

**NOTES OF INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE GROUP (ICG) MEETING  
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF GRSA, 55 CARDIGAN STREET, ANGLE PARK  
ON FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 10.00AM**

**ATTENDEES:**

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

The meeting commenced at 10.10am.

**1 APOLOGIES**

Ben Kavenagh, Ray Fewings, Adrian Battiston

**2 NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes from the ICG Meeting held on Friday 17 June, 2022 were noted as a true and correct record.

**3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**3.1 Updates from Minutes**

The Chairman noted the recent increase to the Track Injury Rebate Scheme which now brings SA into line with other jurisdictions and has been well received.

Panel members suggested the Puppy Auction would not be going ahead and this would be confirmed following an upcoming Committee Meeting. They noted the reasonable request from the Board to ensure rearers were available to purchasers, however he believes this would create limitations. They highlighted other issues which would leave too greater onus on Club to undertake. They suggested the Club may delay the auction another year and assess environment at that time. The Group highlighted issues with lack of rearers generally across industry and increased costs associated with rearing.

**3.2 Sustainable Breeding Levels**

The RM noted the minutes arising from last meeting, and was mindful facilities were reducing and would be difficult to place restrictions on the premise therefore management moved away from this idea, preferring to have breeders apply for breeding support rather than automatically be given. Management considered all payments provided under breeder support. The CEO noted this item has been put on Greyhounds Australasia CEO's agenda to monitor. Members of the panel suggested there were breeders that were breeding dogs and having large numbers going straight to GAP. They suggested

implementing different tiers of breeding licences, which would involve criteria and a requirement to have a proven breeding record. They suggested this may increase quality of breeding and assist to manage numbers. The CEO took the panels comments on board. Members suggested restricting future breeding based on performance of previous litters. The Group suggested not approving third litter until first two litters have been proven. The RM suggested this would be subjective, group clarified and this would be for those that were registered and raced. Members suggested a bitch would be required to be in SA three months prior to mating to qualify for Breeders Support Program. The Group suggested GRSA would have to cover insemination costs, vaccination, microchipping and ear branding, and also contribute to cesarean costs up to an agreed amount. Members suggested removing pup support payment from section C. The RM questioned whether naming fee should be charged to breeders. The Group agreed that a reintroduction of the naming fee of \$55 +GST was fair and reasonable. The Group agreed to remove SA Bred Scheme payment of \$27.50 from Part B. It was agreed a 1 January 2023 implementation date was reasonable.

### **3.3 Limited Monthly Starts**

The CEO noted discussion at GA level, referencing WA local rule. She advised Management reviewed the current SA greyhound population and noted no greyhounds would be affected by rule. She further advised there was appetite to implement nationally. The RM noted there would be very limited impact should a local rule be implemented, however a change would provide positive public perception. The Group provided their support to recommending the Board consider implementation of a local rule to limit monthly starts the same as WA has adopted. Members raised concern with coursing and where this sits with limited starts. Discussion around the manual process of coursing and potential to exclude from policy. The Chairman requested the Racing Manager investigate options to incorporate coursing within OzChase. The COS noted the limited number of dogs involved in coursing and separate coursing rules which would make this difficult.

### **3.4 Digital Transformation and Broadcast Enhancement (Isolynx)**

The Chairman noted progression of project with times being displayed on Sky Racing the previous night. Members requested over the 342m start, the 730m split is recorded and available in racebooks. Members from the Board suggested this information and any other valuable data can be made available. The panel noted infographics provided by Sandown. The Chairman requested any ideas and requested information be fed through to the Marketing Manager to be considered.

### **3.5 AGRC Syndicate Dog – Weblec Rebel**

The Group noted the update. Members noted the potential interest from the syndicate to invest in additional dogs.

### **3.6 Prizemoney Submission**

The Group noted the update.

### **3.7 Inquiry Delays**

The IM noted the update provided in Kennel Capers regarding the IHP. He advised that enquiries are back on track and backlog cleared. Members requested notices are published for those that have been finalised. The IM advised that he has requested these from the panel. Members suggested that people were not being deterred enough by penalties and others were being disheartened by the lack penalties. The IM committed to raising with IHP and IWC. The Chairman noted the panels comments.

