

*Welcome to our newsletter and the opportunity to catch up on what Greyhound Clubs Australia has been doing lately.*

## State of the Nation

On the back of an amazingly successful Nationals week in Melbourne, I believe the greyhound industry is well on the path to a secure and bright future.

Necessary reform in areas that represented critical risk to our game have been undertaken and whilst some states still have some work to do, the progress has been considerable when measured as a whole across the country. When we talk of critical risk we look at areas that have the ability to significantly damage our reputation if we don't get the response right. These days most controlling authorities publish statistics, which is the transparent approach demanded by the wider community.

Greyhounds Australasia (GA) recently released information about how the industry is travelling across key areas such as live baiting, track injuries, unnecessary euthanasia, rehoming, exports, and drug-related infringements. And the story to tell is a good one.

Excerpts of the GA update are included below:

### 1. LIVE BAITING

- Very little evidence of the practice since 2015.
- Zero tolerance and 100% commitment to prosecuting breaches.
- Sustained, national action to monitor, investigate and prosecute to stamp out this illegal activity has been unprecedented anywhere in the world.
- Over 1,000 manhours per week is now dedicated to policing all greyhound training behaviours across Australia.
- Only synthetic materials are allowed as lures in private and public training, and on race days.

### 2. TRACK INJURIES

- The industry is acting to reduce track injuries by redesigning tracks, track surfaces and lures.
- Many tracks in Australia and New Zealand now have "hoop" arms that lead dogs away from fence rails and towards the middle of the track.
- Industry commissioned UTS research has already been acted upon to reduce the likelihood and severity of injuries at tracks in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. More re-engineering of tracks and track surfaces is to follow at the conclusion of that study.
- An injury rebate scheme operates in a number of jurisdictions. Controlling bodies contributing to the cost of rehabilitation of an injured greyhound and assisting with entry into rehoming programs.
- Controlling bodies have improved pre-race screening programs with more pre-existing injuries being identified and treated before re-entering racing.

### 3. REHOMING (EUTHANASIA)

- Controlling bodies now have rules and policies to prevent greyhounds being put down that are suitable for rehoming.
- By the end of 2018, three states are likely to have achieved full rehoming i.e. all greyhounds capable of being rehomed will have found a forever home.
- Approximately 7,000 greyhounds were rehomed in 2017.
- Around 8,800 greyhounds were born in 2017.



### 4. EXPORT

- The industry has already banned the export of greyhounds to destinations like Macau where animal welfare is in question.
- Rules, policy and processes are currently under review to ensure the industry is doing absolutely everything in its power to stop greyhounds being exported to countries with poor or unknown welfare standards.

### 5. DOPING

- All states apply rigorous swabbing and testing for banned performance enhancing substances.
- 0.63% of swabs were positive in FY17 – an improvement of 36%. And this is even more impressive given we swabbed 30% more greyhounds in that period.
- New methods, random swabbing, monitoring of suspicious race patterns, new substances monitoring and pursuing intelligence are all being used by specialist vets, analysts, stewards and investigators.

Not surprisingly GCA discussed many of these issues, directly or indirectly, at the various sub-committee meetings held during the Nationals. Track injuries is a constant topic of conversation and especially how changes in track design may lower numbers and importantly see a reduction of those recorded in the catastrophic range.

The Animal Welfare Sub-Committee concentrated on lure design and included robust evaluation of the Finish-On Lure (FOL) - assisted by a presentation from the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club that talked of their experience with

## *Long live The Nationals, although I expect the format will continue to undergo significant transformation in the years ahead.*

the FOL and traditional catching pen. Not surprisingly the BGRC reported that the opinion of the industry was divided and that there were as many for the FOL as there were against, leading to the sensible outcome of providing both options at different race meetings.



WA's WEST ON AUGIE winning the 2018 Crocmmedia National Sprint Championship



Victorian TORNADO TEARS winning the 2018 Crocmmedia National Distance Championship

The program accompanying the 2018 Greyhound Clubs Australia CrocMedia National Sprint and Distance Championships was nothing less than spectacular and an absolute credit to the Sandown Greyhound Racing Club. There was a perfect mix of social and business events that provided delegates and guests with entertaining and an informative few days.

I think we are witnessing a shift away from the emphasis of the two finals now that the meetings, workshops and key-note addresses have lifted their standards and raised interest levels. To that point, there are now many group races that carry greater prizemoney and arguably prestige, than the Championships but there remains fewer opportunities for the wider greyhound community to come together to share ideas and enjoy camaraderie.



