

**NOTES OF INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE GROUP (ICG) MEETING
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF GRSA, 55 CARDIGAN STREET, ANGLE PARK
ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2024 AT 10.00AM**

ATTENDEES:

GRSA: Grantley Stevens (Chairman), David Lewis, Gavin Harris, Brenton Scott, Ben Kavenagh, Shaun Mathieson, Derek Kordick, Des Jonas, Hayley Alexander, Sheriden Milam (Notes Secretary)
Industry: Petar Jovanovic, Christine Costa, Ryan Tugwell, Deb Isaacson, Keaton Bond, Kim Johnstone

The meeting commenced at 10.09am.

1 APOLOGIES

Greg Moore, Danielle Chegia, Philippa Ewens, Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds, Heath Pocock and Paul Mullins were noted apologies.

- 1.1 The RM noted his intent to readvertise vacant position as per ICG process including via Kennel Capers. He will further investigate whether there was an opportunity for Gavin Harris to remain on group in a participant representative role, whilst also being a Director of GRSA.

ACTION: Management to assess whether recruitment of a member is required for the ICG and to implement if so

2 NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the ICG Meeting held on Friday May 17, 2024 were noted as a true and correct record.

3 ACTION LIST

The Group noted the action list as presented.

4 AGENDA ITEMS – GRSA

4.1 Strategic Plan Refresh

The CEO presented an update on strategic plan refresh to the group. The Chair congratulated everyone involved in the process so far, in particular the representation from the ICG. It was noted that the report was to published prior to the end of September.

4.2 Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry In South Australia (Ashton Review)

The CEO provided an update on progression of the Ashton Review recommendations, including the fact that two submissions had been made to the Greyhound Industry Reform Inspector, Sal Perna, and his initial feedback received. Discussion around property standards and the need for all participants to ensure that they were prioritizing the welfare of their greyhounds in a manner that was compliant with the Animal Welfare Policy. The Chair advised the meeting that GRSA has ensured all recommendations in the Ashton review has been appropriately reflected in the strategic plan.

4.3 Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

The CEO noted upcoming sessions were to be communicated to the industry within the next 14 days. The most recent sessions conducted in April had been well received with considerable guidance emerging from the session with regard to the strategic plan. This coming round of engagement would again provide an opportunity for GRSA Board members and senior management to present to participants whilst also receiving vital feedback from industry participants.

4.4 Racing Safety Working Group

The CEO advised of the formation of the above group and terms of reference for group. .

4.5 Organisation

The CEO provided an update on current organisation executive leadership structure and the intention to ensure ongoing alignment between organisation strategy and capability.

4.6 Breeding

The RM noted elevated payments of breeder support are beginning to flow however an increase to notice of service and pink cards moving forward in the next 12 months, reaffirming that a considerable improvement in breeding activity is required if the current racing programme is to be maintained in future periods.

4.7 GA Rule 122 Guidance

The GM RC had circulated some guidance notes as to how participants might approach obligations under rule 122. The information was noted.

4.8 GAP Statistics

The GM provided an overview of GAP statistics. The CEO advised that GRSA was population mapping that ensured forward awareness of rehoming needs if only to better understand resourcing and budgetary impact. The success of the GAP stand at the Royal Adelaide Show was noted, in particular registrations of interest that had, in many cases, already converted to adoptions. The Chair expressed his appreciation to the GAP team and requested that Hayley pass this information on.

5 AGENDA ITEMS – ICG

5.1 Ryan Tugwell (Submission)

Ryan Tugwell advised he has been approached by some participants regarding extension of chain mesh fence at Angle Park and sought feedback on general consensus as to whether dogs were potentially thinking they are in the catching pen sooner than they are due to the installation. He also sought consideration of moving the catching pen gate closer to the finishing line and questioned if there has been increase in warnings since fence has been installed. The COS advised that he did not believe warnings had increased. It was suggested the chain mesh fence be moved back approximately five meters. It was agreed that management undertake a fuller evaluation and further advised the ICG, out of session if needed.

ACTION: Management to assess whether further changes are required to the extended catching pen to finish post fencing

5.2 Kim Johnstone (Submission)

Dead Time

Kim Johnstone raised the possibility of kennel closing before race meetings being reduced to 30 minutes on a set basis as opposed to the fluctuating system that currently applied where kennelling can close between 31 minutes and 45 minutes before the first race. The RM advised GRSA has limited flexibility due to Sky Racing controlling race times. Whilst GRSA preferred to minimise the time between kennelling and the first race, it also had to manage staffing obligations, including break requirements, which were catered for in the kennel closing to first race window, given the difficulties of providing breaks once the racing commences. It was agreed, however, that GRSA would continue to liaise with Sky Racing to reduce overall race meeting times between the first and last race, thereby reducing kennel time for as many greyhounds as possible.

GAP Returns

Members questioned GAP return dog obligations, including long term returns. The CEO advised, as a general rule, that GRSA opposed adoption returns after the expiration of six months. However, it applied balance and discretion where difficult circumstances prevailed, and certainly where the welfare of the greyhound was seemingly jeopardised.

Finish on Lure

Members raised the issue of finish on lure racing being provided at some Angle Park meetings. Various views were expressed. Chair noted the choices were available to trainers with finish on lure racing applying at some GRSA tracks. He further suggested it be included for discussion on upcoming stakeholder engagement sessions.

ACTION: Management to ensure that the current provision of finish on and catching pen racing in SA be listed for discussion at the forthcoming stakeholder sessions

Time Grading at Gawler

Members requested consideration be given to time graded events being programmed at Gawler. The RM suggested it could be introduced when short of nominations but any specific programming would need to take into account impact on Saturday mornings. It was agreed that The RM further consider and circulate a proposal out of session to Group for consideration.

ACTION: Management to consider programming options for time grading events at certain Gawler meet

5.3 Christine Costa

Symposium – Update of Symposium conducted during the Nationals

It was agreed that the CEO and Christine meet for further discussion, liaising with the ICG on an out of session basis as required.

Breeding - business cost models for breeding

It was agreed that the CEO and Christine meet for further discussion, liaising with the ICG on an out of session basis as required.

6.0 OTHER BUSINESS

The CEO advised that any matters that members intended raising – but had not been able to – due to time restraints, could be raised with him and he would attempt to facilitate consideration on an out of session basis.

ACTION: ICG members with management any matters not able to be addressed in the meeting for out of session follow up

7.0 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

The meeting closed at 12.10pm.

8. NEXT MEETING: TBC