

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q2)

October 2022-December 2022



**QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

© Queensland Racing Integrity Commission, 2021.

The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of its information. The copyright in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.



Under this licence you are free, without having to seek our permission, to use this publication in accordance with the licence terms.

You must keep intact the copyright notice and attribute the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission as the source of the publication.

For more information on this licence, visit creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0.

The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The Queensland Government shall not be liable for technical or other errors or omissions contained herein. The reader/user accepts all risks and responsibility for losses, damages, costs and other consequences resulting directly or indirectly from using this information.



If you need an interpreter to help you understand this document, call **131 450** and an interpreter will be arranged to communicate the report to you.

1. Overview

This is a report for the quarterly period from October to December 2022 (Q2). 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 October to December 2022

During the period October to December 2022, there were 447 live greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 324 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 October to December 2022, compared with the previous quarter. This is the reported number of live pups whelped as notified by participant in a Whelping Notice

Month	Greyhounds whelped
July 2022	72
August 2022	83
September 2022	58
Q1 Total	213
October 2022	103
November 2022	191
December 2022	153
Q2 Total	447

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period October to December 2022.

Month	Greyhounds named
July 2022	134
August 2022	117
September 2022	77
Q1 Total	328
October 2022	115
November 2022	122
December 2022	87
Q2 Total	324

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 altered following further veterinary diagnosis is not available in OzChase and therefore not included in the results.

4. Total reported injuries to racing greyhounds from October to December 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 October to December 2022, there were 166 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, 2267 unique greyhounds started.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries and severity at Queensland race meetings from October to December 2022. Number of starters = 13,953.

Injury category	Standdown Period	Number of incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starters
AG	Nil	10	0.72
BG	3 to 10 days	251	17.99
CG	11 to 14 days	127	9.10
	14 to 21 days		
	22 to 28 days		
DG	28 to 59 days	29	2.08
DF	60+ days	23	1.65
EF	Deceased or euthanased	5	0.36
Q2 Total		445	31.90

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from October to December 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 October 2021 to 30 December 2022. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Right hindleg – hock fracture	1
Right hindleg – tibia fracture	1
Left foreleg - fracture	1
Right foreleg - fracture	2
Total	5

¹ These are captured through deceased/retirement reporting.

5. Reported injuries by racetrack

Table 5. Number of greyhound race starters and all injuries at Queensland race meetings from October to December 2022. *No racing at Bundaberg due to track maintenance.

Venue	Track surface	Starters	Total incidents	Total injury incidents per 1000 starters	Deceased or euthanased	Deceased or euthanased per 1000 starters
Albion Park	Sand	4230	141	33.33	0	0.00
Bundaberg*	Grass	0	0	0	0	0
Capalaba	Grass	1561	51	32.67	1	0.64
Ipswich	Sand	4496	161	35.81	1	0.22
Rockhampton	Sand	1675	66	39.40	2	1.19
Townsville	Sand	1991	26	13.06	1	0.50
Total		13953	445	31.89	5	0.36

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

Table 6. Greyhound mortality notifications from October to December 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 1 were sourced from *OzChase* on 15 January 2023.

Category	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	Total
Deceased accidental causes	2	3	5	10
Deceased illness or age	20	11	6	37
Deceased natural causes	1	4	0	5
Euthanased/deceased at track due to injury	2	3	0	5
Euthanased due to injury	14	13	14	41
Euthanased due to not suitable for racing	0	0	0	0
Euthanased due to not suitable for rehoming	8	5	10	23
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	7	0	4	11
Total deceased or euthanased	54	39	39	132

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications from October 2021 to December 2022 as reported to the Commission by owners. Reports for Quarter 4 were sourced from *OzChase* on 15 January 2023.

Category	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	Total
Retired for breeding	4	3	0	7
Retired to owner	20	1	16	37
Retired to trainer	3	4	3	10
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	15	17	11	43
Retired to GAP	15	24	0	39
Retired to other adoption programs	16	15	20	51
Surrendered to other agency	14	13	3	30
Exported	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total retired	87	77	53	217

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.