2018 Crocmmedia National Finals Night

## GCA – Our People

The Greyhound Clubs Australia Annual General Meeting was held in Melbourne on Friday 24 August 2018. The only change in the composition of the Committee resulted from the retirement of NSW delegate Geoff Rose who was replaced by NSW GBOTA Chairman Joe Cotroneo.

### GCA Committee

Les Bein and Luke Gatehouse (Queensland)

Brenton Scott and Joe Cotroneo (New South Wales)

Denise Fysh and Richard Stamford (Tasmania)

Des Dooley and Greg Miller (Victoria)

Shaun Mathieson and Alan Amezdroz (South Australia)

Noel Reilly and Dennis O'Brien (Western Australia)

Les Bein and Greg Miller were returned as GCA's President and Vice President, respectively

Michael Seaton - Treasurer

Neil Brown - Media and Publicity Officer

Brenton Scott - Group Race Coordinator

David Simonette – Executive Officer



Simo, or Celebrity Chef George Calombaris?

# Strategic Priorities for GCA (2018/2019)

The GCA Committee endorsed the following strategic priorities for the organization during the next twelve months:

Achieve 100% membership of all greyhound racing clubs in Australia.

Provide a national view from a club perspective on matters of industry importance.

Become a key driver and influencer of national greyhound racing decisions via a combination of advocacy and support from its member clubs.

Build respect as a reputable conduit between clubs (and participants) and the controlling authorities and be a leader in the space of political influence to Government and stakeholders.

Assist, develop, support and represent our member clubs for the betterment of clubs, participants and the reputation of greyhound racing.

Gain membership of appropriate Greyhound Australasia Sub-Committees and Working Parties.

Build strong, positive and valued relationships with all State and Territory Controlling Authorities, and industry participant groups.

Establish an effective and trusted social media and internet presence within the greyhound and wider community.

Continue to educate Clubs, Controlling Authorities, Participants and various GBOTA's about the role of GCA.

Work with GCA sponsors to ensure optimal partnership benefits.

Encourage and assist in the establishment of Greyhound Club state branches (such as Greyhound Clubs Victoria, Greyhound Clubs NSW), and/or to help foster strong relationships between Clubs in each state.

Explore other income streams, such as sponsorship, to fund the activities of GCA outside the Group Racing levies.

Work collaboratively with Greyhound Racing New Zealand to encourage NZ's participation in the 2019 National Sprint and National Distance Championship Finals.

## GCA Mailing Address

Greyhound Clubs Australia  
PO Box 6  
CANNINGTON WA 6987

## GCA Banking Details

Greyhound Clubs Australia  
Bankwest  
BSB 306-089  
Account 36665786

## Newsletter Content

If you would like to submit an article for next GCA newsletter or wish to provide any comment or feedback please contact David Simonette. Newsletters will be produced at least each February, June and October.

## GCA Fund

If your Club needs financial assistance you are welcome to contact David Simonette on 0412 010 724 for a confidential chat about accessing the GCA Fund. The Fund operates by way of voluntary contributions from member clubs and any monies received are held in a trust account for the purposes outlined in the Fund's charter.

## Group Race Levies 2018/19

Group Race Levies effective 1 July 2018:

Group 1	\$1400 plus GST
Group 2	\$900 plus GST
Group 3	\$450 plus GST
Listed	\$50 plus GST

## GCA Membership Dues

Metro Clubs \$1,000 plus GST  
Non Metro Clubs \$100 plus GST  
New or renewal Membership Forms are available upon request.

## GCA on Facebook

GCA is now on Facebook, please go on and Like the page. We are also in the process of changing our website platform with the generous assistance of the team at Greyhound Racing Victoria. This will afford us greater flexibility and control on the content that appears on the site. The new address for our site will be:

[www.greyhoundclubsaustralia.com.au](http://www.greyhoundclubsaustralia.com.au)



## 2018 Nationals Showcase

The brainchild idea of Sandown boss Greg Miller to conduct the 2018 Crocmedia Sprint and Distance State Finals on Thursday 9 August proved a remarkable success and will ensure that the concept is repeated next year.

With the co-operation of all state controlling authorities, many race clubs, and the extraordinary efforts of the SKY Racing team led by Steve Robinson, Kat Ernst and Jason Lincoln, the evening saw viewer numbers up 43% compared to the average for 8pm-10pm across all other Thursday evenings in 2017 and 2018. The Final night was up 5% increase on the corresponding meeting last year.

Next year the Nationals move to Sydney with the event hosted by the NSW GBOTA. There will be an exciting change to the composition of the Championship Finals with New Zealand greyhounds also competing.

