How Greyhound Mortality Numbers are increasing and being hidden from the public.

Submission to the Joint Select Committee, Parliament of Tasmania

Dr Alexander Brittan BVSc MRCVS · 7 November 2026

INTRODUCTION:

The Gambling industry that runs and controls one of the last remaining Greyhound Racing industries in the world is painfully aware that the continued operation of its Australian jurisdiction, called Greyhound racing Australia (GA), operates on the tenuous, fragile and near exhausted condition of maintaining its social license.

This social license is dependent on maintaining the facade that greyhounds are not injured at rates higher than the normal dog population, that they do not sustain severe and extreme types of injuries, and most importantly - that they are not killed at rates that the general population would find unacceptable.

This is a mirage that they, the industry, wish to maintain - in the face of a storm of factual scientific evidence to the absolute contrary.

Each time there is an inquiry into whether or not the Greyhound gambling industry should be allowed to continue in a modern and progressive society that values animal welfare, the relevant committees pore over biblical tomes of evidence and all come to the same conclusion.

The numbers - when they can be found, or rather forcibly produced, do not lie.

Despite tens of millions of taxpayer dollars being directed to “Track safety upgrades”, not only are the injury rates increasing,

the rate at which injuries are increasing is increasing and the mortality rates are perpetually increasing to ever new record highs - or depths.

Industry knows full well, that if society were ever fully aware of the true numbers of dead greyhounds being produced by the industry every year, and of the true nature of their deaths, that they would be appalled and the homeopathic residue of social license would finally be extinguished.

Governments, like those of New Zealand, Scotland and Wales, have been forced to react, and to finally act in the best interests of the dogs, rather than in the best interests of the gambling industry.

An industry whose primary goal is to operate a tax avoiding, money laundering machine that continues to flagrantly flout our anti-money-laundering and counter-terrorism financing laws.

An industry that despite operating with a near $40 Bn annual wagering churn for Animal Betting, and which continues to funnel its profits through its HQ in the UK tax haven of the Isle of Man, has the temerity to put its hand out each year and (successfully) beg for taxpayer money.

Which our governments have shamelessly continued to hand out,

despite there being clear and inarguable evidence that these monies, our monies - could better be used for socially relevant programmes such as healthcare, education and housing.

This Billion dollar industry wants to protect its cash cow and therefore needs to protect its social license.

Thus it has, and continues to, deploy a series of strategic and coordinated schemes across all of its jurisdictions in order to ensure that the facts relating to the key metrics of greyhound deaths are pixelated, distorted, obfuscated and in some cases deliberately siloed and hidden from both the Government and society.

MORTALITY REPORTING: BAD OPTICS VS REALITY

To define mortality is to define *"the number of deaths in a given area or period or from a particular cause."*

Given the simplicity of the statement, one would think it would be easy for a Government body, such as the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission, to report on this simple metric.

Especially as they are legally mandated to report on this and all matters ***"in an accurate and transparent manner".***

Unfortunately this is not the case.

In response to the simple question of - "how many greyhounds die each year?",

Industry's first tactic is to hide the facts and to choose not to report them or delay reporting until they are forced to.

Tasracing and the South Australian members of GA being solid examples of that tactic. Due to a lack of oversight and governance, several members of GA have been able to get away with just not reporting these figures at all to the public, in the same way that they silo the "bad optics" of the video evidence of catastrophic injuries leading to on track deaths.

In jurisdictions that have undergone meaningful - but ignored, inquiries, bodies such as GWIC have been mandated to report on these metrics to both the state government and the public by way of their annual "Lifecycle Reports" - in which the "REPORTED" mortality numbers can be found, after careful analysis and filtering (more on the difference between "reported" and "recorded" deaths later).

One of Industry's secondary tactics is to pixelate or fragment the data. They also choose to routinely change the nomenclature of the metrics and to use terminology that is either too broad or extremely euphemistic, to help avoid scrutiny.

Rather than answering the question directly and simply saying 1,153 greyhounds died in a particular year, (as occurred in NSW in 2025) they will state that only 13 Greyhounds were killed on tracks due to catastrophic injuries. They will further seek to amplify the distraction by stating that this is a reduction in "on track" deaths, and is indeed a 38% reduction in previous years.

To properly define "Mortality" - ALL deaths need to be included.

The two broad categories that have been settled on are

A) Euthanasias, and

B) Deaths

The TOTAL of these numbers representing the overall Mortality statistics.

These must include all "ON" and "OFF" track deaths and Euthanasias

The causes of "Euthanasia" are supposed to be carefully considered and only allowed in very specific circumstances.

Rule 9.5 of the Industry code of conduct states that

"It is an offence for a participant to euthanase a greyhound, or cause a greyhound to be euthanased, other than in an EMERGENCY circumstance where:

A) delaying euthanasia would result in the greyhound experiencing unacceptable pain and suffering, and

B) a veterinarian has been consulted but is unable to attend in a timely manner and,

C) the euthanasia is performed using a humane method.

It is of significant concern that despite this supposedly rigorous set of rules surrounding when a greyhound can be euthanased that so many greyhounds are still euthanased for ill defined reasons.

A “medical” euthanasia is only to be performed for ***“incurable or untreatable”*** injuries or illnesses.

A staggering 94% of euthanasias were for, allegedly - unfixable injuries or untreatable medical conditions.

This simply beggars belief.

Either Greyhounds are prone to the most extreme and untreatable diseases - which is certainly NOT backed up by the experiences of those greyhounds that are “rehomed to a domestic couch” and cared for by the public rather than participants,

or that the Veterinarians that are providing these diagnoses of “unfixable” or “untreatable” conditions are either hopelessly inadequate or are liars.

I was advised by the chief inspector of GWIC that it was her opinion that there are a handful of dodgy vets that are servicing the industry with easy euthanasias, which are more often than not attributed to either “spider bites” or a lack of adequate professional skills.

One such veterinarian named by the chief inspector, Dr Kwong in NSW, was found to have dumped dead greyhound bodies in public bins, leading to an investigation of his practice.

When GWIC conducted the search, after a 24 hour warning of the search, his freezer was still full of dead greyhound bodies, whose deaths had not been reported. Several half burnt cadavers were then found in a fire pit on his property.

No doubt fearing the bad optics that would ensue, GWIC chose not to prosecute this gross violation of the code of conduct until I raised the matter in my “Handover Document” that triggered the Drake inquiry.

Even then GWIC delayed their investigation another 12 months, until the lens of the Drake Inquiry was placed over them.

Two and a half years after the event, and under immense public scrutiny, GWIC, under the leadership of CEO Steve Griffin, finally charged Dr Kwong for several offences and suspended his access to the industry for 12 months.

However, due to the negligent and protracted length of time it took GWIC and Steve Griffin to charge Dr Kwong, he successfully appealed the suspension and had the charges dropped.

None of these dead greyhounds were reported in any mortality report.

No one has been held to account.

A euthanasia is a controlled event: a greyhound is taken to a veterinary surgeon and euthanasia is requested.

A “Death” however, is where a participant phones in to GWIC within 48 hours and tells them (ie voluntarily ‘reports’) that they found a dead dog in a kennel that morning.

GWIC will ask ‘why’?

60% of the time the cause is simply classified as an ”*unknown cause”.*

The remaining 40% of these **reported** deaths are classified as “accidents”.

It would appear there are a lot of trainers that are not providing adequate safeguards for their dogs.

The other 60% of deaths are rather arbitrarily classified as

> *"due to old age" (*a stinging indictment of how ineffectual the rehoming rates are *)*
>
> *and*
>
> *"Illness or natural causes"* - none of these reported deaths are investigated, nor are the alleged causes ever followed up or verified.

So 30% of all reported mortalities are attributed to "*unknown causes*", and

50% of all reported mortalities are for supposedly "*unfixable*" or "*untreatable*" medical or surgical conditions.

This is simply unbelievable.

Either there are a lot of incompetent vets out there or Greyhounds are susceptible to a significantly greater number of rare and terminal conditions — something which is NOT validated by the greyhounds that survive the industry and are rehomed out of the industry database and into the true Domestic dog population (where their microchip numbers are moved from the industry siloed microchip database and onto the public Companion Animal Register or CAR).

