

**NOTES OF INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE GROUP (ICG) MEETING
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF GRSA, 55 CARDIGAN STREET, ANGLE PARK
ON FRIDAY 20 JANUARY 2023 AT 10.00AM**

ATTENDEES:

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

The meeting commenced at 10.00am.

1 APOLOGIES

Adrian Battiston.

The Chairman welcomed new members, Dr Greg Moore and Keaton Bond.

2 NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes from the ICG Meeting held on Friday 9 September, 2022 were noted as a true and correct record.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Sustainable Breeding Levels

Members expressed concern that current breeding levels were too low, noting previous large breeders were no longer breeding and with the impending departure from the state of another breeder it poses issues. The RM noted strategies implemented to reduce breeding including removal of rebate and suggested there may have been a slight over correction. Members noted the natural ceiling to breeding numbers, less rearing opportunities in SA and that larger breeder numbers have reduced. The RM suggested a drop in breeding numbers was more than expected. The Chairman suggested with the current racing schedule, a breeding level around 500 would be sustainable. Some members suggested they were not necessarily concerned with current levels. Discussion around up and coming breeders, and the opportunity for animal welfare to work with these persons on increasing their operation. The Chairman questioned the group on how GRSA can assist with the whole cycle of breeding including rearing. Members suggested discussion with Government around licensing would be beneficial. Members suggested issues with GAP run hand in hand with breeding issues, they believed there should not be restrictions on breeders, rather restrictions on number of dogs that can go through GAP, with interstate dogs to be returned to that state for retirement.

Action: For the Board to consider rearing opportunities in South Australia.

3.2 Limited Monthly Starts

The Group noted the update.

3.3 Digital Transformation and Broadcast Enhancement (Isolynx)

The Chairman noted the roll out of Isolynx and the benefit of installation at all tracks in SA. Members questioned timeframes of data availability including first sectional split at the 730m boxes for the 342m start. The CEO noted the large amount of data to process and advised a meeting with Brooks is scheduled within two weeks with a further meeting with industry following this to identify needs of both punters and industry. Members noted the work they believed was required to automate the process and the CEO thanked Members for their offer of assistance. Members questioned if data would be used by Stewards to determine instances of failing to pursue. The COS advised this wouldn't be taken in to consideration with Stewards. Members further questioned if the speed of head on replay could be slowed down.

3.4 AGRC Syndicate Dog – Weblec Rebel

The Group noted the update.

3.5 Tara Tipsters

The Group noted the update. Members noted new members from Adelaide to the group and intent to increase the number of charities supported in 2023.

3.6 Mt Gambier Population

Members of the Board noted an upcoming meeting with Management to discuss outcomes of the working group. It was noted the intent for the strategies to be rolled out to coincide with the Mt Gambier Cup in late March/early April. Members questioned if the area would be suitable for rearing opportunities. It was suggested it would be suitable noting the cost and availability of land, council support, opportunities with Victoria and many other benefits. Members noted the need for support and mentorship which would be undertaken through the club. It was highlighted to the group that licensing barriers are difficulties to becoming a trainer. The COS requested any information regarding licensing be fed back to him to enable his department to review processes. Members suggested concessions could be made for new licenses considering the intended close mentorship with the club.

3.7 Online Trials/Coursing in OzChase

The RM provided an update. Some members suggested an additional trial session was required at Gawler. Some members suggested an online booking system for Gawler would be beneficial, noting trainers needed to ensure they arrived on time to assist with process. Members requested a trial schedule be published at tracks. Members further requested a trial mobile phone be made available to those staff running trial session for trainers to make contact with if needed.

3.8 Blinkers/Satisfactory Trials

The Group noted the update.

3.9 McQueens Car Park

The Group noted the update. Members questioned if there was an opportunity to include cooling surface on asphalt in trainers' car park and/or utilisation of water truck on hot days. Management committed to looking into this.

Action: IFM to investigate options for asphalt coatings on trainers' car park and/or utilisation of water truck on hot days.

4 AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 ICG Panel Members

The Group noted the update.

4.2 Murray Bridge Sand Issues

The IFM provided an update and the Chairman noted Management were carefully considering options to ensure any solution is the correct solution.

