

MEDIA STATEMENT

24 June 2024

GWIC DATA MUST NOT BE MISINTERPRETED AND MISREPORTED

Following misrepresentation of its data, the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC) is issuing a warning in relation to reinterpretation and distortion of the industry data that it publishes and makes available through its eTrac Public Search portal.

The Commission has been made aware that misrepresented GWIC data, along with other inaccurate data, has been circulated to media outlets in relation to greyhound euthanasia. These factual inaccuracies and misreporting could have easily been avoided by seeking GWIC's verification.

The Commission's Chief Commissioner Mr Alby Taylor says:

"The Commission is meticulous in its approach to its collection, analysis and public reporting of key industry data, including race injury data.

"We are dedicated to ensuring the industry and community are accurately informed to highlight our commitment to enhancing the welfare and integrity of the sport and we are always willing to verify its data.

"Prior to distribution of this misrepresented data, no verification was sought from the Commission. Any public distribution of data which is factually incorrect is a distortion of the truth and is unacceptable.

"The Commission undertook a thorough review of the data circulated and can provide the following facts in response to these inaccuracies."

In relation to the data circulated to media, the Commission advises:

- Publicly available stewards reports and reports provided by the Commission's on-track veterinarians confirm that nine of the greyhounds named in the table were **not** found to have an injury at their last race.
- Only four of the greyhounds named in the table (Whinge And Win, Raw Honey, Chit Chat and Purdy's Chance) were euthanised as a result of a racing injury sustained in their last race, not the 18 claimed.
- The Commission can confirm that another four greyhounds not included on the circulated table were euthanised as a result of an injury sustained at their last race.
- Two greyhounds (Amron Red and Alaska Go) have been counted twice in the circulated table.

While the circulated table did not include greyhounds deceased at race meetings this year, the Commission can confirm that nine greyhounds have been euthanised or died at race meetings as a result of injury since 1 January, 2024.

In addition, the Commission's most recent quarterly injury report shows that the rate of on-track euthanasia has declined.

"The New South Wales greyhound industry has some of the highest standards of greyhound welfare in the world and has a commitment to zero unnecessary euthanasia," Mr Taylor said.

"GWIC will continue to analyse injury rates in NSW and work with the industry to develop initiatives that further improve the welfare of racing greyhounds. The Commission is committed to securing a prosperous industry by improving welfare and integrity."

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Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission is the independent regulator for the greyhound industry in NSW. The Commission was established to promote and protect the welfare of greyhounds, safeguard the integrity of greyhound racing and maintain public confidence in the greyhound racing industry.

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