GWIC who have the power to investigate these matters - continue to do nothing and either deliberately turn a blind eye or act out of pure ignorance.

SPECIFIC MORTALITY NUMBERS: 2021 VS 2025

When I wrote my “Handover Report” for GRNSW I was referencing the period - year ending 2021 to year ending 2024.

I have now been able to update and expand that time period to include the data from year ending 2025.

The death rate has continued to grow, and there has been a 75% increase in reported dead greyhounds over a 4 year period.

2021 GWIC MORTALITY REPORT

RETIREMENT

The Commission was notified of 1,418 greyhound retirements that occurred in 2020/21 (Table 6), similar to the previous year. Notifications were also recieved for another two greyhound retirements which occurred prior to 1 July 2020*.

Over one-quarter (28%) of retired greyhounds were retained by an industry participant as a pet or breeding greyhound and remain registered with GWIC. The majority of greyhounds were rehomed to non-participants via the Greyhounds as Pets program (24%) or another animal adoption or rescue organisation (32%).

Table 6: Greyhound retirements reported in 2020/21

Destination	Greyhounds	%
Retained by industry participant as pet or for breeding	403	28%
Rehomed privately by owner or trainer to a non-participant as a pet	229	16%
Accepted by Greyhounds As Pets	339	24%
Accepted by another animal adoption or rescue organisation	447	32%
Retired before 1 July 2020	2	0%
Total	**1,420**	**100%**

Source: OneGov 13/8/2021

GREYHOUND MORTALITY

A total of 659 greyhound mortalities were reported 2020/21 (Table 7), of which 71% were the result of euthanasia. The most common reason for euthanasia was injury and illness, and the majority were conducted by private veterinarians.

Fifty-nine mortalities occurred during race meetings (four sudden deaths and 55 euthanasias conducted by on-track veterinarians).

Table 7: Greyhound mortalities reported in 2020/21

Mortality by type and cause[1]	Number	%
Euthanasia		
Medical Euthanasia - Injury	236	50.1%
Medical Euthanasia - Illness	195	41.4%
Medical Euthanasia - Emergency[2]	1	0.2%
Failure to Re-home	19	4%
Behaviourally unsuitable[3]	20	4.3%
Euthanasia total	**471**	**100%**
Death		
Injury or accident	69	37%
Illness, age or natural causes	119	63%
Death total	**188**	**100%**

[1] Includes euthanasia and sudden deaths at race meetings.
[2] The circumstances surrounding any emergency euthanasia are examined by the Commission to ensure that no breach of the Greyhound Rehoming Policy or the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979* has occurred.
[3] Euthanasia due to behavioural reasons is not currently permitted under the Greyhound Rehoming Policy. These cases are investigated to determine whether a breach of the policy has occurred.

Source: OneGov 13/8/2021.

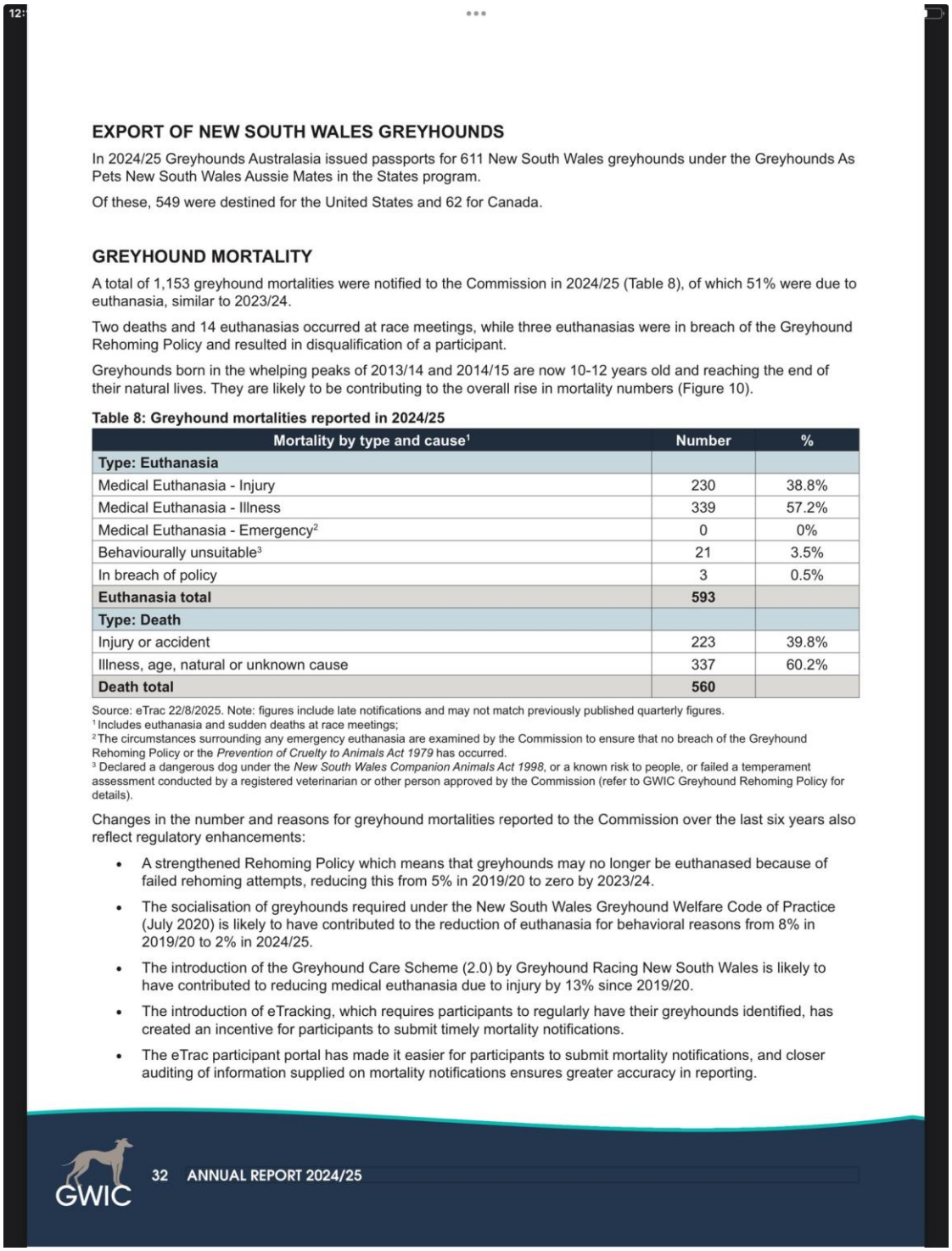
*Data presented here is based on information provided by participants to the Commission.

Page 28 of the GWIC annual report for 2020/2021.

In 2021 471 Greyhounds were euthanased AND 188 Greyhounds were **"reported"** as having died.

The TOTAL reported mortalities for 2021, as stated by GWIC was **659.**

2025 GWIC MORTALITY REPORT



EXPORT OF NEW SOUTH WALES GREYHOUNDS

In 2024/25 Greyhounds Australasia issued passports for 611 New South Wales greyhounds under the Greyhounds As Pets New South Wales Aussie Mates in the States program.

Of these, 549 were destined for the United States and 62 for Canada.

GREYHOUND MORTALITY

A total of 1,153 greyhound mortalities were notified to the Commission in 2024/25 (Table 8), of which 51% were due to euthanasia, similar to 2023/24.

Two deaths and 14 euthanasias occurred at race meetings, while three euthanasias were in breach of the Greyhound Rehoming Policy and resulted in disqualification of a participant.

Greyhounds born in the whelping peaks of 2013/14 and 2014/15 are now 10-12 years old and reaching the end of their natural lives. They are likely to be contributing to the overall rise in mortality numbers (Figure 10).

