

Greyhound Breeding, Race Injury and Retirement

Quarterly Report (Q1)

July 2022-September 2022



**QUEENSLAND RACING
INTEGRITY COMMISSION**

Engagement | Education | Enforcement

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1. Overview

This is a report for the quarterly period from July to September 2022 (Q1). 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 July to September 2022

During the period July to September 2022, there were 213 live greyhound pups born (whelped) (Table 1) and 328 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 to September 2022.

Month	Greyhounds whelped
July 2022	72
August 2022	83
September 2022	58
Q1 Total	213

Table 2. Greyhounds named during the period July to September 2022.

Month	Greyhounds named
July 2021	134
August 2022	117
September 2022	77
Q1 Total	328

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 July to September 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 July to September 2022, there were 219 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, 2,292 unique greyhounds started.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries and severity at Queensland race meetings from July to September 2022. Number of starters = 14,086.

Injury category	Incapacitation period (stand down)	Number of incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Starters
AG	Nil	12	0.85
BG	3 to 10 days	243	17.25
CG	14 to 21 days	64	4.54
DG	28 to 59 days	52	3.69
DF	60+ days	21	1.49
EF	Deceased or euthanased	4	0.28
Total A-E		396	28.11
Total F (Serious)		25	1.77
Total G (Non-serious)		371	26.34

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths from July to September 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. Greyhounds euthanased or deceased at Queensland race meetings from July to September 2022. Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports.

Injury	Count
Sudden death (Cardiac)	3
Spinal injury	1
Total	4

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 July to September 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	4276	120	28.06	1	0.23
Bundaberg	Grass	190	11	57.89	0	0.00
Capalaba	Grass	1791	43	24.01	1	0.56
Ipswich	Sand	4274	142	33.22	0	0.00
Rockhampton	Sand	1667	40	24.00	1	0.60
Townsville	Sand	1888	40	21.19	1	0.53
Total		14086	396	28.11	4	0.27

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanased during July to September 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 July to September 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 October 2022.

Category	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	Total
Deceased accidental causes	1	5	0	6
Deceased illness or age	4	3	0	7
Deceased natural causes	1	1	0	2
Euthanased/deceased at track due to injury	1	3	0	4
Euthanased due to illness or age	12	8	1	21
Euthanased due to injury	8	1	8	17
Euthanased due to not suitable for racing	0	2	0	2
Euthanased due to not suitable for rehoming	10	13	12	35
Euthanased by GAP due to health and/or behavioural issues	3	0	3	6
Total deceased or euthanased	40	37	24	100

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications from July 2021 to September 2022 as reported to the Commission by owners. Reports were sourced from *OzChase* on 15 October 2022.

Category	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	Total
Retired for breeding	1	5	4	10
Retired to owner	11	14	25	50
Retired to trainer	2	1	4	7
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	13	14	9	36
Retired to GAP	19	25	13	57
Retired to other adoption programs	14	19	12	45
Surrendered to other agency	6	13	15	34
Exported	0	1	0	1
Other	0	0	0	0
Total retired	66	92	82	240

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.