

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q2)

October 2021-December 2021



**QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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1. Overview

This is a report for the quarterly period from October to December 2021. The data sets in this report 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 October 2021 to December 2021

During the period October 2021 to December 2021, there were 450 greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 299 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.

Reports of whelped and named greyhounds from *OzChase* may vary slightly over time for the same data set due to late lodgement of retirement notifications. To standardise these, they are taken from *OzChase* records at the midpoint of each following month.

Table 1. Greyhound pups born (whelped) during the period October 2021 to December 2021, compared with the previous quarter. Reports are sourced from *OzChase* at the midpoint of each following month.

Month	Greyhounds Whelped
July 2021	60
August 2021	100
September 2021	117
Q1 Total	277
October 2021	79
November 2021	141
December 2021	230
Q2 Total	450

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period October 2021 to December 2021, compared with the previous quarter. Reports are sourced from *OzChase* at the midpoint of each following month.

Month	Greyhounds Named
July 2021	118
August 2021	96
September 2021	89
Q1 Total	303
October 2021	89
November 2021	111
December 2021	99
Q2 Total	299

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 2021 to December 2021

Injury rates are standardised as injuries per 1,000 starters. Every greyhound is counted each time it races in the reporting period to standardise injuries per 1,000 starters. During the period October 2021 to December 2021, there were 159 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, there were 2,096 unique individual greyhounds raced for a total of 13,199 starters.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries, incidents, and severity at Queensland race meetings from October 2021 to December 2021, compared with the previous quarter.

Injury Category	Incapacitation Period	1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021 (Q1)		1 October to 31 December 2021 (Q2)	
		Number of Incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starters	Number of Incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starters
Category A (G) Non serious	Nil	12	0.89	8	0.61
Category B (G) Non serious	3 to 10 days	198	14.74	230	17.43
Category C (G) non serious	14 to 21 days	49	3.65	73	5.53
Category D (G) non serious	28 to 90 days	58	4.32	39	2.95
Category D (F) serious	28 to 90 days	14	1.04	59	4.47
Category E (F) serious	Deceased or euthanased	5	0.37	6	0.45
Total A-E		336	25.01	415	31.44
Total Serious (Total F)		19	1.41	65	4.92
Total Non-serious (Total G)		317	23.60	350	26.52

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from October 2021 to December 2021

Racing fatalities are defined as deaths that occur because 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 after race meetings when further diagnostic advice or treatment is sought¹.

Table 4. Greyhound euthanased or deceased at Queensland race meetings from October 2021 to December 2021. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Sudden Death / Skull Fracture – collided with catching pen gate	1
Right - Hindleg - Tarsal Fracture/Dislocation (Hock)	4
Left - Hindleg - Tarsal Fracture/Dislocation (Hock)	1

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 5. Number of greyhound race starters and all injuries at Queensland race meetings from October 2021 to December 2021.

Track	Track surface	Starters	Total injury incidents	Total injury incidents per 1,000 starters	Deceased or euthanased	Deceased or euthanased per 1,000 Starters
Albion Park	Sand	4392	157	35.75	0	0.00
Bundaberg	Grass	793	41	51.70	3	3.78
Capalaba	Grass	1523	29	19.04	0	0.00
Ipswich	Sand	3475	107	30.79	1	0.29
Rockhampton	Sand	1076	32	29.74	0	0.00
Townsville	Sand	1940	31	15.98	2	1.03
Total		13,199	415	31.44	6	0.45

¹These are captured through retirement reporting.

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during October 2021 to December 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. To standardise these, they are taken from OzChase records at the midpoint of each following month.
- 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 December 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. Reports are sourced from *OzChase* at the midpoint of each following month.

Category	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	December 2021	Total	%
Deceased accidental causes	1	0	3	0	2	5	11	7.80
Deceased illness or age	1	0	2	0	2	1	6	4.26
Deceased natural causes	0	1	1	0	2	2	6	4.26
Euthanased at track due to injury	1	3	2	0	4	2	13	9.21
Euthanased due to illness or age	1	5	3	10	3	3	25	17.73
Euthanased due to injury	8	7	7	7	10	8	46	32.62
Euthanased due to not suitable for racing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Euthanased due to not suitable for rehome	6	5	4	5	7	4	31	21.99
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	2.13
Total deceased or euthanased	18	22	22	22	27	24	141	100

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications from July 2021 to December 2021 as reported to the Commission by owners. Reports are sourced from *OzChase* at the midpoint of each following month.

Category	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	December 2021	Total	%
Retired for breeding	4	3	2	11	5	4	29	5.17
Retired to owner	8	14	18	13	12	36	101	18.00
Retired to trainer	2	3	0	4	3	3	15	2.67
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	12	13	14	19	13	3	74	13.19
Retired to GAP	24	21	15	16	29	3	108	19.25
Retired to other adoption programs	15	28	21	17	19	15	115	20.50
Surrendered to other agency	18	21	24	19	18	19	119	21.21
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total retired	83	103	94	99	99	83	561	100