Table 8: Greyhound mortalities reported in 2024/25

Mortality by type and cause[1]	Number	%
Type: Euthanasia		
Medical Euthanasia - Injury	230	38.8%
Medical Euthanasia - Illness	339	57.2%
Medical Euthanasia - Emergency[2]	0	0%
Behaviourally unsuitable[3]	21	3.5%
In breach of policy	3	0.5%
Euthanasia total	**593**	
Type: Death		
Injury or accident	223	39.8%
Illness, age, natural or unknown cause	337	60.2%
Death total	**560**	

Source: eTrac 22/8/2025. Note: figures include late notifications and may not match previously published quarterly figures.
[1] Includes euthanasia and sudden deaths at race meetings;
[2] The circumstances surrounding any emergency euthanasia are examined by the Commission to ensure that no breach of the Greyhound Rehoming Policy or the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979* has occurred.
[3] Declared a dangerous dog under the *New South Wales Companion Animals Act 1998*, or a known risk to people, or failed a temperament assessment conducted by a registered veterinarian or other person approved by the Commission (refer to GWIC Greyhound Rehoming Policy for details).

Changes in the number and reasons for greyhound mortalities reported to the Commission over the last six years also reflect regulatory enhancements:

- A strengthened Rehoming Policy which means that greyhounds may no longer be euthanased because of failed rehoming attempts, reducing this from 5% in 2019/20 to zero by 2023/24.
- The socialisation of greyhounds required under the New South Wales Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice (July 2020) is likely to have contributed to the reduction of euthanasia for behavioral reasons from 8% in 2019/20 to 2% in 2024/25.
- The introduction of the Greyhound Care Scheme (2.0) by Greyhound Racing New South Wales is likely to have contributed to reducing medical euthanasia due to injury by 13% since 2019/20.
- The introduction of eTracking, which requires participants to regularly have their greyhounds identified, has created an incentive for participants to submit timely mortality notifications.
- The eTrac participant portal has made it easier for participants to submit mortality notifications, and closer auditing of information supplied on mortality notifications ensures greater accuracy in reporting.

GWIC 32 ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

Page 32 GWIC annual report for 2024/25

In 2025 593 Greyhounds were euthanased and 560 Greyhounds were ***"reported"*** as having died.

The TOTAL reported mortalities for 2025, as stated by GWIC was **1,153.**

1,153 is 75% greater than 659.

Thus, the 'reported' greyhound mortality rate increased by 75% between the 4 year period 2021-2025.

This was not an isolated spike, it was part of a progressive linear increase, as demonstrated by GWIC's graph of these statistics (see below)

GWIC'S GRAPH DEMONSTRATING THE RISE IN MORTALITY RATES

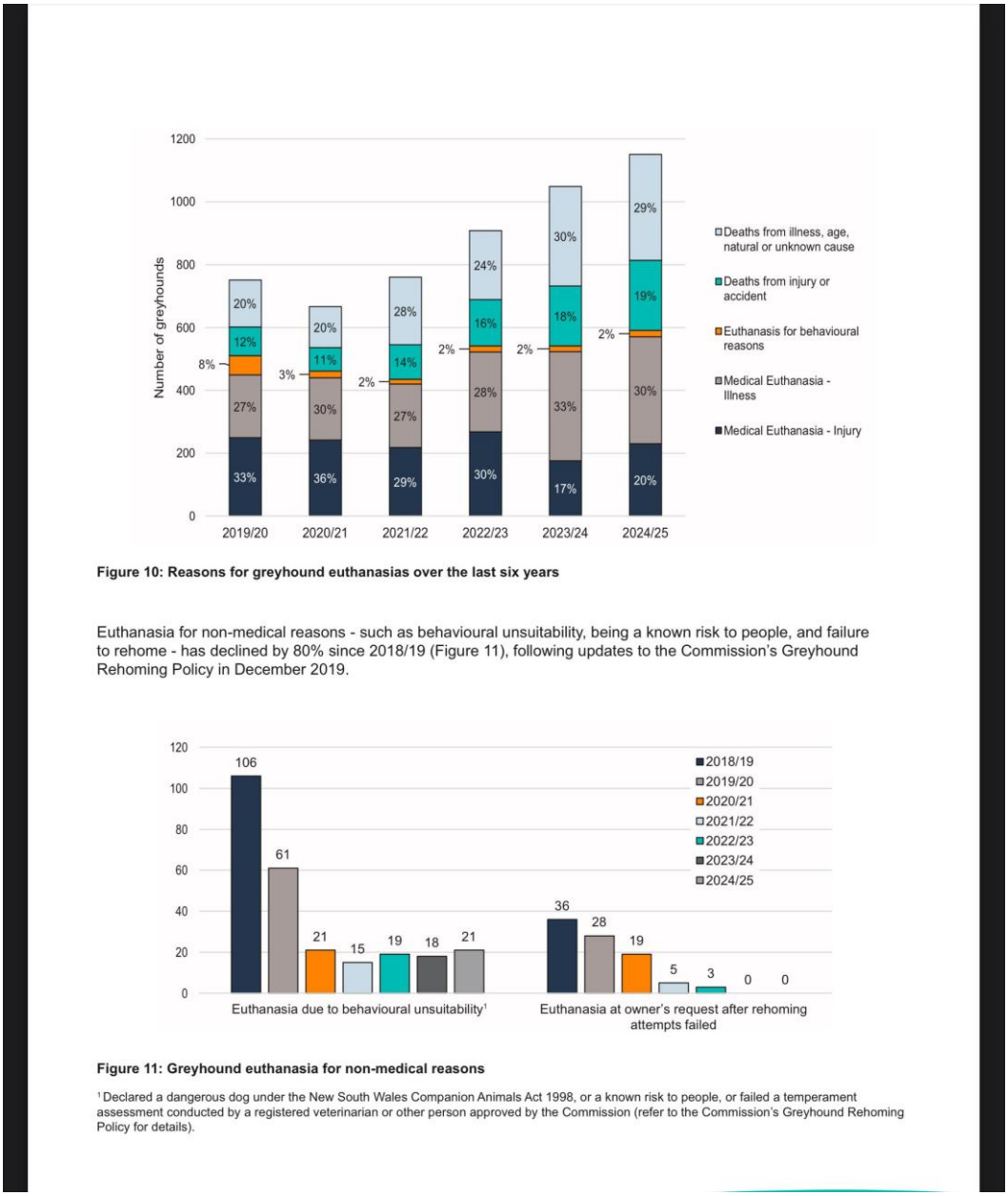


Figure 10: Reasons for greyhound euthanasias over the last six years

Euthanasia for non-medical reasons - such as behavioural unsuitability, being a known risk to people, and failure to rehome - has declined by 80% since 2018/19 (Figure 11), following updates to the Commission's Greyhound Rehoming Policy in December 2019.

Figure 11: Greyhound euthanasia for non-medical reasons

¹ Declared a dangerous dog under the New South Wales Companion Animals Act 1998, or a known risk to people, or failed a temperament assessment conducted by a registered veterinarian or other person approved by the Commission (refer to the Commission's Greyhound Rehoming Policy for details).

What that means is, that despite spending tens of millions of taxpayer funded dollars, 75% more greyhounds are dying than in 2021.

To continue to either fund or allow this industry to operate, is to merely throw good money after bad and to enable an industry that clearly places the financial welfare of all those involved in the gambling industry far far above the ethical and moral concerns and the welfare of the greyhounds

IF NOT PIXELATING, RECLASSIFYING OR OBFUSCATING THEN IT'S BLATANT DECEPTION

It is important to note that these rules regarding deaths and euthanasias only apply to actively racing greyhounds.

Once a Greyhound owner goes online via their portal, and has simply changed their greyhound's "status" to "retired",

Then these rules regarding "voluntary reporting" no longer apply.

The deaths or euthanasias of "retired greyhounds" are then not "reported" to either the government or the public.

They are however kept on secret in-house, off the books "records", which GWIC refers to as the "*legacy deaths and euthanasia*" report.

I discovered this during my employment as CVO of GRNSW.

I reported my concerns to the then CEO who flew into a rage - I tendered my resignation.

I included these statistics in my handover report - which is in the public domain.

As you have extended me parliamentary privilege, I am able to discuss this disturbing matter in this forum.