The “across the ditch” representative will take the spot of the second home state dog meaning that WA, SA, NSW, VIC, TAS, QLD and NZ have one runner with the GCA Wildcard rounding out the field in each final. Currently GCA is working through the details with the administration of Greyhound Racing New Zealand and I expect that we will know much more within a few months.

One thing that has been agreed is that New Zealand is not joining the rotation to host the Nationals, largely driven by the quarantine regulations that are much more rigid on greyhounds leaving Australia rather than on greyhounds entering Australia.

The Darwin Greyhound Association is also keen to get a part of the Nationals action and Greyhound Clubs Australia will be working closely with DGA Manager Greg Aldam to assess the practicalities of such an ambition. Many people don't fully understand the progress made by the Darwin Club in the last five years and also underestimate their value to the wider Australian greyhound racing scene. By way of facilities they match up really well in many areas and are realistic to what

needs to be upgraded to see them one day host a Group 1 event.

I think that having a Northern Territory representative in the National Sprint Championship Final is very achievable in the future given the improvement of the quality of greyhound competing at Winnellie Park around Darwin Cup time in August.

## GCA Sub Committees

GCA has a number of sub committees that provide advice and recommendations in areas of specific interest. The members are detailed below:

### **FINANCE** (Also have responsibility for the GCA Fund)

Michael Seaton - GCA Treasurer  
Noel Reilly  
Brenton Scott  
Dennis O'Brien - Chairman  
Marg Long  
Alan Amezdroz

### **MEDIA, MARKETING & COMMUNICATION**

Louise Martin  
Brennan Ryan  
Dianne Dumanovic  
Kel Watt  
Ellen Harris  
Neil Brown  
Troy Harley

### **ANIMAL WELFARE** (incorporates Track Design, Standards and Equipment, Codes of Practice)

Rick Stamford  
Dr Chris Doyle  
Eddie Caruana  
Ray Bartolo  
Des Dooley  
Marg Long  
Les Bein

### **RACING** (Group Calendar, Programming)

Shaun Mathieson  
Troy Harley  
Brenton Scott – Ellen Harris  
Luke Gatehouse  
Greg Miller  
Denise Fysh  
Marg Long

### **NATIONALS**

Troy Harley  
Brenton Scott - Kristy Harper  
Greg Miller  
Luke Gatehouse  
Denise Fysh  
Dennis O'Brien

These sub-committees met in Melbourne in August 2018.

## GCA and GA

GCA welcomes some new faces at Greyhounds Australasia with the recent appointments of Ms Anne Marie Harrison as Chair, and Mr Wayne Lovie as Project Manager. Both have expressed a keen desire to work positively with Greyhound Clubs Australia, further strengthening the existing ties that see GCA represented on the GA Strategic Communications Committee and as a MOU partner on new GA rules and amendments. GCA regularly meets with the GA executive to discuss matters of industry importance.



At Melbourne Cricket Ground

## Canberra Greyhounds

The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club continues the spirited fight to see the return of greyhound racing to the ACT. The legal challenges to the validity of the ACT Government's ban and the compensation payable on the Lease will dominate their attention for the next few months whilst greyhound racing under the Canberra banner has switched quite successfully to Goulburn each Thursday afternoon. The CGRC has received strong support from the NSW Government with the announcement of a feasibility study to establish a training facility at Queanbeyan and a grant of monies for the installation of lights to enable night racing at Goulburn.

## National Fundraiser for Farmers

On Thursday 27 September 2018, GCA was very pleased to join Greyhounds Australasia and the Controlling Authorities from all states to raise \$10,000 in support of drought affected farming communities. Not only will the money support a very good cause it was also heartening to see the greyhound community act as a unified collective. There were eight winners from Box 5 throughout Australia, which saw \$8,000 into the kitty. Greyhound Clubs Australia contributed a further \$2,000. Well done to everyone concerned with the fundraising effort.

## Great Innovation

It was fantastic to watch the vision from Angle Park on Thursday 27 September when "BoxCam" was used for the first time during the successful State of Origin series. The experience of being able to view greyhounds in the starting box, in the lead up to jump, brought a new and exciting spectacle to the homes of viewers throughout the nation.

## Win \$500 for your Club

GCA needs your assistance to help our sponsors raise awareness of their products and services. Every Club that provides Race Name credits for GCA sponsors over the next four months will go into the draw to win \$500 cash. Here is what you need to do:

- Name five (5) races after each of our sponsors; SKY Racing, Secure Racing Logistics, Accell Therapy, Giddy-Up, and Quest Apartment Hotels before 31 January 2019.
- Keep a record of the race meetings, and
- Let us know that your Club has provided the 25 race credits by emailing [simonette7862@gmail.com](mailto:simonette7862@gmail.com)

The random draw will take place at the first GCA Committee Meeting in 2019.

