

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q4)

April 2022-June 2022



**QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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1. Overview

This is a report for the quarterly period from April to June 2022 (Q4). The data in this report are derived from the *OzChase* system, and on-track veterinarian and race-day Stewards' reports. It is produced by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (the Commission) to document the following:

1. Greyhound pups whelped and named in Queensland, as reported by owners and recorded by the Commission.
2. Greyhound injuries and deaths of racing greyhounds that have occurred at Queensland TAB and non-TAB race meetings. The race-related injury data are sourced from on-track veterinarians' and stewards' reports, and *OzChase* system reports. Race-related injury data does not include injuries that occurred in trials.
3. Greyhound deaths and retirement notifications as reported by Queensland licensees to the Commission and held in *OzChase*.

Reports of whelped, named, and retired greyhounds may vary over time for the same reporting period due to the timing of notification lodgement. To standardise these, they are recorded as at a particular date.

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

2. Greyhound pups born (whelped) and named from April to June 2022

During the period April to June 2022, there were 320 live greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 262 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 April to June 2022 as of 15 July 2022 and compared with the previous quarters.

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
January 2022	133
February 2022	118
Mach 2022	171
Q3 Total	422
April 2022	143
May 2022	78
June 2022	99
Q4 Total	320
2021–22 Total	1469

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period April to June 2022, as of 15 July 2022, and compared with the previous quarters.

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
January 2022	80
February 2022	85
Mach 2022	105
Q3 Total	270
April 2022	69
May 2022	100
June 2022	93
Q4 Total	262
2021–22 Total	1134

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.

Race-related injury data does not include injuries that occurred in trials.

Injuries are recorded as per on-track veterinarian and race-day Stewards' reports, stored in the OzChase system. Injury signs and severity that were alter following further veterinary diagnosis is not available in OzChase and therefore not included in the results.

4. Total reported injuries to racing greyhounds from April to June 2022

Injury rates are standardised as injuries per 1000 starters. Every greyhound is counted each time it races in the reporting period to standardise injuries per 1000 starters. As the rate of injury is expressed per 1000 starters, injuries sustained by non-starters (e.g., injuries sustained during trialling or prior to boxing) are not included.

During the period April to June 2022, there were 149 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, there were 2,088 unique individual greyhounds raced for a total of 12,369 starters.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries and severity at Queensland race meetings from April to June 2022. Number of starters = 12,369.

Injury category	Standdown Period	Number of incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starters
AG	Nil	7	0.57
BG	3 to 10 days	237	19.16
CG	11 to 14 days	75	6.06
	14 to 21 days		
	22 to 28 days		
DG	28 to 59 days	37	2.99
DF	60+ days	16	1.29
EF	Deceased or euthanased	2	0.16
Q4 Total		374	30.24

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from April to June 2022

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 1 April to 30 June 2022. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Left - Foreleg - Radius/Ulna Fracture	1
Heart	1
Total	2

Table 5. Serious injuries (excluding euthanased or deceased) occurring at Queensland race meetings from 1 April to 30 June 2022. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Left - Foreleg - accessory carpal fracture.	2
Left – Hindleg – Fibula Fracture	1
Left – Hindleg – Tibia Fracture	1
Right - Foreleg - Radius/Ulna Fracture	2
Right - Hindleg - Tarsal Fracture/Dislocation (Hock)	12
Total	18

¹ These are captured through deceased/retirement reporting.

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 6. Number of greyhound race starters and all injuries at Queensland race meetings from April to June 2022.

Venue	Track surface	Starters	Total number of injury incidents	Total injury incidents per 1000 starters	Total number of deceased or euthanased	Deceased or euthanased per 1000 starters
Albion Park ²	Sand	2744	65	23.69	0	0.00
Bundaberg	Grass	923	48	52.00	0	0.00
Capalaba	Grass	1301	34	26.13	0	0.00
Ipswich	Sand	4430	155	34.99	1	0.23
Rockhampton	Sand	1056	34	32.20	1	0.95
Townsville	Sand	1915	38	19.84	0	0.00
Total		12,369	374	30.24	2	0.16

Table 7. Number of greyhound race starters and all injuries at Queensland race meetings from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Venue	Track surface	Starters	Total number of injury incidents	Total injury incidents per 1000 starters	Total number of deceased or euthanased	Deceased or euthanased per 1000 starters
Albion Park	Sand	14409	410	28.45	3	0.21
Bundaberg	Grass	3498	187	53.46	4	1.14
Capalaba	Grass	5528	138	24.96	0	0.00
Ipswich	Sand	15209	496	32.61	7	0.46
Rockhampton	Sand	4476	115	25.69	1	0.22
Townsville	Sand	7740	156	20.16	4	0.52
Total		50,860	1502	29.53	19	0.37

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during April to June 2022

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 22.

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.

² Racing did not occur at Albion Park in April 2022 due to flood damage.

Table 8. Greyhound mortality notifications from April to June 2022, 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 for Quarter 4 were sourced from OzChase on 15 July 2022.

Category	Jul 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	Jun 2022	Total
Deceased accidental causes	1	0	3	0	2	5	0	0	10	1	1	3	26
Deceased illness or age	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	3	2	3	5	21
Deceased natural causes	0	1	1	0	2	2	5	4	10	2	2	4	33
Euthanased at track due to injury	1	3	2	0	4	2	0	1	5	1	0	0	19
Euthanased due to illness or age	1	5	3	10	3	3	7	6	4	9	6	4	61
Euthanased due to injury	8	7	7	7	10	8	10	10	14	9	9	16	115
Euthanased due to not suitable for racing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Euthanased due to not suitable for rehoming	6	5	4	5	7	4	3	10	3	6	8	6	67
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	4	10
Total deceased or euthanased	18	22	22	22	31	26	25	33	50	31	30	42	352

Table 9. Greyhound retirement notifications from July 2021 to March 2022 as reported to the Commission by owners. Reports for Quarter 4 were sourced from OzChase on 15 July 2022.

Category	Jul 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	Jun 2022	Total
Retired for breeding	4	3	2	11	5	4	3	2	2	3	4	4	47
Retired to owner	8	14	18	13	12	36	21	34	36	20	11	28	251
Retired to trainer	2	3	0	4	3	3	2	3	18	0	1	2	41
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	12	13	14	19	13	3	9	17	10	25	12	7	154
Retired to GAP	24	21	15	16	29	3	21	25	16	30	37	22	259
Retired to other adoption programs	15	28	21	17	19	15	26	22	31	21	17	14	246
Surrendered to other agency	18	21	24	19	18	19	7	12	8	25	20	5	196
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total retired	83	103	94	99	99	83	90	115	121	124	102	82	1,195

The Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP)

The GAP is part of the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission and is dedicated to finding suitable homes for retired greyhounds. The GAP team works with the racing industry to guide participants in preparing their racing greyhounds for retirement. Every greyhound in the program is health checked and behaviourally assessed, de-sexed, wormed and vaccinated. The program aims to help transition greyhounds from racing to pet life.

If you, or anyone you know, has space in their life for a retired racer, visit www.gapqld.com.au to find out how you can foster or adopt one of these beautiful animals.

For more information on this report, contact QRIC's External Affairs team via communication@qric.qld.gov.au.