

# Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q3)

January 2021-March 2021



QUEENSLAND RACING  
INTEGRITY COMMISSION

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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## 1. Overview

This is a report for the period January 2021 to March 2021. The data are derived from the *OzChase* system, on-track veterinarian 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 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 are sourced from on-track veterinarians' and stewards' reports, and *OzChase* system reports.
3. Greyhound deaths and retirement notifications as reported by greyhound owners to the Commission and held in *OzChase*.

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

## 2. Greyhound pups born (whelped) and named from January 2021 to March 2021

During the period January 2021 to March 2021, there were 297 greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 164 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.

**Table 1.** Greyhound pups born (whelped) during the period January 2021 to March 2021, compared with the previous quarters.

Month	Greyhounds Whelped
July 2020	103
August 2020	114
September 2020	77
<b>Total Q1</b>	<b>294</b>
October 2020	64
November 2020	138
December 2020	128
<b>Total Q2</b>	<b>330</b>
January 2021	117
February 2021	102
March 2021	78
<b>Total Q3</b>	<b>297</b>

**Table 2.** Greyhounds named during the period January to March 2021, compared with the previous quarter.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Greyhounds Named</b>
July 2020	53
August 2020	179
September 2020	133
<b>Q1 Total</b>	<b>365</b>
October 2020	82
November 2020	100
December 2020	68
<b>Q2 Total</b>	<b>250</b>
January 2021	61
February 2021	40
March 2021	63
<b>Total Q3</b>	<b>164</b>

### 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 January 2021 to March 2021

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 January 2021 to March 2021, there were 161 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, there were 2,122 individual greyhounds raced for a total of 12,159 starts.

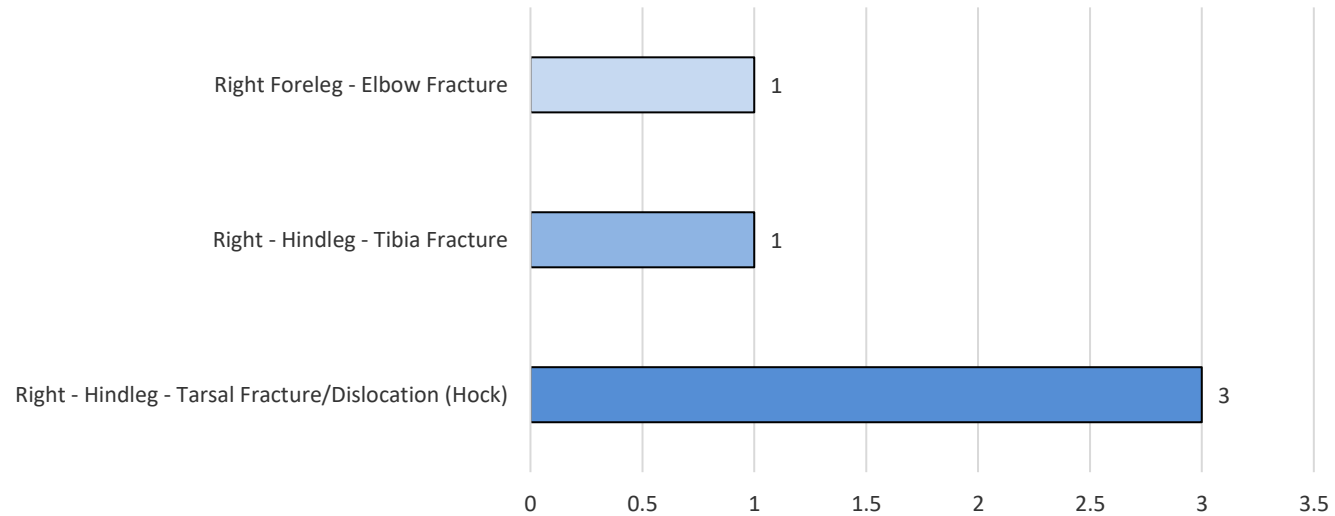
**Table 3.** Total greyhound racing injuries, incidents, and severity at Queensland race meetings from January 2021 to March 2021, compared with the previous quarters for the 2020-2021 financial year.

Injury Category <sup>1</sup>	Incapacitation Period <sup>2</sup>	July to September 2020 (Q1)		October to December 2020 (Q2)		January to March 2021 (Q3)	
		Total Number of Injury Incidents	Injury Incidents per 1,000 Starts	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	16	1.32
Category B (G) Non serious	3 to 10 days	233	18.78	304	24.23	259	21.30
Category C (G) non serious	14 to 21 days	79	6.37	88	7.01	54	4.44
Category D (G) non serious	28 to 90 days	54	4.35	48	3.83	54	4.44
Category D (F) serious	28 to 90 days	11	0.89	8	0.64	17	1.40
Category E (F) serious	Deceased or Euthanased	5	0.40	8	0.64	5	0.41
<b>Total A-E</b>		<b>387</b>	<b>31.20</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>36.98</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>33.31</b>

<sup>1,2</sup> Further description of rating categories is contained in the 2020-2021 Executive Summary.

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from January 2021 to March 2021

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 sought<sup>3</sup>.



**Figure 1.** Greyhound fatalities reported at Queensland racetracks from January 2021 to March 2021. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

<sup>3</sup>These are captured through retirement reporting.

## 5. Reported injuries by racetrack

**Table 4.** Number of greyhound race starts and all injuries at Queensland tracks from January 2021 to March 2021.

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	3,967	117	29.49	1	0.25
Bundaberg	Grass	938	71	75.69	2	2.13
Capalaba	Grass	1,479	38	25.69	0	0
Ipswich	Sand	2,894	93	32.14	1	0.34
Rockhampton	Sand	920	34	36.96	0	0
Townsville	Sand	1,961	52	26.52	1	0.51
<b>Total</b>		<b>12,159</b>	405	33.31	<b>5</b>	0.41

## 6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during January 2021 to March 2021

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.
- 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 to adoption or rehoming agencies and includes universities and veterinary practices. Euthanasia and adoption data from these agencies are not currently available.

**Table 5.** Greyhound mortality notifications from January 2021 to March 2021 (excluding data contained in Table 4) as reported to the Commission by owners, compared with the previous quarters.

Category	July 2020 to September 2020	October 2020 to December	January 2021 to March 2021
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	(Q1)	2020 (Q2)	(Q3)
Deceased accidental causes	3	4	3
Deceased illness or age	2	7	8
Deceased natural causes	7	11	14
Euthanased by owner due to illness or age	16	17	21
Euthanased by owner due to injury	23	24	36
Euthanased by owner due to not suitable for racing	1	2	6
Euthanased by owner due to not suitable for rehome	18	8	12
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	2	2	0
<b>Total deceased or euthanased</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 6.** Greyhound retirement notifications from January 2021 to March 2021 as reported to the Commission by owners, compared with the previous quarters.

Category	July 2020 to September 2020 (Q1)	October 2020 to December 2020 (Q2)	January 2021 to March 2021 (Q3)
Retired for breeding	20	21	36
Retired to owner	32	29	74
Retired to trainer	6	1	13
Retired as a pet to a 3 <sup>rd</sup> party	54	51	45
Retired to GAP	76	49	46
Retired to other adoption program	31	55	53
Surrendered to other agency	35	29	44
Other	0	0	4
<b>Total retired</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>315</b>
<i>NB: January 2021 data was extracted on 15 June 2021</i>			