

**NOTES OF INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE GROUP (ICG) MEETING  
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF GRSA, 55 CARDIGAN STREET, ANGLE PARK  
ON FRIDAY 19 MAY 2023 AT 10.00AM**

**ATTENDEES:**

Grantley Stevens (Chairman)  
David Lewis  
Ben Kavenagh  
Ray Fewings  
Petar Jovanovic  
Christine Costa  
Lisa Rasmussen  
Gavin Harris  
Jason Newman  
Ryan Tugwell  
Ashley Harvie  
Deb Isaacson  
Dr Greg Moore  
Keaton Bond  
Bodelle Francis  
Des Jonas  
Shaun Mathieson  
Derek Kordick  
Kelly Rourke  
Paul Mullins  
Gavin Bosch  
Sheriden Milam (Notes Secretary)

The meeting commenced at 10.17am.

**1 APOLOGIES**

Adrian Battiston was a noted apology.

**2 NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes from the ICG Meeting held on Friday 20 January, 2023 were noted as a true and correct record.

**3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**3.1 Sustainable Breeding Levels**

The Group noted the update. The RM noted lower than expected breeding numbers which will be monitored. He further highlighted significant rebates provided, in particular sire rebates. It was recommended by the Group that the rebate for sires remain at \$775.

The Group supported only one provisional breeders licence being provided to multiple participants residing at the same residence. All other applications would be dealt with on a case by case basis.

**3.2 Digital Transformation and Broadcast Enhancement (IsoLynx)**

The CEO provided an update. Members detailed their current involvement in the project noting intent to mock up a form guide with IsoLynx data which would include times for each dog at various marks averaged over last four starts. It was anticipated this information would be published prior to each meeting. The panel were appreciative of this assistance.

### **3.3 Mt Gambier Population**

The Group noted the update. The CEO thanked the trainers and Club who contributed to the success of the session. Members noted the quality of the information provided and the benefit of this.

### **3.4 Trainers Car Park**

The Group noted the update. Members suggested the drainage in carpark required repair, they also noted a number of other concerns regarding the proposal. The IFM advised of an alternate solution which would be tested. Members questioned the possibility of installation of power outlets in the Angle Park trainers car park to assist with running of trailer/vehicle air conditioners etc. Management committed to investigating this as well as installation of power outlets on light poles at Murray Bridge.

### **3.5 ICG Panel Members**

The Group noted the update.

### **3.6 Murray Bridge Sand Issues**

The COO provided an update advising of potential solution however noted the complexities and issues around this. Members suggested the track had improved. Members noted some adverse experience with straight track in recent weeks. It was suggested that these soft tissue injuries and issues may be attributed to the catching pen rather than the track itself. It was noted a longer transition to the catching pen would be beneficial. Members noted differing ideas around Murray Bridge track preparation.

### **3.7 Lure Noise**

The Group requested an increase to the noise on lures including the use of louder “squeakers”. Members noted their preference to what is used at Ipswich.

### **3.8 Pink Card Application/2 in 7 starts rule**

The RM detailed the issue with 2 in 7 starts rule. Members suggested a penalty was a greater deterrent than a monetary fine. The Group agreed that a 10 day standown period would be appropriate for those that knowingly nominated greyhounds that would be ineligible due to the rule. It was suggested any further infringements could attract a monetary penalty. The RM clarified that any penalty would only apply once the dog had gone around, not in instances with late scratchings etc. The panel confirmed and supported a \$100 fine for any late Pink Card applications.

### **3.9 Minimum Bet Laws/Point of Consumption Tax**

The COO provided an update in regard to minimum bet laws. The Group were appreciative of the work done and positive outcome.

Members on behalf of the industry, thanked Gavin Bosch (COO) for his contribution to GRSA.

The Chairman provided an update in regard to current discussion with Government regarding the Point of Consumption Tax. He advised that at this stage there would be no increase to the tax however the codes were requesting an increased share of returns.

### **3.10 Unauthorised Use of Drones**

The RCM provided information in regard to use of drones. He suggested an increase of use of drones by activists and the like could be expected. He urged participants that experience instances of drone use to remain calm and provide all relevant information via the Know.Tell.Protect email address for this to be recorded.

## **4 AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **4.1 Injury Data Update**

The CEO noted injury data would remain a standing item on ICG agenda and will consistently be looked at by Management. She provided a brief update on current figures.

#### **4.2 Work Health and Safety - Trials**

The RCM noted the SafeWork SA investigation and resulting measures that are required to be implemented due to this. He referred to the draft policy presented. He requested feedback from the Group as to the content and terminology used. It was requested that any feedback be provided to himself within two weeks.

Members raised concern with processes around race nights in instances where on track injuries occur and participants attended to the greyhound on track. He suggested greater controls were required. The COS advised that Stewards are in control of any instances of injury or risk of injury to people or greyhounds through observation and commentary and will call the stop to lure and race if required.

#### **4.3 Desexing of Racing Greyhounds**

Members provided background to the proposal noting the positives and advising he was supportive of the change. The Group discussed how these changes would be implemented and were supportive of the changes should they be voluntary. Management will consider and amend all applicable rules of racing and GAP policies.