This is disturbing because of the enormous numbers involved,

it is equally disturbing that a body that has the audacity to include Welfare and Integrity in its name, has repeatedly failed to report on the truth of these deaths in

***"an accurate and transparent manner"*.**

Under the stewardship of Alby Taylor (Chairman of the Board of GWIC) and Steve Griffin (CEO), a loophole was concocted (Rule 9.5 r) which allowed participants to not have to "report" a greyhound's death within 48 hours, which had the follow on benefit to them of not having to technically include these deaths in their mortality reports.

Both the Chairman of the Board and the CEO of GWIC were relieved of their duties or chose to walk, during (or immediately after) the Drake Inquiry.

The loophole however remains open.

A "legacy deaths and Euthanasia" programme was set up to enable the industry to hide the real numbers of dead greyhounds.

These legacy deaths and euthanasias are rather arbitrarily only "**recorded**" on a secret internal and highly guarded documents and are NOT "**reported**" to the government and the public.

Whilst it is appalling that the industry currently reports on killing over 2600 greyhounds per annum.

This equates to

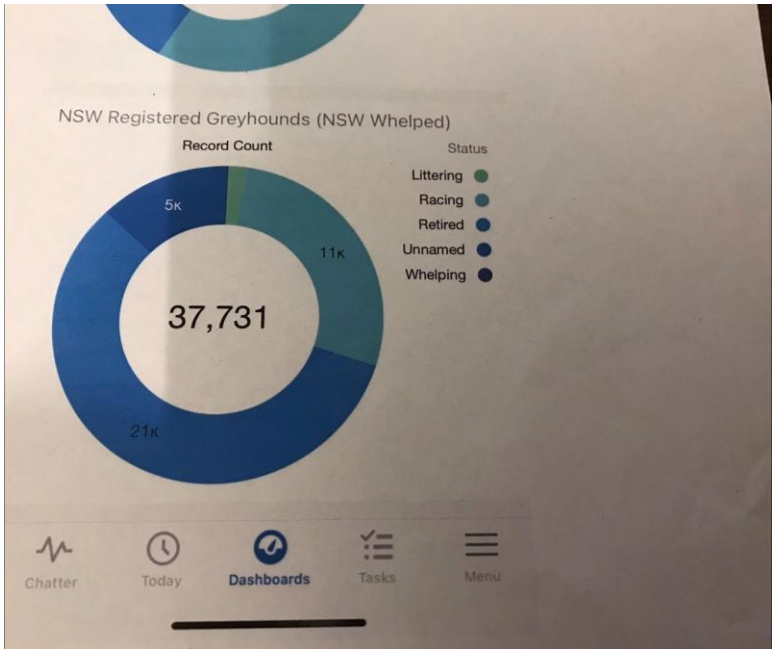
54 dead greyhounds per week,

7.4 dead greyhounds per day, or

1 dead greyhound every 3 hours

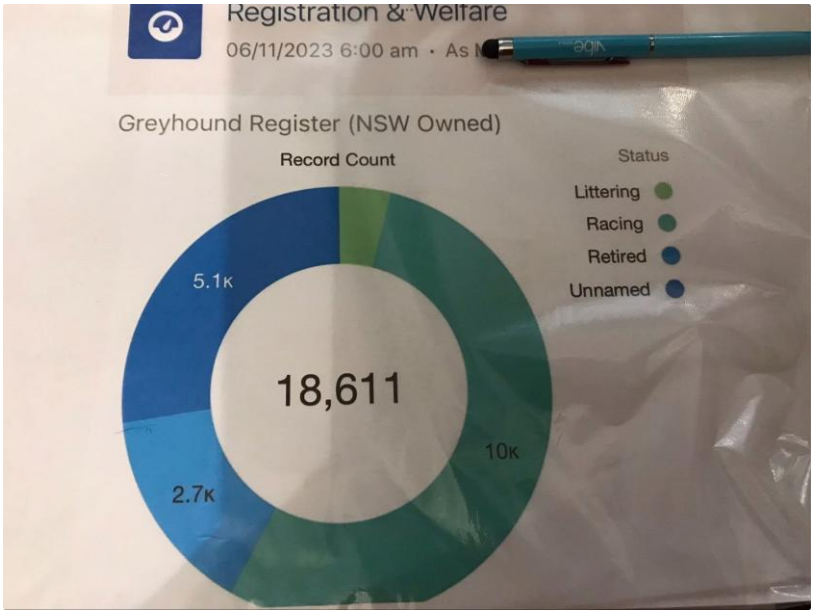
The reality though is far worse.

In 2018 the immediate post McHugh report Greyhound racing population was around 37,000



GWIC pie chart 1

In 2023 after 2 census events (population reconciliations and data cleanses) the racing greyhound population had decreased to around 18,000



GWIC pie chart 2

These charts and data come from within GWIC's closely guarded e-track software and were provided to me by GRNSW's in-house statistician and data analyst.

In the 5 years since the McHugh report recommended shutting the industry down as

"it is not capable of meaningful change",

the active (alive) racing greyhound population has gone from 37,000 to 18,000.

What happened to the near 20,000 greyhounds?

Furthermore, from 2018 to 2025 a further **26,568** greyhounds have been entered into that population.

YEAR	GREYHOUNDS ENTERING THE INDUSTRY
2019	3747
2020	3935
2021	4567
2022	4450
2023	3756
2024	3198
2025	2915
TOTAL	**26,568**

Of those only **9289** were “rehomed to a domestic couch”, (4839 were retained in the industry and reclassified as “rehomed to self or “Retained as breeding stock”)

YEAR	REHOMED TO A DOMESTIC COUCH	RETAINED / KEPT AS BREEDING STOCK
2019	918	517
2020	881	524
2021	1017	403
2022	925	302
2023	1097	557
2024	2177	1332
2025	2274	1204
TOTAL	**9289**	

Of the 26,568 **5853** died (reportedly)

YEAR	REPORTED DEATHS		
2019	635		
2020	687		
2021	659		
2022	762		
2023	911		
2024	1046		
2025	1153		
TOTAL	**5853**		

So since 2018,

26,568 greyhounds have entered the system.

9,289 have been rehomed to a domestic couch

5,853 have been reported as dead

That's 15,142 greyhounds accounted for as having left the industry (death or domestic rehoming)

26,568 - 15,142 = **11,426**

That means there should be another 11,426 more greyhounds that have been retained by the industry.

If there were 37,371 greyhounds in 2018 and there are now an additional 11,426 greyhounds since 2018 that have not been domestically rehomed or killed, then there should be a standing population of almost 49,000 greyhounds in NSW alone.

However GWIC states that there are only around 18,000 alive greyhounds in the current population.

Why the discrepancy?

What has happened to the missing 30,000 greyhounds?

Having designed a programme (GCS 2.0) to protect greyhounds from unnecessary euthanasia “On track” for racing injuries, with an annual budget of around $2m.

The on track death rate went from 65 to 5.

I was relieved to see that 60 greyhounds a year were apparently being saved.

Despite these 60 saved lives costing industry $2m pa, GRNSW and GWIC were euphoric and trumpeted this amazing reduction in deaths, near and far.

So I was then immensely disturbed to find out that

A) over 1000 greyhounds were actually being reported as dying, and

B) that there was evidence that the numbers were indeed far greater.

My research, aided by the in house GRNSW data analysis team widened.

Since 2018, GWIC has performed two census-like events, where each greyhound has a “proof of life”event.

These have been called “population reconciliations” and “data cleanses”.

What is a Data Cleanse?

GWIC rings every participant who has an active greyhound logged into the system and verifies that the participant still has that greyhound/s, and “reconciles” the population accordingly.

If the participant informs GWIC that they no longer have a particular greyhound, then GWIC asks why?

If the greyhound has died, then the participant was legally bound to have told GWIC within 48 hours of the death of the greyhound. That is then a “reported” death.

Failure to do so would incur serious fines and possible suspension

Under prompting, the participant is asked if the death of the greyhound occurred while the greyhound was actively racing, or

if the greyhound had been retired from racing at the time of death, and the participant had not been guilty of failing to REPORT a greyhound death, but merely of having not modified the greyhound’s status from active to retired at the appropriate time - a mere clerical error.

GWIC then retrospectively modifies the greyhound’s status to “retired”, which gets GWIC out of having to report the death in their annual mortality reports.

