

GREYHOUND

Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report

July to September 2023

1. Overview

The data are derived from the *OzChase* system, on-track veterinarian and race-day stewards' reports. Information is the property of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania - Office of Racing Integrity (ORI) and is relevant to Tasmanian greyhound racing activities.

The following information is provided as a routine disclosure:

1. Statistics on greyhound pups whelped and named as reported by owners and recorded by ORI.
2. Statistics on injuries occurring to racing greyhounds at race meetings held in Tasmania during the reporting period. The race-related injury data are sourced from on-track veterinarians' and stewards' reports, and *OzChase* system reports.
3. Statistics on death/euthanasia of racing greyhounds because of injuries received at race meetings held in Tasmania during the reporting period. This includes greyhounds injured in races, who received off site treatment and assessment but were subsequently euthanised within a 14-day period from the date of injury. The data is sourced from on-track veterinarians' and stewards' reports, and *OzChase* system reports.
4. Greyhound retirement notifications (including deaths) as reported by greyhound owners to ORI and held in *OzChase* as at reporting date.

2. Greyhound pups born (whelped) and named from July 2023 to September 2023

During the period July 2023 to September 2023, there were 8 greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 77 greyhounds named (Table 2) in Tasmania. Greyhounds are generally named for racing at between 12 and 18 months of age, creating a delay between whelping and naming.

Table 1. Greyhound pups born (whelped) during the period July 2023 to September 2023.

| Month | Greyhounds Whelped |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| July 2023 | 1 |
| August 2023 | 7 |
| September 2023 | 0 |
| Q1 Total | 8 |

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period July 2023 to September 2023.

| Month | Greyhounds Named |
|-----------------|------------------|
| July 2023 | 23 |
| August 2023 | 28 |
| September 2023 | 26 |
| Q1 Total | 77 |

3. Injury Categories

3.1. Injury Severity Classification

Greyhounds injured or involved in incidents at Tasmanian race meetings are examined by on-track veterinarians. These incidents and actions are reported to the ORI and included in the stewards' reports for each race meeting.

Injuries vary from very minor incidents with no treatment or incapacitation (stand down) period required to severe injuries that result in the death or required euthanasia of a greyhound. Mandatory stand down periods allow for injury recovery before a greyhound is permitted to race again.

4. Total reported injuries to racing greyhounds from July 2023 to September 2023

Injury rates are standardised as injuries per 1,000 starts. Every greyhound is counted each time it races in the reporting period to standardise injuries per 1,000 starts. During the period July 2023 to September 2023, there were 39 greyhound race meetings held at Tasmanian venues. At these race meetings, there were a total of 2790 starters.

Caveat: Injury report figures provided in the April – June 2023 report were based on a percentage formula. In this report and all reports to follow, these will be based on incidents per 1,000 starters formula.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries as reported at Tasmanian race meetings from July 2023 to September 2023.

| Injury Category | Incapacitation Period | Number of Incidents | Incidents per 1,000 Starters (2790 for period) |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Category A (G) | Nil | 14 | 5.02 |
| Category B (G) | 1 to 10 days | 49 | 17.56 |
| Category C (G) | 11 to 21 days | 14 | 5.02 |
| Category D (G) | 22 to 28 days | 2 | 0.72 |
| Category D (F) | 29 days & over | 5 | 1.79 |
| Category E (F) | Deceased or Euthanised | 1 | 0.36 |
| Total Injuries | | 85 | 30.46 |

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from July 2023 to September 2023

Racing fatalities are defined as deaths that occur because of injuries and/or incidents during or immediately following a race (on track). These include injuries that resulted in the euthanasia of greyhounds at a race meeting. The data does not include euthanasia that may occur subsequent to race meetings when further diagnostic advice or treatment is sought.

Table 4. Greyhound euthanised at Tasmanian racetracks from July 2023 to September 2023. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

| Injury | Count |
|---|-------|
| Right – Foreleg – Severe elbow joint fracture | 1 |

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 5. Number of greyhound race starts and all injuries at Tasmanian tracks from July 2023 to September 2023.

| Track | Track Surface | Starters | Total Injury Incidents | Total Injury Incidents per 1,000 Starters | Deceased / Euthanised | Deceased / Euthanised per 1,000 Starters |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| Launceston | Sand | 1004 | 29 | 28.88 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Hobart | Sand | 879 | 24 | 27.30 | 0 | 0.00 |
| NW @ Launceston | Sand | 563 | 19 | 33.75 | 1 | 1.78 |
| NW @ Hobart | Sand | 344 | 12 | 34.88 | 0 | 0.00 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | | 2790 | 84 | 30.11 | 1 | 0.36 |

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanised during July 2023 to September 2023

Greyhounds that are retired from racing, rehomed, or euthanised are recorded in the OzChase database. These notifications are self-reported by owners to the ORI. The last registered owner of the greyhound must submit a notification of retirement, death or euthanasia as specified by Greyhounds Australasia Rule 22.

Caveats

- Reports of retirements from *OzChase* may vary over time for the same data set due to late lodgment of retirement notifications.
- Data for greyhounds retired to adoption programs other than the GAP are currently not available unless provided by owners in the greyhound's retirement notification.

Table 6. Greyhound mortality notifications from July 2023 to September 2023 including data contained in Table 5, as reported to ORI by owners. The data in this section is categorised based on the information provided to ORI by participants.

| Category | July 2023 | Aug 2023 | Sept 2023 | Total | % |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Deceased accidental causes | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5.56 |
| Deceased illness or age | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 11.11 |
| Deceased natural causes | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5.56 |
| Deceased within 14 days after track injury (following surgery) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5.56 |
| Euthanised at track due to injury | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5.56 |
| Euthanised within 14 days after track injury | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Euthanised due to illness or age | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 44.44 |
| Euthanised due to injury | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 16.67 |
| Euthanised due to not suitable for racing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Euthanised due to not suitable for rehome | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5.56 |
| Total deceased or euthanised | 9 | 6 | 3 | 18 | 100.02 |

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications from July 2023 to September 2023 as reported to ORI by owners.

| Category | July 2023 | Aug 2023 | Sept 2023 | Total | % |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Retired for breeding | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Retired to owner | 5 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 18.18 |
| Retired to trainer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Retired as a pet to a third party | 7 | 9 | 5 | 21 | 38.18 |
| Retired to Tasracing GAP | 9 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 21.82 |
| Retired to other adoption program | 9 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 21.82 |
| Surrendered to other agency | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total retired | 30 | 18 | 7 | 55 | 100.00 |