

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

21 April 2022

Investigation Report – Injury and Management of Greyhound - Tah Bernard

The investigation into the injury and subsequent management of greyhound Tah Bernard has concluded, and the Director of Racing has today released a report in relation to the incident.

The investigation found that the actions of the trainer did not breach the provisions of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*, or the animal welfare provisions of the Greyhound Australasia Rules.

The extensive investigation has been conducted by the Office of Racing Integrity in conjunction with RSPCA Tasmania.

In response to the circumstances of the incident, the Director of Racing made two recommendations:

- That there must be a veterinary surgeon present at all race meetings and official greyhound club trial events or alternatively procured in a manner that provides for immediate on-track attendance in the event of an injury.
- That Tasracing and the Office of Racing Integrity review all local rules, animal welfare guidelines and associated documents related to euthanasia and treatment of injuries to ensure that they are clear, concise and non-contradictory – and that they clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of participants.

The Director referred one matter to the Stewards for determination – this was in respect of the administration to the greyhound of medication that was prescribed to another animal.

The Stewards decision is released concurrently with this report.

The investigation was instigated in November 2021, following the Office of Racing Integrity receiving a complaint in relation to the management of an injured greyhound by a prominent Launceston greyhound trainer.

The scope of the investigation was to:

- Identify all circumstances relating to the injury, treatment and subsequent euthanasia of the greyhound, Tah Bernard;
- Identify any shortcomings in the treatment and standard of care of the greyhound – and if necessary, refer those to any other appropriate body; and
- Identify any opportunities to improve processes and ensure that animals are treated with care and dignity.

The investigation report can be found at: <https://nre.tas.gov.au/racing/about-the-office-of-racing-integrity/media-releases>

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For further information
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