4.3 Hot Weather and Transport Policy

The CEO sought feedback from the Group on reducing the temperature in the hot weather policy. It was advised in the event of hot weather, we would want to see the dogs return to normal body temperature within 30 minutes of racing, and to decide on what temperature this would be at would require testing of dogs temperature during racing. It was suggested education on how to cool dogs down and air flow within vehicles and trailers would be beneficial. It was noted misters were not effective. Members suggested there was greater risk of losing meetings/races if temperature was reduced. Members suggested reducing the temperature would benefit Mt Gambier, especially regarding ensuring kennelhouse is kept cool. Management will consider comments in review of policy.

4.4 GAP Kennels

The Group noted the request, however also noted current restrictions. Members questioned if the scheme could apply to current dogs in kennels that are awaiting entry to GAP. Members echoed prior comments around restrictions being applied to entry into GAP. The COS took on notice the members comments on the quality of interstate imports and potential to have restrictions, conditions applied to imports. The Chair requested management investigate GAP Victoria process with kennels.

Action:

4.5 Lure Noise

The IFM provided an update to investigations and sound level readings taken on lures at Angle Park at various points of the track with further readings to be taken at other tracks. Discussion around types of robust solutions that will be investigated further.

4.6 SA Bred Bonus Scheme

The RM provided an update and requested feedback from the group noting the lower monthly amounts being received. It was suggested increasing the base amount from \$225 and removing monthly payments, therefore reducing monthly administration of scheme. The Chairman suggested changes be implemented from 1 July 2023 following consideration of the Board.

4.7 Injury Data Update

The COO provided an explanation of injury data to the group.

4.8 Dress Code

The CEO provided an update to the Group regarding dress code with participants able to wear their own clothes to fit within the dress code under the blue vests as branded GRSA attire will no longer be provided. Discussion around blue vests, the group requested larger sizes be provided.

4.9 Industry Communication

The CEO provided an update regarding industry communication and the removal of the industry Facebook page. Members noted their concerns with the removal of the industry Facebook page. Other members echoed these concerns. Some members agreed that the Facebook page served multiple purposes other than communication from GRSA. The CEO took the comments from Group on notice and committed to Management investigating alternative communication options. The CEO questioned the Group on the relevance and need for Kennel Capers. Some members advised that the publication was relevant and useful for industry.

4.10 Pink Card Approval When on Season

The RM provided background to issue and requested feedback from the Group. Members suggested a late fee be applied to any of these cases. The Group suggested communication to industry on process in conjunction with late fee.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

- 5.1** Members questioned whether the process of hand slipping can resume. The COS advised this direction resulted from SafeWork SA investigation. The IM advised that following sign off from SafeWork SA we were hopeful that previous practices can resume, noting delay in process but it was making good progress.
- 5.2** Members requested the same lure as is used at Angle Park be available for sale, noting current version for sale is different. Management committed to following up on this.
- 5.3** Members questioned status of finish on lure discussion. The CEO advised it will remain as status quo pending outcome from SafeWork SA.
- 5.4** Members questioned the delay in the publication and transparency of inquiries and fines. The IM advised seven inquiries to be published imminently with a further IHP hearing to be held shortly which will bring all enquiries and publication of results up to date.
- 5.5** Members questioned Stewards process with dealing with unwanted behaviour. The COS noted issues with conflicting information and limitations around this. The IM echoed this. Members referenced issues they had experienced and noted support received and positive outcomes.
- 5.6** Members questioned the ability for an automated process for payment of fines.
- 5.7** Members questioned whether minimum bet law changes were being addressed. The CEO advised discussions have commenced with corporate bookmakers.
- 5.8** Members questioned the status of discussions around the Point of Consumption tax. The Chairman advised current discussions with Tabcorp were being held and awaiting confirmation for a meeting with government.

- 5.9** The Group questioned the unauthorised use of drones. The Chairman advised Management were obtaining legal advice in regard to this.
- 5.10** Members questioned a rumour regarding 12 trainers being restricted on kennel numbers. The COS advised that this was not true however animal welfare staff were working with trainers with ongoing or repeated issues on acceptable and manageable number of kennels and dogs.
- 5.11** Members advised they received notification that from 1 January 2024, the WA government were banning surgical insemination. The Chairman advised this topic would be on Greyhounds Australasia Board and CEO's agenda.
- 5.12** Members questioned the status regarding bullrings. The Chairman advised there were ongoing discussions being held with the Board.

6. LATE ITEMS

Nil

The meeting closed at 1.19pm.

NEXT MEETING: Friday 19 May, 2023