### **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Christine Costa Submission**

- Management took on notice Christine's comments regarding completion of the safety rail at Gawler and Mt Gambier and committed to investigating.
- Management committed to investigating and rectifying where possible the issues Christine raised with the turf at the empty area of Murray Bridge.
- Management advised they will communicate to all trial staff regarding second GRSA lure at all tracks.
- Management noted that due to limited availability of staff catching pen trials at all trial sessions was not possible. Members suggested the possibility of training trainers or handlers to undertake these roles. The CEO highlighted the current shortage of staff and put the call out to the Group to put forward anyone interested in these roles. Management will consider amending trial booking system to group categories trials to achieve efficiencies. This would also be considered as part of the review of the trial policy.
- The Group agreed that education of breeders and implementation of breeding plans should be considered. Management will consider best practice from other jurisdictions and incorporate this into discussion.
- The Group discussed restricting the number of greyhounds by each owner allowed into GAP. Members suggested an understanding of the number of dogs that enter GAP that are unraced and from what trainers would be beneficial. Members suggested there were issues with interstate trainers moving dogs to SA. The CEO requested Management be advised of any known issues with this. Members suggested restricting non-SA owned greyhounds on entering GAP with potential for a "passport fee". Management took all comments and questions on notice and would provide further feedback once further statistics and information were obtained.
- Christine questioned whether the SA Bred rebate scheme could incorporate allowance for 12 month vaccination. Members noted the differing opinion of Dr Des Fegan at the recent industry seminar regarding recommended frequency of vaccinations compared to SA rule. Dr Greg Moore provided his opinion. Management noted the comments for consideration.

## **5.2 Vern Anderson Submission**

It was advised that Murray Bridge track staff investigated Vern's perceived issues with feedback provided directly to him, however his submission was faithfully tabled to the Group for discussion. Members noted issues with speed at apex of turn and suggested change to camber would solve this problem. Members suggested issues may be with inexperienced dogs at the track. Management will continue to monitor and report back.

## **5.3 Jason Newman Submission**

Jason Newman raised on behalf of Tony Hinrichsen disappointment with outcome in regard to the Filthy Phantom matter. The CEO noted GRSA's commitment to welfare which required the age and number of starts be taken into consideration. She noted management were working with the trainer on this matter. Management sought feedback from the Group as to their opinion of the appropriate maximum age to race. Dr Greg Moore suggested a cut off at 6 years was appropriate.

## **5.4 Marketing**

Members suggested greater interaction with industry was needed including podcasts and interviews. The CEO noted the appointment of Luke Marchioro to the position of Content Coordinator and what his role will entail. It was noted that he is excited to "find the stories" and industry should see a marked improvement in this area.

## **5.3 TIRS**

The Group sought clarification in regard to the TIRS and payments made directly to vets by GRSA. Management noted the trainer was able to make application to GRSA in these circumstances.

## **5.4 Animal Welfare Unannounced Inspections**

Members noted theirs and others concern with property inspections occurring whilst the participant is not present. The Chairman noted GRSA's expectation of mutual respect and advised that GRSA had the responsibility and obligation to ensure trainers were doing the right thing and this could be achieved by undertaking unannounced inspections and inspections where the participant was not present which rules and policy allowed for.

## **5.5 Reduced Time in Kennels**

The Group raised concern with extended periods of time dogs were required to be in kennels and requested a later kennelling closing time or split kenneling. Management advised they were aware of the issue and committed to investigating a solution.

## **5.6 Bull Rings**

The Chairman advised that a bullring will be constructed at both Murray Bridge and Mount Gambier as a matter of priority. He noted a review and audit of existing private facilities would be undertaken with the possibility of further controls implemented.

## **5.7 Finish on Lure**

It was requested the item remain on agenda for discussion. The CEO took the Groups feedback on board but noted there was no intent to make any change.

## **5.8 Additional Tuesday Meeting**

The Group requested consideration be given to Murray Bridge and Gawler having a dedicated night meeting each in preference to sharing the Sunday timeslot. The Chairman noted these comments and

advised a review will be undertaken following the introduction of the new schedule. The RM highlighted the number of competing factors that needed to be taken into consideration with the schedule.

#### **5.9 Increase to Thursday Fields**

The RM requested suggestions and feedback from the Group as to ways to increase Thursday night fields.

#### **5.10 Race Scheduling for Travelling Trainers**

Members requested, where possible, travelling trainers be considered and accommodated in early races. The RM noted this was taken into consideration and he endeavors to accommodate travelling trainers where possible but noted there may be instances where this doesn't occur.

#### **5.11 Grade 6 Race Scheduling**

Lisa Rasmussen on behalf of Kirin Corby requested management consider scheduling low win grade 6 races earlier in the meeting noting these comprised of younger dogs not accustomed to being in kennels for long periods. The RM noted the comment and advised of balance of races that was required and again reiterated this was something that was taken into consideration however was not always achievable.

#### **5.12 Kennett Road Property**

The Chairman noted the purchase of Kennett Road property adjacent to the Murray Bridge track. He highlighted the tremendous strategic opportunities that came with the purchase and noted the significant planning that will occur over the next 12 months to maximise these opportunities.

### **6. LATE ITEMS**

Nil

The meeting closed at 12.57pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday 15 September, 2023