### Fast Facts

1. Contribution to economy: Over \$1B in Australia and over \$1.1B when combined with New Zealand.
2. The Australian greyhound racing employs 7,000 people directly and approximately 30,000 other people rely on the industry for at least some of their income.
3. Major source of social cohesion in over 50 regional and rural communities in Australia and NZ.
4. 85% of participants (owners, trainers and breeders) are hobbyists who race for fun rather than profit.
5. There are around 22,000 participants involved in greyhound racing in Australia.
6. There are 66 greyhound racing clubs/tracks in Australia.
7. Over 6,500 greyhounds were rehomed last FY representing a 62% increase in two years. 22,000 retired greyhounds have found a forever home since 2015.
8. The total number of greyhounds bred between 2015 and 2017 reduced by 57%.

## Introducing GCA Sponsors



### Accell Therapy - Official Therapy Partner to GCA.

Accell Therapy devices are one of the safest forms of physical therapy available. Utilizing CVT, a three-dimensional vibration therapy, Accell is clinically proven to work in four main areas:

1. Increasing circulation and lymphatic drainage
2. Relaxing muscle and increasing nerve muscle
3. Increasing joint mobility, wound healing
4. Relieve musculoskeletal pain

All these benefits are provided through 4ft of bone and 2ft of tissue to cellular level. Further, the benefits will continue to increase for up to eight hours after the therapy session has finished, providing a basis to build on therapy benefits every day. Accell devices have been developed in Australia and the UK from the Niagara Therapy CVT medical devices that have been used on humans for both injuries and mobility since 1949. The equipment is used in hospitals, clinics and sports clubs. Via ongoing research conducted in hospitals, universities and research institutions, this form of treatment has been proven to be totally non-aggressive and drug free. Accell Therapy provides a simple and effective, reliable and repeatable therapy that can enhance the healing recovery in all animals in many areas including post-operative through increased healing and reduced recovery times. Can be used on Trauma/accident patients to reduce inflammation, bruising and contusions.

Accell Therapy representatives are situated in every state of Australia and will soon contact your Club. We ask that you make them very welcome and where possible provide information about Accell in your Club's closed Facebook site.

<https://www.niagara.com.au/accell-therapy>

## INTRODUCING SECURE RACING LOGISTICS



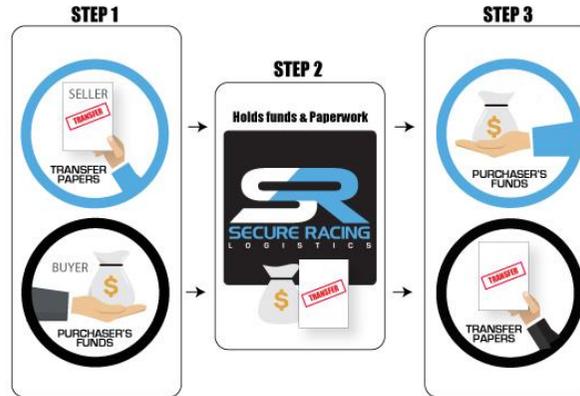
Why didn't someone think of this earlier?

Secure Racing Logistics is a WA-based company that takes away the worry of you being defrauded when transacting the sale of a greyhound. It works similar to the way a settlement agency handles the sale of a home by ensuring that the buyer and seller are legitimate, that the paperwork has been correctly completed and registered, and that financial side of the transaction is professionally and honestly conducted. All with a money back guarantee if the transaction is unable to be completed.

SRL is owned by registered greyhound enthusiast Simon Marsigalia who holds the appropriate broking and finance licenses, and saw the gap in the marketplace that made sense to be filled. "I heard too many stories about good people being ripped off and felt I had to do something about it," said Simon. "SRL takes the risk out of sending your hard-earned money to an unknown person that may not even exist."

### How It Works

Secure Racing Logistics will hold the 'purchasers' funds in an account until such time as the transfer papers from the 'sellers' have been received and have been processed by the relevant governing body. Once the transaction has been completed all parties will receive an email and the purchasers will be emailed a settlement statement.



More information is available at [www.secure racinglogistics.com.au](http://www.secure racinglogistics.com.au) or by contacting Simon [admin@secure racing.com.au](mailto:admin@secure racing.com.au)

## GIDDY-UP



Giddy-Up provides a sports and racing information service that assists in driving wagering turnover in your venue. They provide accurately assessed markets, full field analysis and speed maps in an easy to understand and very attractive screen format that includes live fixed odds, market fluctuations and tote prices.

