of Practice. Should GWIC receive contact from the Trainer, GWIC will contact the Owner advising that they are the Owner of the greyhound thus, should collect the greyhound from the Trainer and rehome it.
- Chair advised he will draft communications regarding Owner accountability and have available at next month's meeting for this council's review, prior to publishing on social media and GWIC Website.

8. Owners allowed to whelp without needing a breeder's registration

- Topic raised in relation to Owners and Owners being recorded as the Breeder, without having a Breeding Licence or Lease in place. Considered that it isn't fair on the Owner for the Brood Bitch to be signed over to another person and felt that the Breeding process should be simpler.
- Advised GWIC do not request to transfer the ownership of a dam into a Breeders name, however, a lease to a registered Breeder would be required. GWIC do allow registered Breeders to undertake Breeding activities and should the Breeder not have facilities and/or facilities that are compliant to undertake Breeding activities, Breeders can nominate another address where breeding activities would occur.
- Queried why the owner can race a dog but can't be the breeder as well. Not sure why the Brood Bitch needed to be leased to someone else and felt that this is a lot to ask. Richard Sollorz advised he is happy to receive and look over what exactly happened and how to improve on processes.

9. Scratching from race during storms without penalty

- Raised a recent occurrence of a big storm at Lismore as an example of some dogs being frightened during a race day.
- Queried if a policy could be developed in relation to storms and proposed that this policy is enforced just before the race, if the race cannot be held back, there be a non-penalty scratch for those distressed dogs as a welfare concern.
- Chair advised to leave this topic with him and will investigate, and report back to the advisory council during next month's meeting.

10. Free Entry Trials

- Chair advised that feedback from GBOTA and Greyhound Clubs NSW would be that these are staffed with a Lure Driver at the very least, thus need to cover their staffing costs with an entry fee.

11. Reduction in online paperwork

- Chair advised that GWIC is working hard to reduce online paperwork and noted E-Tracking, which the Government recently announced and are allocating \$3.6m to assist with implementing to reduce online paperwork.
- The new technology will allow GWIC to track and protect racing greyhounds throughout their careers and beyond. Will be automated and be completely digitised including the use of an app. The Chair advised that more information will be provided in due course, as it will take around 12-18 months to be implemented.
- Once implemented, registered greyhounds will be sighted, scanned, and accounted for on an annual basis. Scanners will be provided to every major Trainer, Breeders, Rehoming Organisations and Racetracks to ensure all details are accounted for.
- Queried whether Greyhound Weight Books would be a requirement with the new system. They will not
- The Chair raised that he had met with:
 - Dennis Anderson, National President of the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds (CPG), in relation to statistical numbers for NSW.
 - Peak Industry Bodies Meeting. Those who were in attendance included Tony Mestrov (GRNSW), Wayne Billett (GRNSW), Shayne Stiff (Greyhound Club NSW President), John Patton (Wagga and District Greyhound Racing Club Chief Executive), Steve Noyce (GBOTA) and New Deputy CEO of GRNSW. During this meeting, the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds was discussed and how to be more proactive with the media, to address certain issues including a casual or catastrophic injury etc.
- The Chair advised that he is working with GRNSW in relation to the development of a Greyhound Care Scheme, where the care of an injured greyhound will be owned by GRNSW, vetted, and rehabilitated before returning to the Owner or rehomed. More information to become available in future meetings.

12. Portable produce purchase centres

- The Chair advised to leave this item for next month's meeting.

13. Consistency of stewarding decisions and advice from GWIC Employees

- The Chair advised that GWIC has appointed a new Director of Racing Operations, Chief Steward, Mr Wade Birch, and circulated a media release announcement to the advisory council, prior to this meeting. Wade will be tasked to make ensure consistency of each Steward. GWIC feels that Wade Birch will be a great GWIC asset to the industry.

14. More communications via social media

- It is felt that GWIC may not do enough communications via social media thus would like to gain the advisory councils' feedback in relation to this topic. Feedback given was that social media can 'sometimes' be a good thing, as a platform of communication. GWIC aims to be more involved with social media
- A few weeks back the Chair released a media release in relation to behaviour and abuse against GWIC Staff and Race Officials including via social media, and GWIC will not tolerate this behaviour. More information in relation to this topic will be made available in the next few weeks.

