



QRIC

**Greyhound breeding, race
injury and retirement report**

Q3 2023-24

© 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 January to March 2024 (Q3 2023-2024). 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 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 parameters.

2. Greyhound pups born (whelped) and named

Table 1. Greyhound pups born (whelped) during the period July 2023 to March 2024.

Month	Greyhounds whelped
July 2023	66
August 2023	54
September 2023	92
Q1 Total	212
October 2023	174
November 2023	73
December 2023	62
Q2 Total	309
January 2024	51
February 2024	89
March 2024	117
Q3 Total	257
2023-2024 YTD Total	778

Table 2. during the period July 2023 to March 2024. Greyhounds are generally named for racing at between 12 and 18 months of age, creating a delay between whelping and naming.

Month	Greyhounds named
July 2023	108
August 2023	130
September 2023	136
Q1 Total	374
October 2023	91
November 2023	90
December 2023	93
Q2 Total	274
January 2024	79
February 2024	68
March 2024	80
Q3 Total	227
YTD Total	875

3. Injury Categories (*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.

4. Total reported injuries to racing greyhounds for Q3 2023-2024

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 January to March 2024, there were 162 greyhound race meetings held at Queensland venues. At these race meetings, 2,453 unique greyhounds started.

Table 3. Total greyhound racing injuries and severity at Queensland race meetings for Q3 2023-2024 (January to March 2024). Number of starters =13,863.

Injury category	Incapacitation period (stand down)	Number of Incidents	Incidents per 1000 Starters
Category AG	Nil	24	1.73
Category BG	3 to 10 days	294	21.21
Category CG	14 to 21 days	96	6.92
Category DG	28 to 59 days	37	2.67
Category DF	60+ days	35	2.52
Category EF	Deceased or Euthanised	3	0.22
Total A-E		489	35.27
Total F (Serious)		38	2.74
Total G (Non-serious)		451	32.53

4.1. Reported greyhound racing-related deaths for Q3 2023-2024

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 euthanised or deceased at Queensland race meetings for Q3 2023-2024 (January to March 2024). Injuries are as described in the on-track veterinarians' and/or stewards' reports².

Injury	Count
Right foreleg fracture (radius/ulna)	1
Right hindleg tarsal dislocation/fracture (hock)	1
Spinal fracture	1
Total	3

¹ These are captured through deceased/retirement reporting.

² Decisions regarding euthanasia are made based on the diagnosis and opinion of the on-track vet at the time of the incident.

5. Reported injuries by track

Table 5. Number of greyhound race starters and all injuries at Queensland race meetings from January to March 2024.

Venue	Surface	Starters	Total number of injury incidents	Total injury incidents per 1000 starters	Total deceased or euthanised on track	Deceased or euthanised on track per 1000 starters
Albion Park	Sand	4179	148	35.42	0	0.00
Bundaberg	Grass	1072	61	56.90	0	0.00
Capalaba	Grass	1344	44	32.74	0	0.00
Ipswich	Sand	4162	157	37.72	3	0.72
Rockhampton	Sand	1145	43	37.55	0	0.00
Townsville	Sand	1961	36	18.36	0	0.00
Totals		13,863	489	35.27	3	0.22

6. Greyhounds reported as retired, deceased, or euthanised during for Q3 2023-2024

Greyhounds that are retired from racing, rehomed, or euthanised 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.

Table 6. Greyhound mortality notifications 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 were sourced from OzChase on 15 April 2024.

Category	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
Deceased accidental causes	13	14	19	46
Deceased due to injury	1	3	1	5
Deceased illness or age	7	13	12	32
Deceased natural causes	4	0	10	14
Euthanised/deceased at track due to injury	4	2	3	9
Euthanised due to illness or age	25	23	32	80
Euthanised due to injury	23	43	37	103
Euthanised due to not suitable for racing	0	0	4	4
Euthanised due to not suitable for rehoming	36	43	58	137
Euthanised by GAP - health issues*	3	1	1	5
Total deceased or euthanised	116	142	177	435

*From July 2023, the GAP ceased euthanising for behavioural issues such as excessive prey drive.

Table 7. Greyhound retirement notifications as reported to the Commission by owners. The data in this section is categorised based on the information provided to the Commission by participants, or by the Greyhound Adoption Program on intake. Reports were sourced from OzChase on 15 April 2024.

Category	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
Retired for breeding	7	7	4	18
Retired to owner ³	63	126	132	321
Retired to trainer ⁴	6	19	24	49
Retired as a pet to a 3 rd party	47	51	51	149
Retired to GAP	130	179	79	388
Retired to other adoption programs	23	21	19	63
Surrendered to other agency	44	17	23	84
Exported*	0	1	0	1
Other	0	0	0	0
Total retired	320	421	332	1073

*Greyhounds Australasia issued a passport to export following QRIC due diligence and scrutiny of applicant.

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.

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, desexed, 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.

^{3, 4} Greyhounds retired to owner or trainer have increased due to uptake of the Racing Qld Greyhound Retirement Readiness Scheme which requires greyhounds to be retired for reimbursement of desexing, dental and vaccination costs. Individual greyhounds retired to owner/trainer may then be retired to a 3rd party or adoption agency.