Bill Berghouse is the National Sales Manager at Giddy-Up (0433 018 277) and he is happy to visit your track to demonstrate their range of products and how Giddy-Up can work for your track/venue.

The cost price for a Kiosk is \$3,800 plus GST and the weekly subscription for the content is \$60 per week plus GST under the rate negotiated for GCA.

# Tabcorp

Greyhound Clubs Australia is very proud to announce Tabcorp as our major sponsor. You might know them best through their established brands TAB, UBET and SKY RACING.

Tabcorp is one of the few integrated gambling and entertainment companies in the world. Their three core businesses - Wagering and Media, Lotteries and Keno, and Gaming Services - are delivered to people through retail, digital and Sky media platforms. GCA looks forward to building a long and positive relationship with Tabcorp to deliver increased opportunities for the greyhound code, many of which are currently being explored in introductory meetings.



TAB is Australia's biggest multichannel wagering brand, offering a broad range of betting experiences across digital channels and in retail throughout Victoria, New South Wales and the ACT.



The UBET wagering brand provides Australian customers with wagering experiences across digital platforms and in retail venues across Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Northern Territory



Sky Racing and Sky Sports Radio broadcast racing and sports programs and expert analysis throughout Australia and internationally.

## QUEST APARTMENT HOTELS

questapartments.com.au



Greyhound Clubs Australia has negotiated a discounted rate for any members of the greyhound community Australia-wide when choosing accommodation at any Quest Apartment Hotel.

Simply use the Codeword GREYHOUND when using the link: <https://www.questapartments.com.au/corporate-deals/greyhound-clubs-australia>

All properties below have offered 10% Off Best Available Rate (except Breakfast Creek and Toowoomba both 5%).

### PROPERTY NAME

Quest Albury  
Quest Albury On Townsend  
Quest Alice Springs  
Quest Ascot  
Quest At Sydney Olympic Park  
Quest Ballarat  
Quest Bendigo  
Quest Bendigo Central  
Quest Berrimah  
Quest Bondi Junction  
Quest Breakfast Creek (5%)  
Quest Brighton On The Bay  
Quest Bundoora  
Quest Canberra  
Quest Cannon Hill  
Quest Carlton On Finlay  
Quest Caroline Springs  
Quest Castle Hill  
Quest Chatswood  
Quest Cheltenham  
Quest Chermside  
Quest Chermside On Playfield  
Quest Cronulla Beach  
Quest Dandenong

Quest Dandenong Central  
Quest Docklands  
Quest Doncaster  
Quest Dubbo  
Quest Eight Mile Plains  
Quest Epping  
Quest Flemington  
Quest Flemington Central  
Quest Frankston  
Quest Frankston On The Bay  
Quest Fremantle  
Quest Geelong  
Quest Glen Waverley  
Quest Gordon Place  
Quest Hawthorn  
Quest Innaloo  
Quest Ipswich  
Quest Ivanhoe  
Quest Kalgoorlie  
Quest Kelvin Grove  
Quest Kew  
Quest King William South  
Quest Launceston  
Quest Liverpool  
Quest Macquarie Park  
Quest Mandurah  
Quest Manly  
Quest Mascot  
Quest Mawson Lakes  
Quest Mildura  
Quest Mont Albert  
Quest Moonee Valley  
Quest Moorabbin  
Quest Newcastle  
Quest Newcastle West  
Quest Newquay  
Quest Notting Hill  
Quest On Dorcas  
Quest On Franklin  
Quest On Lonsdale  
Quest On Rheola  
Quest On Story Bridge

Quest On William  
Quest Palmerston  
Quest Parap  
Quest Port Adelaide  
Quest Portland  
Quest Potts Point  
Quest Prahran  
Quest River Park Central  
Quest Rockhampton  
Quest Sale  
Quest Savoy  
Quest Scarborough  
Quest Schaller Hotel  
Quest Singleton  
Quest South Brisbane  
Quest South Perth  
Quest Southbank  
Quest Spring Hill  
Quest Springfield Central  
Quest Tamworth  
Quest Toowoomba (5%)  
Quest Townsville  
Quest Townsville On Eyre  
Quest Trinity House  
Quest Wagga Wagga  
Quest Warrnambool  
Quest Waterfront  
Quest West End  
Quest Whyalla  
Quest Williamstown  
Quest Windsor  
Quest Wodonga  
Quest Wollongong  
Quest Woolloongabba  
Quest Yelverton