15. Grass Tracks - Why new grass tracks?

- A discussion was had in relation to the new straight track at Richmond which will be commissioned next month. Steve Griffin advised that he had spoken with Wayne Billett (GRNSW) and a comparison to Capalaba in Brisbane was investigated regarding the Lure at Capalaba which runs up the side, instead of the middle. The next track built will be sand.

16. Introduce Breeder incentives

- A discussion was had in relation numbers within the market and Breeders spending a lot of money for Breeding activities including Whelping. The costs of these activity incurred for Breeders can become expensive. This will be raised with GRNSW
- Further discussion was had in relation to prize money for Breeders in South Australia and Victoria, thus a strong focus with the same incentive for more around the bush within NSW.
- The Chair shared data in relation to Whelping's so far this year and advised that the number is around 4,000 and potentially could reach 5,000 and this was a positive.

17. Media contacting track following catastrophic injuries at tracks

- The Chair advised that he had spoken with the Clubs yesterday and will be sending out more information regarding GWIC's standard process and actions taken when news of catastrophic injury at a track is advised. GWIC's Media Team are to be contacted in first instance. GWIC also get experts together including the Injury Race Review Panel to discuss the findings together including looking at any evidence so that GWIC can find ways to continue to improve. On occasions, GWIC will have Dr Michelle Ledger, GWIC's Chief Veterinary Officer, available to address some of the bigger issues (either via radio or on camera).

18. Any further comments/questions

- A question was raised in relation to availability of Trail Tracks in the Hunter Region. Steve Griffin advised that he would talk with Wayne Billett (GRNSW) regarding this topic.
- Query raised regarding Wentworth Park abandonment on Wednesday night due to rain. Steve Griffin advised that Wentworth Park is GBOTA's track. The track was remediated on Sunday and mistakenly trialed 2-3 days where there was rain present.
- Steve Griffin noted that during the Peak Industry Bodies Meeting it was discussed and agreed during that the protocol for race abandonments are to be advised early, 3-4 hours prior, to allow people adequate notice to not commence travel. It was also agreed by GRNSW that appearance money will also be paid to cover the cost of travel, regardless if the track can be remediated or not. The value and frequency of the appearance money is yet to be confirmed. Steve Griffin advised that a media release would be issued as well in relation to this.
- Raised the topic of Prize Money and asked if there was any feedback regarding money for extra races. Steve Griffin advised that this topic was discussed at the Peak Industry Bodies Meeting, including the level of prize money being offered i.e. 3rd prize money and Tony Mestrov (GRNSW) would provide more information in the next month.
- Query regarding Breeding Exemption Application Form for Greyhounds over 8 years or 3 litters. Can this be changed from 3 months to 6 months as it gives the breeder and greyhound more of a window and less paperwork Breeding and coming back from 3 to 6 months. Steve Griffin advised it is in the Rules of Racing therefore are unable to change this.

Action Ref	Meeting date	Action	Person responsible	Due date	Comments
21/5	26/02/21 Item 7	Owner Accountability Steve Griffin to draft communications and have available at next month's meeting for review, prior to publishing on social media and GWIC Website.	Steve Griffin	26/03/21	In Progress
21/6	26/02/21 Item 8	Owners allowed to whelp without needing a breeder's registration Richard Sollorz to provide a flowchart on the current Breeding Registration process to the advisory council, to gain feedback on	Richard Sollorz	26/03/21	In Progress

		potential changes to the current process.			
21/7	26/02/21 Item 9	Scratching from race during storms without penalty Steve Griffin to investigate potential policy for non-penalty scratch, from storms and report back to advisory council during next month's meeting.	Steve Griffin	Progress to next meeting 26/03/21	In Progress
21/8	26/02/21 Item 12	Portable produce purchase centres Katrina Ring, EA, to include this item on March's Agenda and to confirm Amanda Ginn's attendance to next month's meeting.	Katrina Ring	3/03/21	Completed
21/9	26/02/21 Item 16	Introduce Breeder incentives Barry Ward to provide Steve Griffin a note in relation to this and once provided, Steve Griffin to raise topic with GRNSW.	Barry Ward	26/03/21	In Progress
21/10	26/02/21 Item 18	Other Steve Griffin to confirm if any changes with the Breeding Exemption Rule has been included in the rewrite and get back to the advisory council on this, if any findings.	Steve Griffin	26/03/21	In Progress

19. Next meeting: Friday, 26 March 2021