Again, all these deaths and euthanasias and the dates that the greyhound status was modified and the alleged date of the death are all precisely and painfully (for GWIC) RECORDED on a file called “Legacy deaths”.

This large itemised file is an attachment to the ‘handover document’ and is on the public record. I have attached it to this email as well.

The secret results of the “proof of life” events called “population reconciliations” or “data cleanses” were provided to me and verified by in house GRNSW statisticians and data analysts. The results came from the TWO databases and software systems that GWIC was then using.

I attach these 5 screenshots:

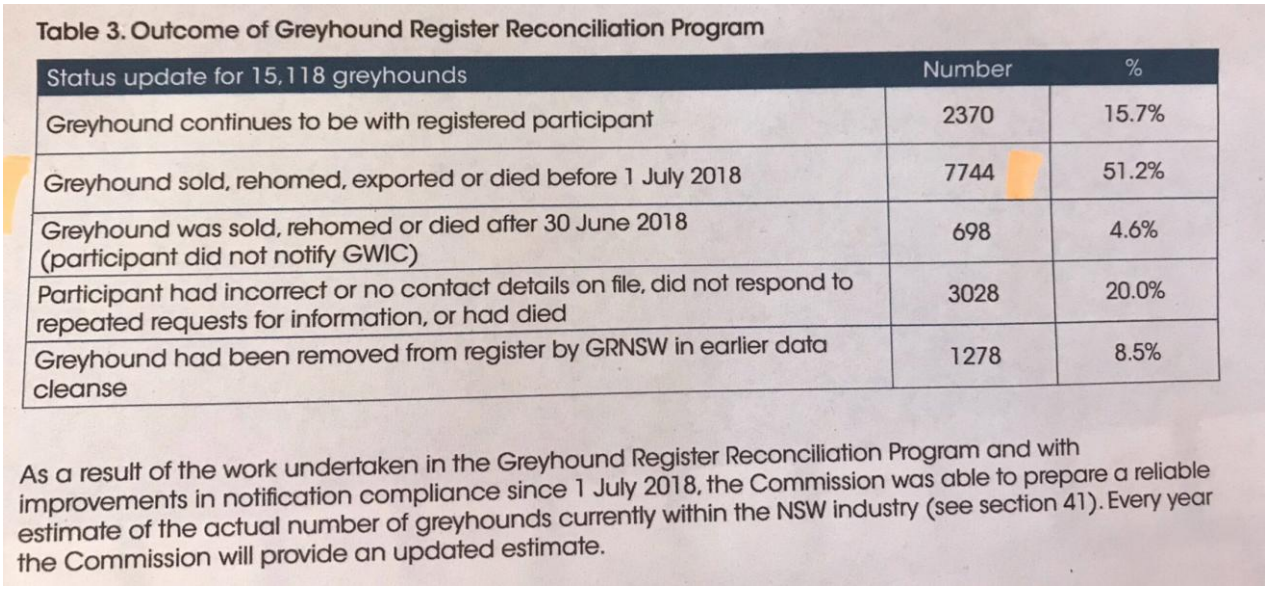


Table 3. Outcome of Greyhound Register Reconciliation Program

Status update for 15,118 greyhounds	Number	%
Greyhound continues to be with registered participant	2370	15.7%
Greyhound sold, rehomed, exported or died before 1 July 2018	7744	51.2%
Greyhound was sold, rehomed or died after 30 June 2018 (participant did not notify GWIC)	698	4.6%
Participant had incorrect or no contact details on file, did not respond to repeated requests for information, or had died	3028	20.0%
Greyhound had been removed from register by GRNSW in earlier data cleanse	1278	8.5%

As a result of the work undertaken in the Greyhound Register Reconciliation Program and with improvements in notification compliance since 1 July 2018, the Commission was able to prepare a reliable estimate of the actual number of greyhounds currently within the NSW industry (see section 41). Every year the Commission will provide an updated estimate.

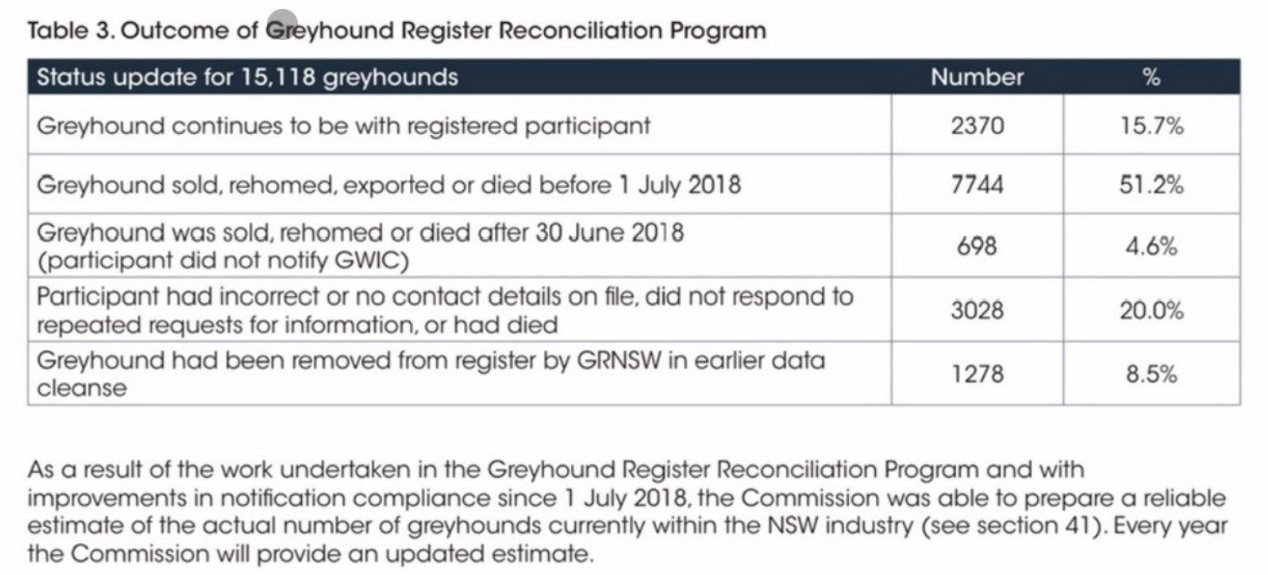
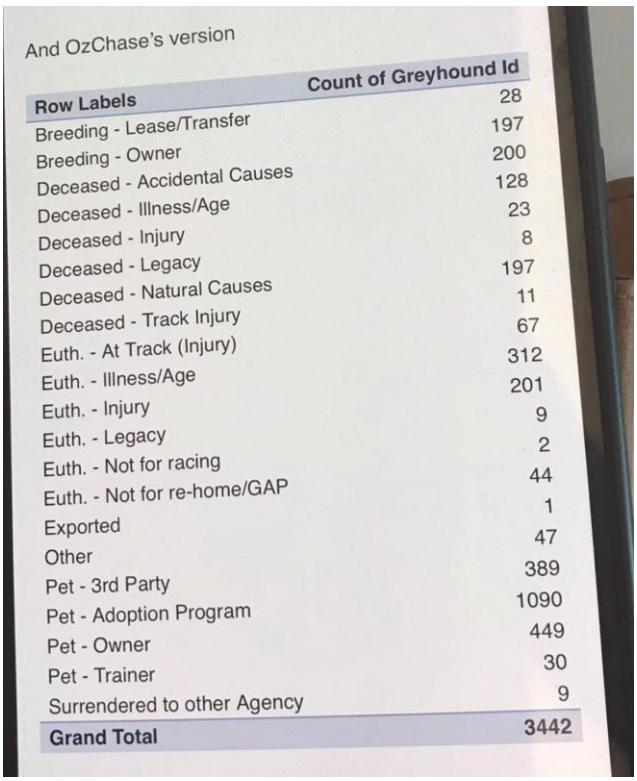


