

Urgent: Inquiry into Greyhound Racing in Tasmania

The Secretary

Joint Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in Tasmania
Parliament House, Hobart TAS 7000

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To whom it may concern.

My apologies for the late submission. I've been away and only heard about it this morning.

My sincere request is that greyhound racing in Tasmania, in fact in the whole of Australia, ceases to exist.

I have adopted rescued greyhounds "wastage" since 2002. They all came from abused situations, all with injuries and wounds of various degrees. They were all scared of men to varying degrees, shy, sensitive and gentle. They have all been the most beautiful pets and companions. They have all lived with cats from day one, and have been happy to play with all manner of dogs – small through to large.

The industry is about making money. It has failed to look after the silent beings, the greyhounds whom it exploits and allows to continue to be exploited.

Tens of thousands of greyhounds meet a premature, often cruel death; those who don't "make the grade".

Records of greyhound vets will show the thousands they euthanase, because they are 'no good', and/or because they incur injuries that could easily be healed if cared for.

Greyhounds are kept in cages and allowed out to 'empty' in small holding areas, or to train. They are most often kept in large numbers in inappropriately small holding areas;

Greyhounds are trained, through live-baiting, to be killers. By nature they are the opposite (3 of my 5 greyhounds had been trained by live-baiting, but once in a secure, loving home they quickly reverted to their true natures).

Greyhound injuries on the track and off are serious, painful and often lethal. Hounds injured on the track are often 'disposed of', as are injured race horses, and the races go on. One down, plenty more to take his/her place.

The pits full of dead hounds in QLD will be found elsewhere. This is not an unusual practice.

It is clear that the regulatory authorities are not doing their job to ensure the welfare and safety of greyhounds. I'd say that would be an impossible ask.

Please stop this abhorrent, cruel industry that calls itself "sport".

Yours sincerely,
Fran Chambers