

Greyhound Racing New South Wales

GRNSW Preliminary Greyhound Racing Injury Report

15 November 2015 to 1 February 2016

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Overview

This report is published by Greyhound Racing New South Wales (GRNSW) and details greyhound injuries and fatalities that occur at race meetings in New South Wales, as well as related euthanasia of greyhounds. The primary purpose of this report is to keep GRNSW stakeholders including greyhound racing industry participants, wagerers, business partners and the community informed of greyhound racing injury, fatality and related euthanasia in the interests of transparency.

This is a preliminary report, covering the period 15 November 2015 to 1 February 2016. Subsequent reports will be published quarterly beginning with the January to March 2016 report.

This report has been prepared using the information on greyhound racing injury, fatality and related euthanasia recorded by on track veterinarians and maintained in the OzChase system by GRNSW.

Injury severity classification

All greyhounds with an on-track veterinary reported injury have been included in this report. To provide an indication of the severity of the injuries the following rating guide was used. As the injuries range from very mild and requiring no incapacitation period (stand-down period) to catastrophic injuries leading to death or euthanasia the following rating guide has been used to estimate injury severity

Table 1: Greyhound injury rating guide indicating expected stand down periods and examples of related injury types.

| Rating | Incapacitation period | Typical injury types |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Minor | 0 to 10 days | Mild skin abrasions/grazes Grade 1 muscle injury |
| Medium | 11- 21 days | Joint /ligament sprain Skin laceration Grade 2 muscle injury |
| Major | Greater than 21 days | Grade 3 muscle injury Bone fractures |
| Catastrophic | Deceased or euthanased immediately | Severe skull or spinal trauma Complex /open/joint fractures |

Part 1. Reported greyhound racing injuries

Between 15 November 2015 and 1 February 2016 (inclusive) 231 race meetings were conducted across NSW at TAB and non-TAB racing venues.

There were a total of 543 greyhounds with at least one injury identified by an on track veterinarian after participation in a race in NSW during this period.

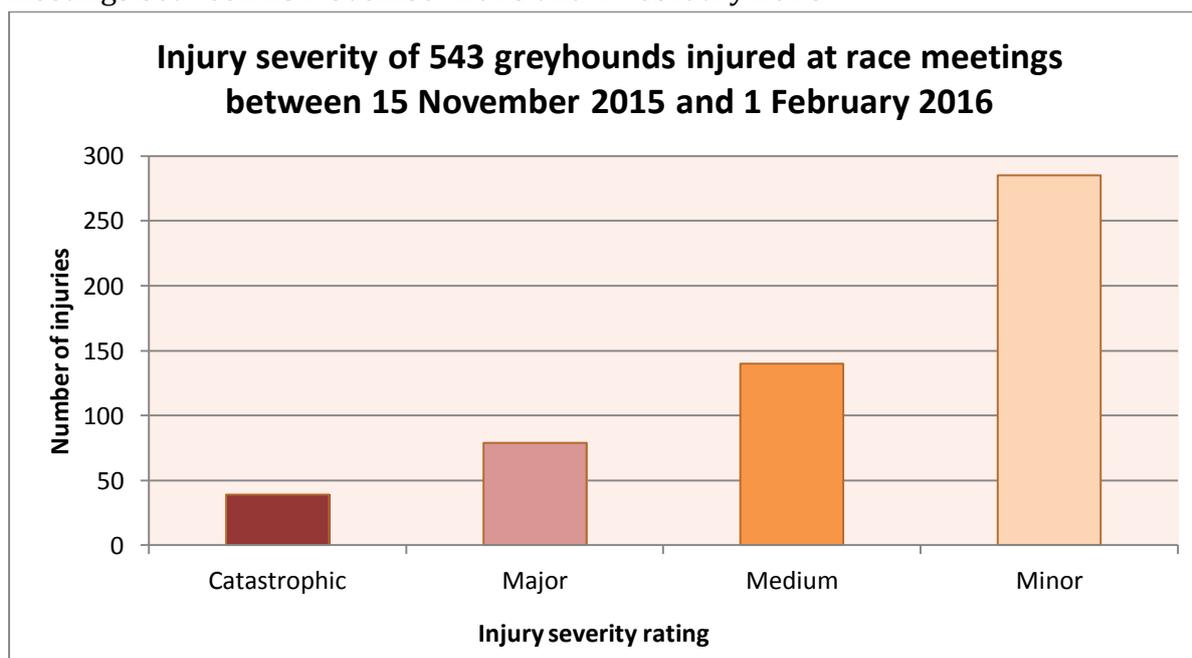
The total number of reported greyhound racing injuries during the period represents an injury rate of 32.9 injuries per 1,000 race starts. The severity of these injuries is indicated in the following table.

Table 2: Number of injured greyhounds, injury rate and severity in NSW race meetings between 15 November 2015 and 1 February 2016

| Rating | Incapacitation period | Total numbers of injuries | Injury rate (injuries/1,000 starts*) |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Minor | 0 to 10 days | 285 | 17.3 |
| Medium | 11- 21 days | 140 | 8.5 |
| Major | Greater than 21 days | 79 | 4.8 |
| Catastrophic | Deceased or euthanased immediately | 39 | 2.4 |

*Number of starts is estimated using the total number of race meetings conducted at each track in the reporting period multiplied by the average number of races at each race meeting at each track in NSW (from July to December 2015), multiplied by 7 (the average number of greyhounds per race during the period 2013 – 2015).