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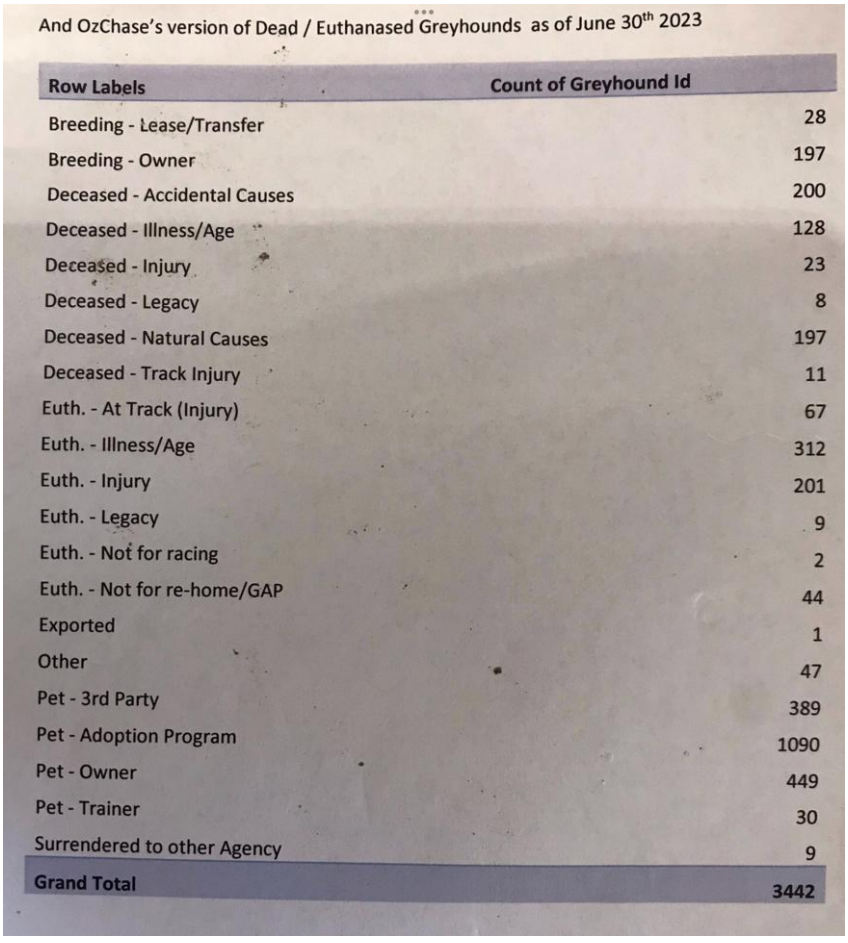
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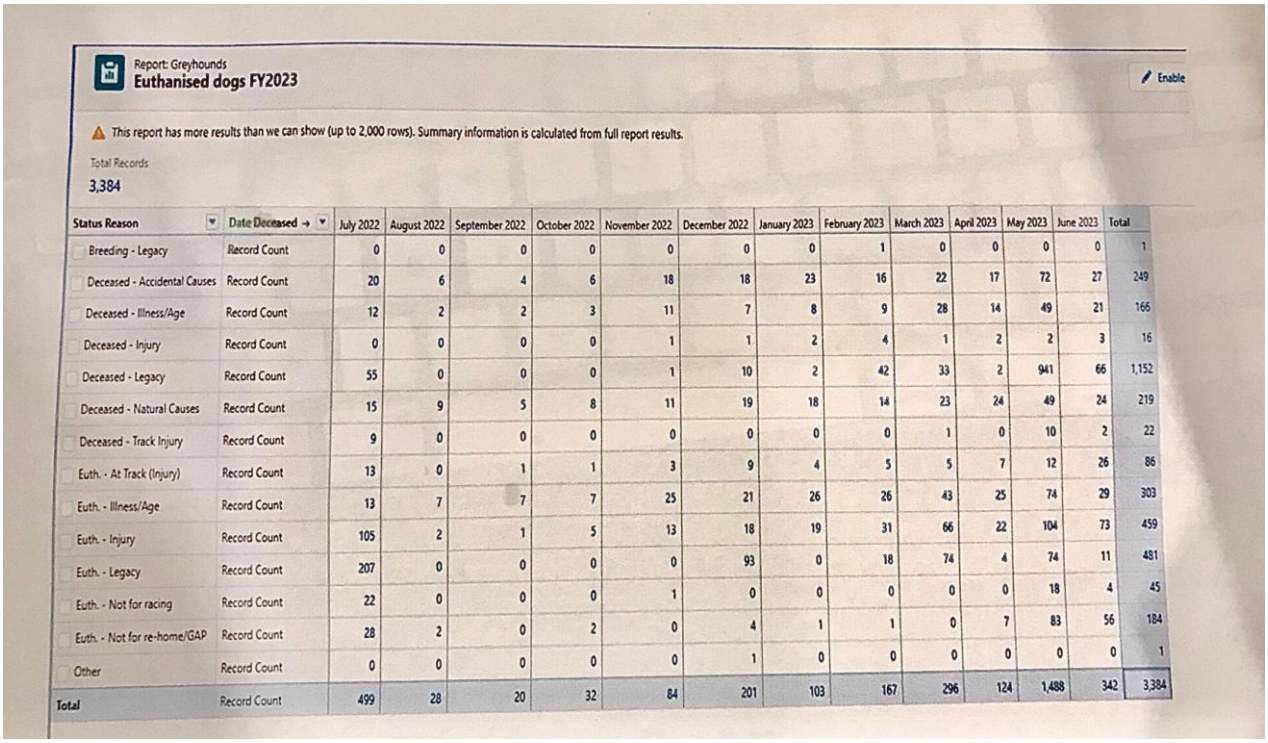
And OzChase's version

Row Labels	Count of Greyhound Id
Breeding - Lease/Transfer	28
Breeding - Owner	197
Deceased - Accidental Causes	200
Deceased - Illness/Age	128
Deceased - Injury	23
Deceased - Legacy	8
Deceased - Natural Causes	197
Deceased - Track Injury	11
Euth. - At Track (Injury)	67
Euth. - Illness/Age	312
Euth. - Injury	201
Euth. - Legacy	9
Euth. - Not for racing	2
Euth. - Not for re-home/GAP	44
Exported	1
Other	47
Pet - 3rd Party	389
Pet - Adoption Program	1090
Pet - Owner	449
Pet - Trainer	30
Surrendered to other Agency	9
Grand Total	**3442**



And OzChase's version of Dead / Euthanased Greyhounds as of June 30th 2023

Row Labels	Count of Greyhound Id
Breeding - Lease/Transfer	28
Breeding - Owner	197
Deceased - Accidental Causes	200
Deceased - Illness/Age	128
Deceased - Injury	23
Deceased - Legacy	8
Deceased - Natural Causes	197
Deceased - Track Injury	11
Euth. - At Track (Injury)	67
Euth. - Illness/Age	312
Euth. - Injury	201
Euth. - Legacy	9
Euth. - Not for racing	2
Euth. - Not for re-home/GAP	44
Exported	1
Other	47
Pet - 3rd Party	389
Pet - Adoption Program	1090
Pet - Owner	449
Pet - Trainer	30
Surrendered to other Agency	9
Grand Total	**3442**



Report: Greyhounds
Euthanised dogs FY2023

Enable

⚠ This report has more results than we can show (up to 2,000 rows). Summary information is calculated from full report results.

Total Records
3,384

Status Reason	Date Deceased →	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023	Total
Breeding - Legacy	Record Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Deceased - Accidental Causes	Record Count	20	6	4	6	18	18	23	16	22	17	72	27	249
Deceased - Illness/Age	Record Count	12	2	2	3	11	7	8	9	28	14	49	21	166
Deceased - Injury	Record Count	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	1	2	2	3	16
Deceased - Legacy	Record Count	55	0	0	0	1	10	2	42	33	2	941	66	1,152
Deceased - Natural Causes	Record Count	15	9	5	8	11	19	18	14	23	24	49	24	219
Deceased - Track Injury	Record Count	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	2	22
Euth. - At Track (Injury)	Record Count	13	0	1	1	3	9	4	5	5	7	12	26	86
Euth. - Illness/Age	Record Count	13	7	7	7	25	21	26	26	43	25	74	29	303
Euth. - Injury	Record Count	105	2	1	5	13	18	19	31	66	22	104	73	459
Euth. - Legacy	Record Count	207	0	0	0	0	93	0	18	74	4	74	11	481
Euth. - Not for racing	Record Count	22	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	18	4	45
Euth. - Not for re-home/GAP	Record Count	28	2	0	2	0	4	1	1	0	7	83	56	184
Other	Record Count	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	Record Count	499	28	20	32	84	201	103	167	296	124	1,488	342	3,384

Since 2018, GWIC has quietly recorded 11,454 legacy deaths and reported not a single one of them.