## **4 AGENDA ITEMS**

### **4.1 Marketing Presentation**

The MM provided “marketing in focus” document to the group. Members noted Tara Tipsters and amount of charitable donations being made to local charities and groups and potential for positive media coverage. Members commended the increased marketing presence. Members advised the positive impact of the recent trainer videos, showing the human side of trainers. The Group showed their appreciation to the CEO, Board and Management on their professional handling of the recent live baiting crisis.

### **4.2 ICG Panel Members**

Members advised that the Members of Company were happy to continue with the current group and applications that have been received for vacant positions on the ICG which they were working through.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Jason Newman Submission – Mt Gambier Population**

Jason provided background to the issues, noting ageing, dwindling and unreliable population. He highlighted the very real possibility of needing to be able to field 70-80 dogs from local population base. He suggested there was need to strategically plan for the future. He suggested potentially engaging consultant to review and facilitate a working group to collect data. The Chairman appreciated comments and questioned if the Committee had considered what is required to bring Tara Raceway up to a training facility. Members suggested it was reasonably set up but would require mentoring to be able to utilise. Members of the Board suggested mapping out where opportunities lay, and form group to build strategic plan and identify resources required to fulfill plan. He offered his services to facilitate the formation of such a plan.

### **5.2 Christine Costa Submission – Trials and Statistical Overview**

The panel noted her concerns with straight track trials. The RM confirmed looking to have the ability to book trials online for all tracks and all sessions on all days. Discussion around ability to notify cancellation of trials. Management to enforce bookings and procedures around trials including arrival time.

The Group questioned the resumption of trials. Derek Kordick advised necessary measures required to be implemented to satisfy SafeWork SA and internal investigations. Members questioned whether compensation can be paid to Peter Franklin who attended from interstate at the time trials were cancelled at Mt Gambier. Management committed to looking into this.

### **5.3 Lisa Rasmussen Submission – Finish on Lure**

LM questioned whether finish on lure could be once again considered by the Board. She noted benefits of finish on lure including rewarding the dog. The Chairman noted his initial discussion with vets and intent to obtain further information to aid in decision. Some Members advised their objection to finish on lure highlighting injury rate, equipment issues and general safety matters. The COS advised Stewards were supportive of finish on lure due to staff safety. Some members noted the need for education of lure drivers in regard to finish on lure to which the COS agreed. The Chairman appreciated the discussion and noted this would form part of decision for the Board.

Members suggested bull rings should be disallowed at private properties and only be allowed at GRSA tracks where they are monitored. The Chairman questioned if there was any support from trainers to retain bull rings. Members suggested it was a fairly large restriction to put on trainers should they not be able to access private bull rings. The Group suggested bull rings be required to be registered and any attendance at them by trainers to be registered.

#### **5.4 Late Gear Changes**

Members requested any gear changes like blinkers are advised and recorded in form guide.

#### **5.5 Satisfactory Trials**

The Group requested that satisfactory trials be available on website. The Marketing Manager committed to addressing this.

#### **5.6 Car Park**

Members requested the state of carpark in front of McQueens be addressed. Management committed to addressing this.

#### **5.7 RSPCA Visit**

Some Members raised concern with recent visit from RSPCA. It was noted GRSA provided support when required. The IM advised participants to cooperate with government authorities.

#### **5.8 Chasers Menu**

Members questioned the reintroduction of the buffet. The CEO took the question on notice. Members highlighted the lack of child's menu and vegetables in place of salad option on new Chasers menu. Management committed to addressing this.

#### **5.8 Track Injury Rebate Scheme Issue**

Some Members raised concern with Victorian greyhounds that are not agreeing to and abiding by SA TIRS and policy. The IM explained the current situation and advised that the Victorian trainers in future will need to agree to policy and should they not, they will not be allowed to race.

### **6. LATE ITEMS**

Nil

The meeting closed at 1.03pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday 9 December, 2022