

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q2)

October 2020-December 2020



QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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1. Overview

This is a report for the period October 2020 to December 2020. The data are derived from the *OzChase* database, on-track veterinarian reports and race-day Stewards' reports. It is produced by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (the Commission) to document the following throughout Queensland:

1. Greyhound pups whelped and named. These are from *OzChase* system data as reported by owners and recorded by the Commission.
2. Greyhound injuries and deaths of racing greyhounds that have occurred at TAB and non-TAB race meetings. The race-related injury data within this report are from on-track veterinarians' and stewards' reports, and *OzChase* data as recorded by the Commission.
3. Greyhound deaths and retirement notifications as reported by greyhound owners to the Commission and held in *OzChase*.

This report provides all stakeholders, including greyhound racing participants and the community with summary greyhound racing and breeding data via a single quarterly report.

2. Greyhound pups born (whelped) and named from October 2020 to December 2020

During the period October 2020 to December 2020, there were 330 greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 250 greyhounds named (Table 2) in Queensland. Greyhounds are generally named for racing at between 12 and 18 months of age, creating a delay between whelping and naming.

The data are accurate as at 15 January 2021.

Table 1. Greyhound pups born (whelped) during the period October 2020 to December 2020, compared with the previous quarter.

Month	Greyhounds Whelped
July 2020	103
August 2020	114
September 2020	77
Total Q1	294
October 2020	64
November 2020	138
December 2020	128
Total Q2	330

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period October 2020 to December 2020, compared with the previous quarter.

Month	Greyhounds Named
July 2020	53
August 2020	179
September 2020	133
Q1 Total	365
October 2020	82
November 2020	100
December 2020	68
Q2 Total	250

3. Injury Categories

3.1. Injury Severity Classification

Greyhounds injured or involved in incidents at Queensland race meetings are examined by on-track veterinarians. These incidents and actions are reported to the Commission 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 require 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 October 2020 to December 2020

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 October 2020 to December 2020, there were 161 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, there were 2,008 individual greyhounds raced for a total of 12,549 starts.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries, incidents, and severity at Queensland race meetings from October 2020 to December 2020, compared with the previous quarter.

Injury Category ¹	Incapacitation Period ²	July to September 2020 (Q1)		October to December 2020 (Q2)	
		Total Number of Injury Incidents	Injury Incidents per 1,000 Starts	Total Number of Injury Incidents	Injury Incidents per 1,000 Starts
Category A (G) – Non serious	Nil	5	0.40	8	0.64
Category B (G) – Non serious	3 to 10 days	233	18.78	304	24.23
Category C (G) non serious	14 to 21 days	79	6.37	88	7.01
Category D (G) non serious	28 to 90 days	54	4.35	48	3.83
Category D (F) serious	28 to 90 days	11	0.89	8	0.64
Category E (F) serious	Deceased or Euthanased	5	0.40	8	0.64
Total A-E		387	31.20	464	36.98

¹ Further description of rating categories is contained in the 2020-2021 Executive Summary.

² Further description of rating categories is contained in the 2020-2021 Executive Summary.

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from October 2020 to December 2020

Racing fatalities are defined as deaths that occur as a result of injuries and/or incidents during or immediately following a race. 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 sought³.

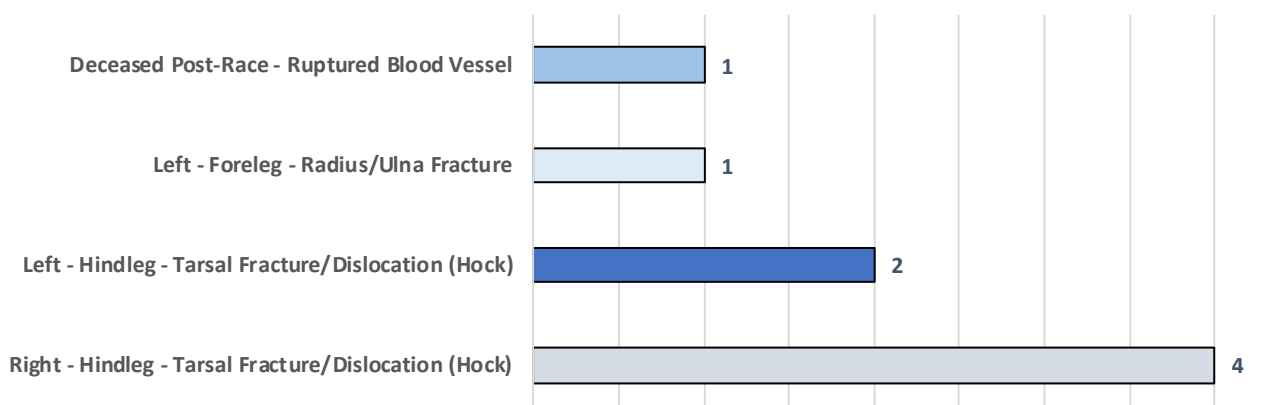


Figure 1. Greyhound fatalities reported at Queensland racetracks from October 2020 to December 2020. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 4. Number of greyhound race starts and all injuries at Queensland tracks from October 2020 to December 2020.

Track	Track Surface	Starts	Total Injury Incidents	Total Injury Incidents per 1,000 Starts	Deceased or Euthanased	Deceased or Euthanased per 1,000 Starts
Albion Park	Sand	4323	168	38.86	1	0.23
Bundaberg	Grass	922	52	56.40	1	1.08
Capalaba	Grass	1477	41	27.76	1	0.68
Ipswich	Sand	3000	106	35.33	1	0.33
Rockhampton	Sand	859	35	40.75	0	0.00
Townsville	Sand	1968	62	31.50	4	2.03
Total		12549	464	36.98	8	0.64

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during October 2020 to December 2020

Greyhounds that are retired from racing, rehomed or euthanased are recorded in the OzChase database. These notifications are self-reported by owners to the Commission. The last registered owner of the greyhound must submit a notification of retirement, death or euthanasia as specified by Greyhounds Australasia Rule 106(3).

Caveats

- Reports of retirements from *OzChase* may vary over time for the same data set due to late lodgement of retirement notifications.
- The data presented in Tables 5 and 6 were accurate as at 15 January 2021.
- Data from the Commission's Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) are included; however, euthanasia data from other adoption programs and agencies are not available.
- 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.
- The category of "surrendered to other agency" does not refer specifically to adoption or rehoming agencies and includes universities and veterinary practices. Euthanasia and adoption data from these agencies are not currently available.

³These are captured through retirement reporting.

Table 5. Greyhound mortality notifications from October 2020 to December 2020 (excluding data contained in Table 4) as reported to the Commission by owners and current as at 15 January 2021.

Category	July 2020 to September 2020 (Q1)	October 2020 to December 2020 (Q2)
Deceased accidental causes	3	4
Deceased illness or age	2	7
Deceased natural causes	7	11
Euthanased by owner due to illness or age	16	17
Euthanased by owner due to injury	23	24
Euthanased by owner due to not suitable for racing	1	2
Euthanased by owner due to not suitable for rehome	18	8
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	2	2
Total deceased or euthanased	72	75

Table 6. Greyhound retirement notifications from October 2020 to December 2020 as reported to the Commission by owners and current as at 15 January 2021, compared with the previous quarter.

Category	July 2020 to September 2020 (Q1)	October 2020 to December 2020 (Q2)
Retired for breeding	20	21
Retired to owner	32	29
Retired to trainer	6	1
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	54	51
Retired to GAP	76	49
Retired to other adoption program	31	55
Surrendered to other agency	35	29
Total retired	254	235