That is over double the number of "reported" mortalities.

This concept of deliberately under reporting the deaths of 'retired' greyhounds

(who have NOT been rehomed to a domestic couch) was covered in an Australian scientific research paper, commissioned by the Australian Government, titled

"Greyhound morbidity and mortality in Australia. A descriptive analysis of reported data from regulatory racing industries".

The findings were evidently not what they wanted to hear and the Australian researchers had to have their paper published in a Swiss journal to avoid any potential legal issues.

Their independent scientific conclusion was:

"the fact that the information the public is privy to is controlled by the industry, and RAW data is not publicly available, casts doubt on the reliability of the information retrieved".

They went further and stated that in their professional opinions that:

"all databases only track greyhounds from birth until they leave the industry, essentially relieving any accountability of the industry once a dog is registered as having left the sport"

Front Vet Sci. 2022; 9: 925948.
Published online 2022 Sep 23. doi: 10.3389/fvets.2022.925948
PMCID: PMC9539815
PMID: 36213406

Greyhound morbidity and mortality in Australia: A descriptive analysis of reported data from regulatory racing agencies

Vysie Chang, Kris Descovich, Joerg Henning, and Rachel Allavena *
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9539815/

(7). **The fact that the information the public is privy to is controlled by the industry, and raw data is not publicly accessible, casts doubt on the reliability of the information retrieved.**

All databases only track greyhounds from birth until they leave the racing industry, essentially relieving any accountability of the industry for reporting once a dog is registered as having left the sport.

So, whilst the reported mortality rates in NSW have increased 75% in 4 years.

GWIC has and continues to NOT report on the even greater number of "off the book" deaths.

GWIC, Acting in the best interests of the industry, and with neither Integrity nor the Welfare of the dogs under its guardianship as its primary concern,

actively hide the true net numbers of dead greyhounds from both the Government and the public, in order to protect the industry from "bad optics" and the extinguishing of their social license.

LOCALE

Now I can almost hear the Industry lapdogs, champing at the bit.

Yes, certain members of this JSC have been given numbers which may show a different narrative. As I explained to Dean, these numbers were given to him by Tasracing. They had been buffed and polished and were NOT raw data (as discussed above), nor had they been independently verified.

To believe that industry is providing objective and independent statistics, is to be naive in the extreme,

Whilst my understanding of the NSW jurisdiction is the most acute, given my unfettered access to all their data.

It does not mean, the data for the entire industry is hidden from me.

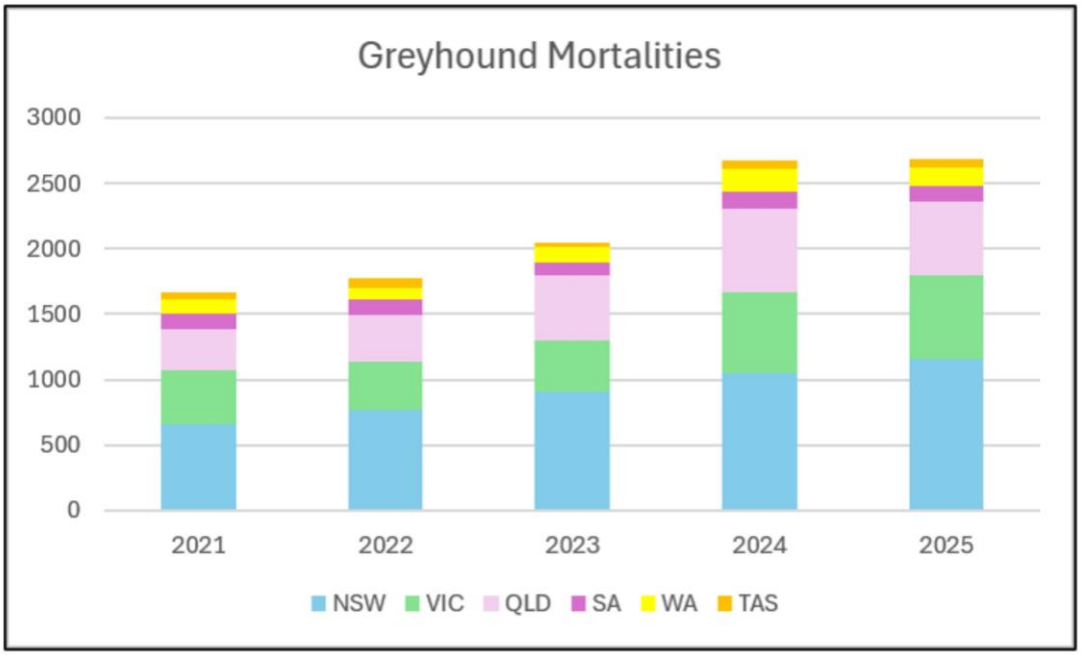
Whilst the 'reported' mortality rate in NSW has increased 75% in 4 years,

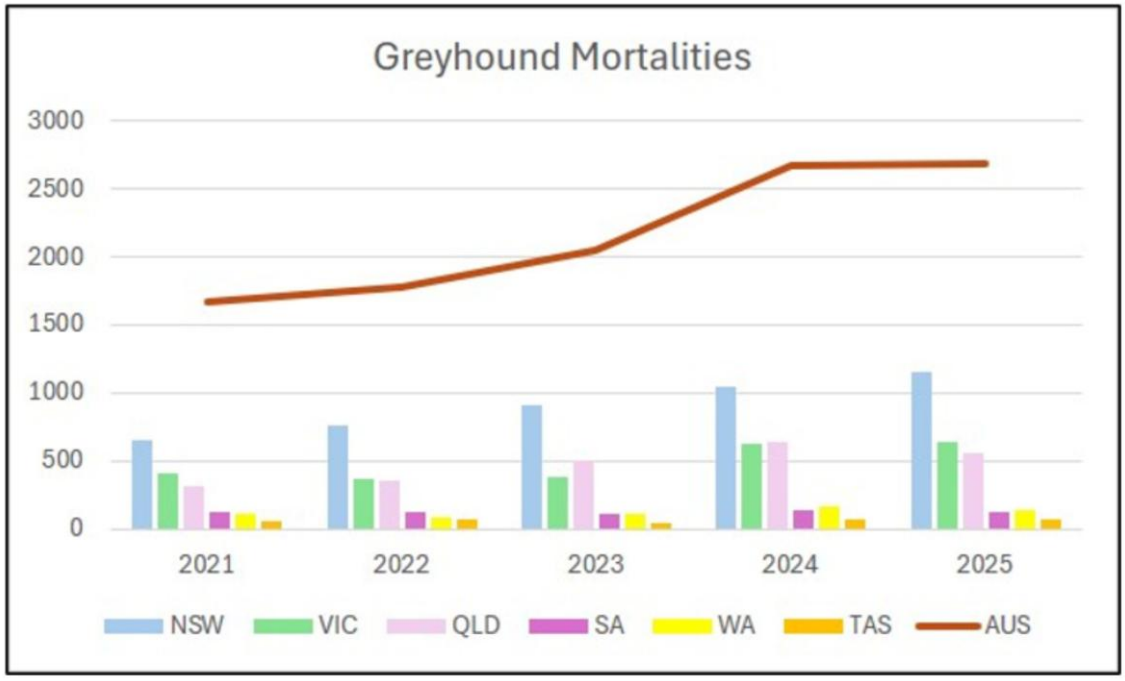
The mortality rate for the industry as a whole has increased by 61% over the same 4 year period.

In 2021, the industry reported on killing 1669 greyhounds.

2688 dead greyhounds were reported by Industry in 2025.

Two graphs and the links to the government data follow.





