

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q1)

July 2021-September 2021



**QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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1. Overview

This is a report for the period July 2021 to September 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. Reported as at 15/10/2021.
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* as at 15/10/2021.

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 July 2021 to September 2021

During the period July 2021 to September 2021, there were 227 greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 303 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 July 2021 to September 2021.

Month	Greyhounds Whelped
July 2021	60
August 2021	100
September 2021	117
Total Q1	277

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period July 2021 to September 2021.

Month	Greyhounds Named
July 2021	118
August 2021	96
September 2021	89
Q1 Total	303

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 July 2021 to September 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 July 2021 to September 2021, there were 163 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, there were 2,029 individual greyhounds raced for a total of 13,433 starts.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries, incidents, and severity at Queensland race meetings from July 2021 to September 2021.

Injury Category	Incapacitation Period	Number of Incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starts
Category A (G) Non serious	Nil	12	0.89
Category B (G) Non serious	3 to 10 days	198	14.74
Category C (G) non serious	14 to 21 days	49	3.65
Category D (G) non serious	28 to 90 days	58	4.32
Category D (F) serious	28 to 90 days	14	1.04
Category E (F) serious	Deceased or Euthanased	5	0.37
Total A-E		336	25.01
Total Serious (Total F)		19	1.41
Total Non-serious (Total G)		317	23.60

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from July 2021 to September 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 sought¹.

Table 4. Greyhound euthanased at Queensland racetracks from July 2021 to September 2021. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Left - Foreleg - Other	1
Right - Foreleg - Humerus Fracture	1
Right - Foreleg - Radius/Ulna Fracture	1
Left - Hindleg - Tarsal Fracture/Dislocation (Hock)	1
Right - Hindleg - Tibia Fracture	1

¹These are captured through retirement reporting.

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 5. Number of greyhound race starts and all injuries at Queensland tracks from July 2021 to September 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	4,607	120	26.05	2	0.43
Bundaberg	Grass	967	47	48.60	0	0.00
Capalaba	Grass	1,751	33	18.85	0	0.00
Ipswich	Sand	3,102	81	26.11	1	0.32
Rockhampton	Sand	1,019	25	24.53	0	0.00
Townsville	Sand	1,987	30	15.10	2	1.01
Total		13,433	336	25.01	5	0.37

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during July 2021 to September 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 dedicated adoption or rehoming agencies and includes universities and veterinary practices. Euthanasia and adoption data from these agencies are not currently available.

Table 6. Greyhound mortality notifications from July 2021 to September 2021 including data contained in Table 5, as reported to the Commission by owners. The data in this section is categorised based on the information provided to the Commission by participants.

Category	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	Total	%
Deceased accidental causes	1	0	3	4	6.45
Deceased illness or age	1	0	2	3	4.84
Deceased natural causes	0	1	1	2	3.23
Euthanased at track due to injury	1	3	2	6	9.68
Euthanased due to illness or age	1	5	3	9	14.52
Euthanased due to injury	8	7	7	22	35.48
Euthanased due to not suitable for racing	0	0	0	0	0.00
Euthanased due to not suitable for rehome	6	5	4	15	24.19
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	0	1	0	1	1.61
Total deceased or euthanased	18	22	22	62	100

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications from July 2021 to September 2021 as reported to the Commission by owners.

Category	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	Total	%
Retired for breeding	4	3	2	9	3.21
Retired to owner	8	14	18	40	14.29
Retired to trainer	2	3	0	5	1.79
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	12	13	14	39	13.93
Retired to GAP	24	21	15	60	21.43
Retired to other adoption program	15	28	21	64	22.86
Surrendered to other agency	18	21	24	63	22.50
Other	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total retired	83	103	94	280	100