Image 1: Graph describing the severity of the injuries of 543 greyhounds injured at race meetings between 15 November 2015 and 1 February 2016.

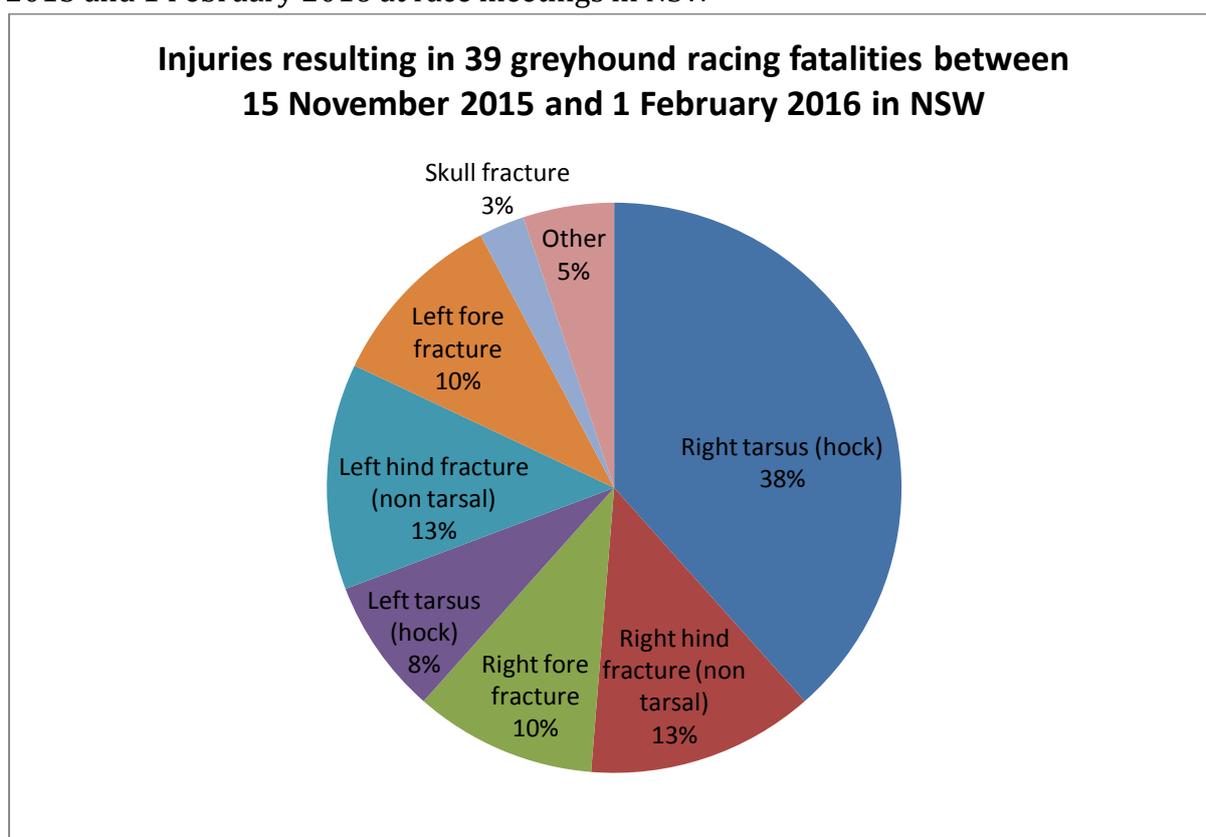


Part 2. Reported greyhound racing fatalities

GRNSW defines racing fatalities as all injuries and incidents occurring during or subsequent to a race resulting in death at the race meeting or requiring euthanasia at the race meeting.¹

There were a total of 39 reported greyhound racing fatalities during 15 November 2015 and 1 February 2016. The total number of reported greyhound racing fatalities during the period represents a fatality rate of 2.4 deaths per 1,000 race starts.

Image 2: Injuries resulting in 39 greyhound racing fatalities between 15 November 2015 and 1 February 2016 at race meetings in NSW



Racing injury and fatality trend report

Due to limitations in historical injury data, a racing injury trend report will only be available at the second quarterly reporting period for comparison with the first quarter.

¹ This statistic does not include euthanasia that occurs subsequent to race meetings at private veterinary hospitals after further diagnostic or treatment advice is sought. While these greyhounds will be included in the injury statistics in Part 1 of this report, they are not recorded as a fatality in Part 2. These greyhounds will be reported to GRNSW through the GAR106 obligations to report greyhound retirement outcomes which will be available as lifecycle tracking data in the GRNSW annual report.

Part 3. Greyhound trialling injury rates

Unlike NSW race meetings, not all trialling sessions are attended by a veterinarian. The following data represent a sample of the greyhound trialling population (monitored by GRNSW veterinarians) upon which some inferences can be made about trialling population injury rates.

Period: 1 December 2015 and 4 February 2016

Sample: 8 tracks (TAB and non-TAB)

31 trialling sessions

Approximately 1,386 trial starts

Table 3: Injury numbers and rates described by injury severity for 31 trialling sessions at eight NSW greyhound racing tracks.

| Rating | Total numbers of injuries | Injury rate (injuries/1,000 starts) |
|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Minor | 8 | 5.8 |
| Medium | 1 | 0.7 |
| Major | 1 | 0.7 |
| Catastrophic | 2 | 1.4 |