	A	B	C
1			
2			
3	**NSW - GWIC Annual Report**		**SA - GRSA Annual Report**
4	https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/about/annual-report		
5			
6	Annual Report 2022/2023		https://greyhoundracingsa.com.au/about/vision-and-values
7	Annual Report 2021/2022		2020-2021 GRSA Annual Report (incl 18/19, 19/20 data)
8	Annual Report 2020/2021		2017-2018 GRSA Annual Report
9	Annual Report 2019/2020		2016-2017 GRSA Annual Report
10	Annual Report 2018/2019		
11	Annual Report 2017/2018 (no data)		
12			
13	Greyhound Racing NSW Quarterly Injury Reports		
14	Difficult to find a single intenet source		
15	Reports from 2017/2018 and prior		
16			
17	**VIC - GRV Annual Report**		**QLD - QRIC Quarterly Report**
18	https://www.grv.org.au/about-grv/resources/annual-report/		https://qric.qld.gov.au/veterinary-services-animal-welfare/greyhound/greyhoun
19	Annual Report 2022/2023		
20	Annual Report 2021/2022		2020-2021
21	Annual Report 2020/2021		2019-2020
22	Annual Report 2019/2020		2018-2019
23	Annual Report 2018/2019		
24	Annual Report 2017/2018		
25	Annual Report 2016/2017		
26	Annual Report 2015/2016 (no data - numbers found in 2016/2017 report)		
27	Annual Report 2014/2015 (no data - numbers found in 2016/2017 report)		
28			
29			
30	**TAS - Tasracing Annual Report**		**WA - RWWA Annual Report**
31	https://tasracingcorporate.com.au/annual-reports/		https://www.rwwa.com.au/about/corporate/corporate-reports/annual-report/
32	Tasracing Annual Report 2023		RWWA Annual Report 2021 - 2022
33	Tasracing Annual Report 2022		RWWA Annual Report 2020 - 2021
34	Tasracing Annual Report 2021		RWWA Annual Report 2019 - 2020
35	Tasracing Annual Report 2020		RWWA Annual Report 2018 - 2019
36	Tasracing Annual Report 2019 (incl data from 16/17, 17/18)		RWWA Annual Report 2017 - 2018
37			RWWA Annual Report 2016 - 2017 (incl data from 15/16)

If you know where to look, and how to piece together all the data then it is possible to glean the “reported” mortality rates.

As stated previously and with the published Scientific report to substantiate it, these ‘reported’ numbers, must be taken with a substantial pinch of salt, as the non reported deaths which are merely recorded and never made public are far higher.

The industry is deliberately under reporting the true numbers of dead greyhounds that it produces.

In NSW this was facilitated by the then CEO of GWIC Steve Griffin, who has since been employed by the industry licensee - GRNSW.

Due to its failures during Steve Griffin’s tenure as its CEO, GWIC was supposed to be relieved of its duties as protector of animal welfare and of its duty to report back to the NSW Government in an accurate and transparent manner, by the Drake inquiry.

It was not.

Working in cahoots with various arms of the industry, and indeed receiving the majority of its funding from the financial arms of the industry (such as GRNSW) - GWIC cannot seriously think of itself as being independent.

They continue in their wrongful and criminal deception to result in financial gain.

This is surely the very definition of fraud.

SUMMING UP:

In 2017, after an extensive investigation into the industry, QC McHugh urged the NSW government to shut the industry down, as it was incapable of meaningful change.

Since then everything has gotten worse.

Trainers are still ‘live baiting’

Mortality rates have doubled.

Unwanted, non-racing dogs that cannot be rehomed, are no longer being shot and dumped in mass graves or down mine shafts, they are now shuffled through the industry and kept in concrete pens until “death due to old age” occurs, or until they mysteriously just “die from unknown causes” and have their deaths clandestinely recorded on secret files by a government body charged with supposedly bringing “Welfare” and “Integrity” to an industry sorely lacking in both.

A life so awful that the expert witnesses in Animal Welfare, an ex- CVO of GRNSW and spokesperson for the RSPCA, called to give testimony to the Drake inquiry, said that in their opinion it would be kinder to just kill them.

The Drake inquiry was appalled by the lack of governance and reporting exhibited by the NSW industry since the Industry was given “a final chance” in 2018.

Drake recommended an initial suspension to the industry and a complete shut down, if simple metrics were not met by December of this year. These metrics are simply unachievable, as the industry and the government have chosen to blatantly ignore these recommendations.

Rather than decreasing track numbers, the government is funding the construction of yet more new tracks.

Rather than changing the nomenclature of simple metrics of rehoming rates to use the accurate term *‘rehomed to a domestic couch’*, industry persists with deliberately vague and misleading terms such as ”retirement rates”.

Both McHugh’s and Drake’s recommendations remain largely ignored, despite 75% of the population no longer supporting the Industry.

This is a chance for Tasmania to stand up, an opportunity to not be the smallest and quietest voice in the room.

Tasmania is uniquely positioned to lead the country, to update our moral stance on animal welfare.

It is no longer 1900, society has progressed. (neither far enough, nor quickly enough)

We expect more from our politicians and society as a whole.

Women have the vote, children no longer work in the mines, our attitudes to racism and sexism have all changed.

Greyhound racing WAS a part of our culture.

As were many other shameful things.

We have however moved on as a society.

It is time to draw a line under the past and move forwards.

Killing a dog every 3 hours in the name of ‘sport’, is no longer acceptable.

Indeed it is no longer acceptable anywhere in the world. (aside from 10 near bankrupt tracks in the UK and 6 more in Ireland)

New Zealand, Wales and Scotland (having left the union of GBGB) have all recently rejected the Gambling industry and have firmly stated that the welfare of animals is more important to their societies than the welfare of the Gambling industry, run as a money laundering and Tax evasion industry.

The Gambling industry continues to enthral the Labor Party and the National Party.

They stand in the way of what the general population expects and wants.

They continue to allow industry to kill greyhounds at an extreme and historically high rate.

They continue to support an Industry that is subjecting an ever increasing number of these gentle and empathetic creatures to an appalling life of suffering with no hope of ever being rehoused to a domestic couch.

This is simply unacceptable.

I urge this committee and all Tasmanian Legislative representatives to act.

The population has spoken, the house of representatives have spoken.

Those politicians, both Labor and Independents, who are standing in the way of this moral realignment, this long overdue transition to a kinder and gentler society that values animal welfare, need to wake up and listen to the people and their values - that they are supposed to be representing.

Only 87 people actually own and race greyhounds in Tasmania.

75% of the population (of around 500,000 people) support putting an end to this industry.

The tail is wagging the dog!

Either the rest of the world is wrong or Tasmania needs to make a strong statement and say enough is enough.

When I brought this matter of animal welfare to the attention of the then CEO of GRNSW, he stated

"If we can just ignore the problem long enough - it will just die"

This is unacceptable.

When I met with representatives of the Tasmanian Labor Party and the Leader of the Opposition's Chief of Staff, in August this year to explain the degree of animal suffering that was occurring, I was told

"Animal welfare is not our priority at the moment"

This too is utterly unacceptable.

Labor politicians, who I was advised do support the phasing out of the industry, are in a quiet Stalin, Putin or Mao like manner, being banned from voting with their conscience, and are being banned from representing the wishes of their constituents, under fear of expulsion from the Labor Party.

I find this unacceptable and not in keeping with the concept of a government "of the people, by the people, for the people."

If a political party is governed solely by a faceless central committee that does not allow its members to represent the wishes of the people that elected them, then I would urge those politicians to cross the floor and to risk expulsion.

Your constituents will remember you doing the "right thing" and life as an Independent may be a better fit for you.

As 'Bert Einstein said - *to know and to do nothing is to be complicit.*

You are aware of the degree of suffering and the numbers of dead dogs being produced by this meat grinder of an industry.

The raw data is there for you to see.

Please, do not be complicit.

Please be part of the solution and not part of the ongoing problem.

Do what is right.

Say no to the gambling industry and say yes to a kinder and more progressive society.

Greyhound racing needs to be phased out.



THE AGE

Yours sincerely

Dr Alexander Brittan BVSc MRCVS