

GRG MEETING SUMMARY Wednesday 15 June 2022

Tasracing undertook to review the GRG charter before the next meeting.

Tasracing advised of a review of welfare which is being conducted by Dr David Sykes, informing a welfare manager will not be appointed until the conclusion of the report. The review is expected to be completed end of June.

Tasracing outlined the importance of a full-time behaviourist at GAP.

Tasracing stated that the awareness of the Greyhound Recovery Rebate Scheme (GRRS) is increasing amongst participants.

LGRC asked if the plans for the new GAP kennels would be shared with the industry. Tasracing committed to share any further plans with relevant parties.

NWGRC had queries around the way injuries are reported.

A discussion occurred over the wait time of greyhounds waiting to get in to GAP. Tasracing stated that now GAP has a behaviourist on board..

LGRC asked about the possibility of a facility for longer term greyhounds. Tasracing explained that the level of care and re-education requires animal care attendants to be with them each day.

A revised draft of the Postponed and Abandoned Meetings policy was tabled. The changes were not supported. At this time the policy will remain as it is.

A new clause to the Annual Award policy was tabled for recommendation. It was adopted that clause 4.2 be added to the Annual Awards policy.

A paper was raised for discussion around when a greyhound is swabbed in a Heat and/or a Semi Final of a series. The withholding of stake money for a series has been agreed upon.

It has been decided a welfare award to acknowledge a person inside or outside of the industry and an award for recognition of a young participant award be added to the annual awards list.

Tasracing spoke to the issues that have been raised regarding OzChase and field selections. ORI stated that the issue with the Medley Series was the guarding of greyhounds from the same kennels due to the small number of greyhounds and trainers for the series.

ORI are going to talk to OzChase around the issue regarding trainers having greyhounds drawn alongside each other.

Tasracing provided the Code Funding paper to the group. The background of the funding model and the opportunity of the growth fund were discussed.

Discussion occurred around contribution and performance of codes. Tasracing stated that the growth fund at worst is an opportunity for the code to get 33% increase if this is split 3 ways.

Tasracing talked to the paper around increasing the heat and final prize money for Tasmania's Group races. With ever increasing pressure coming from other states to program races over the top of the Hobart Thousand, Tasracing believe something needs to be done to have this time-honoured race protected and remain relevant.

The turnover reports for the three codes as of 31 May 2022 were tabled.

Tasracing provided a verbal precis on the reports. Informing greyhounds are up 7% year on year.

ORI provided the breeding statistics to the group:

Total pups whelped 2022 – 173 against 154 for 2021

Total litters whelped 2022 – 25 against 20 in 2021

ORI also provided that based on current licences there are 25 different individual breeders who have bred a litter in the past two years. There are 85 breeders registered in Tasmania.

The Minutes of the Programming Sub Committee meetings held on 28 February 2022 and 11 March 2022 were tabled and noted.

A copy of the 2022/23 proposed Race Dates were tabled.

A copy of the 2022/23 proposed Feature Events Calendar was tabled.

A copy of the 2022/23 proposed Feature Events Conditions were tabled.

Tasracing provided a verbal report regarding the purchase of a new site for the North West tracks.

The Project, Assets and Operations Update report was tabled for noting.

LGRC mentioned the signage promoting GAP around the state looks good.

HGRC mentioned that putting the GAP flags out the front of the GAP facility could help promote further.

LGRC mentioned the issue of ice at Mowbray on the track.

The marketing paper that was sent to the group was tabled.

Tasracing informed there is a lot of work on GAP promotion and partnerships of GAP and this will be ongoing.

LGRC enquired where the trailer sign at the front of Mowbray racecourse was relocated to.

LGRC asked why the "It's Why We race" tv commercials did not have a greyhound one. Tasracing stated that it is difficult to find participants who are willing to be a part of these ads from a greyhound perspective.

Tasracing committed to produce non individual related content that can be released with facts around the greyhound industry.

Tasracing mentioned that the enhanced media coverage and having an ambassador for GAP has doubled the number of people registered to adopt and foster greyhounds.

HGRC stated that GCA had put money into producing videos and facts about greyhound racing.

GCA have appointed a new executive officer, Troy Harley. The Nationals are going ahead in Sydney, the first time in three years. The program for this will be released in coming days which will include a Saturday morning National straight track title and AGM.

The following GCA AGM will be held in Hobart to coincide with the Hobart Thousand. It is the first time the National committee will meet in Tasmania since 2012.

ORI wanted to thank Ian Thomas for his work at the Launceston meeting on Tuesday 14 June regarding the issue of ice on the track.

ORI informed the policy is still under review.

ORI put it on notice to the group that the report into Tah Bernard has concluded with a report released.

LGRC asked if it was going to be a condition of a trainer's licence to produce a council kennel licence. ORI confirmed that this would be needed.

LGRC mentioned the shortage of participants to assist at race meetings. It was asked if there was a way to streamline the process of getting a licence. ORI to take this on notice.

LGRC asked if there had been any decisions on the recommendations made for the \$500,000 OPEX funding.

LGRC asked if Sky Channel can be asked to not schedule 15min gaps between races. Tasracing stated that we need to work with the cards we are dealt and that might mean trainers require extra help on race night.

LGRC asked what the rule around powers of entry to kennels is. ORI informed that the rule allows for stewards to enter at any time they believe a registered greyhound is on the property.

Robyn Johnson informed the group that she was resigning from the NWGRC.

GOTBAT raised with Tasracing issues relating to the Brighton straight track. Tasracing informed that the check list provided been passed on to the track staff to be followed up.

HGRC mentioned the struggle they are having with On Track Vets for July and early August due to normal vets being unavailable. Tasracing are looking for a solution.