# Media release

**5 March 2018**

## Identification mix up at Ipswich Greyhounds sparks inquiry

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) has opened an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the running of the incorrect dogs in two races at the Ipswich Greyhound race meeting last night.

QRIC Commissioner Ross Barnett said it appears the trainer of both dogs Western Comet and Westmead Comet has inadvertently swapped his two runners and entered the wrong dog to race in Race 1 the Ipswich greyhounds.com Maiden handicap and in Race 2 the Sky Racing Maiden Handicap.

"The mistake went unnoticed after Race 1 as the incorrect dog did not place in the race, however when the dog that should have been in Race 1, Western Comet  placed third in Race 2 the trainer's mistake became clear," he said.

Mr Barnett said stewards were alerted to the mix up after Race 2 when all placegetters were microchipped and checked,  identifying the third placed dog as a runner not listed to compete in that race, but listed to run in the previous race.

"This is a clear breakdown in identification protocols prior to the running of both races and QRIC stewards have not correctly identified the runners prior to each race commencing.

"The correct procedure before the running of each race mandates the checking of the identity of each greyhound before they race, and this has clearly not occurred in this case and I will be investigating why.

"I would like to sincerely apologise for this failure in identification protocols at Ipswich Greyhounds on Sunday night," Mr Barnett said.

"It is an unacceptable mistake that has disadvantaged the public who must have confidence that dogs listed to run in each race are identified and checked before each race and I will be investigating why our strict protocols were not followed in this instance.

"After the error was confirmed, both Greyhounds were disqualified and placings were adjusted.

**ENDS..**

**If you have any information about serious misconduct in racing, contact Crime Stoppers on their toll free number 1800 333 000 or e-mail reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au**

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