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GWIC REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING TOTAL COMPLIANCE AS eTRACKING SETS A NEW BENCHMARK

A new benchmark in traceability has been set, but in announcing the outcomes of the first year of eTracking in the NSW greyhound racing industry, the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC) has reaffirmed its commitment to further elevate compliance rates.

The world-first eTracking system was introduced into the NSW greyhound racing industry by GWIC in 2022. This innovative eTracking technology ensures the industry can account for every registered greyhound in NSW annually, providing assurance to the community that unlawful deaths are not occurring in the sport.

During the first tranche of eTracking undertaken in 2023, almost 98% of the greyhounds on the NSW Greyhound Register were accounted for.

GWIC Chief Commissioner Alby Taylor said the Commission remains resolute in its mission to accurately account for every greyhound registered in NSW.

“GWIC thanks all participants who responded to eTrac notifications sent for them to check-in scan their greyhounds last year. Unfortunately, a small number of participants chose not to. This is not acceptable and unfair to the vast majority of industry participants who are doing the right thing to protect the sport,” Mr Taylor said.

“When it comes to the industry accounting for its greyhounds, nothing less than 100% compliance from participants is acceptable.”

Highlighting its commitment to enhance greyhound welfare and integrity standards, the Commission is currently investigating 171 participants for their failure to check-in their greyhounds.

Given the critically important role eTracking plays in setting world-leading oversight standards and boosting public confidence in the sport, GWIC has also introduced new local rules to strengthen this area of compliance.

The new rules, which came into effect on 1 July 2024, mean participants who fail to check-in scan their greyhounds will be prevented from nominating any greyhound for racing until they comply.

“We are currently halfway through eTracking for this year, and we want full compliance. Achieving 100% compliance is critical for the industry to gain the confidence and ongoing support of the community,” Mr Taylor said.

“Be assured, GWIC will be pursuing those participants who cannot account for their greyhounds. With eTracking there is no place to hide. If you unlawfully kill a greyhound in NSW, make no mistake, you will be caught and you will be out of the sport for life, in addition to potentially facing criminal charges.”

As well as setting a traceability benchmark, the first tranche of eTrac check-ins has also resulted in NSW having the most accurate greyhound register not only in Australia, but globally, with historical and redundant data having been cleansed and updated.

In addition, the Commission will deliver another groundbreaking initiative later this year with nose print recognition scanning technology to be implemented. This innovation will allow participants to use their smart phones to check-in scan their greyhounds into the Commission’s eTrac system.

“In another world-first, the Commission will be introducing biometric nose print scanning technology later this year, making it quick, simple and easy for participants to scan their greyhounds into eTrac using their mobile phone. Through the use of technology, we are not only streamlining compliance but furthering our commitment to make processes user-friendly and intuitive,” Mr Taylor said.

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Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission

The Greyhound Welfare and 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.

For further information, contact:

Ms Anya Whitelaw (GWIC)
Media & Communications
T: +61 448 193 270
E: media@gwic.nsw.gov.au