

Engaging in excellence: GWIC is building a vibrant future for the NSW greyhound racing industry

Setting new benchmarks in traceability, streamlining processes via cutting-edge technology and contributing to significant improvements across all key performance indicators - that is what the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission has delivered in 2023-24.

As highlighted in GWIC's 2023-24 Annual Report, the Commission is playing an integral role in seeing the NSW greyhound racing industry build towards a strong, sustainable and vibrant future.

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

This is not only a new standard in traceability, but eTracking means NSW now has the most accurate greyhound register in Australia, with world-leading oversight and much elevated public confidence.

As well as the pioneering eTrac digital portal being officially launched, financial year 2023-24 saw GWIC develop and launch the Race Well substance validator smartphone application.

Race Well is free for all NSW greyhound racing industry participants and is a global first for animal racing. It acts as an educational tool to assist participants to determine if a substance or medication is safe and permitted for use with their greyhounds.

In addition to these achievements, GWIC has contributed to producing positive results against all key performance indicators. The rate of on-track euthanasia is at its lowest level on record, greyhound retirement rates are at an all-time high and the breeding levels are some of the lowest on record.

GWIC's Chief Commissioner, Mr Alby Taylor, said these outcomes and the others set out in the 2023-24 Annual Report show GWIC is creating a bright and prosperous future for greyhound racing.

"The Commission's annual report provides clear evidence that the NSW greyhound racing industry has taken significant strides towards a safe and sustainable future," Mr Taylor said.

"In its six years of operational activity, GWIC has implemented the highest standards of greyhound welfare and integrity in Australia. Innovations such as eTrac and Race Well highlight the Commission's status as a world-leader in regulation, as well as elevating the community's confidence in the industry.

"The lowest on-track euthanasia rates on record and a notable decline in serious injury rates clearly demonstrate the robust strategies the Commission has developed and implemented are making a tangible difference."

Highlights from the annual report:

- Completion of the first tranche of eTracking in NSW producing an accurate register of 17,409 registered greyhounds.

- A 68 percent reduction in on-track euthanasia and sudden death rate compared to last financial year.
- A 112 percent increase in greyhound retirements compared to last financial year.
- Launch of the Race Well substance validator smartphone app.
- Development and introduction of the Racing Integrity database, an essential tool for monitoring betting markets, racing form and greyhound performance, allowing analysis of trends that could impact racing integrity.
- Launch of the eTrac digital portal, providing industry participants with direct access to their greyhound information online and facilitating fast and easy 24/7 digital transactions.
- The development and implementation of the eTrac public access tool which allows members of the public to see the approximate location of every registered greyhound in NSW.

A copy of the Commission's 2023-24 Annual Report can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3OsyRUZ>

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