

Greyhound Board of Great Britain

6 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AB

George Eustice MP
Minister of State
Department for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

2nd November 2015

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 23rd October addressed to Barry Faulkner, our Chief Executive. As Barry is abroad, I write to thank you for confirming the actions you would like the Greyhound Board of Great Britain (GBGB) to undertake following concerns raised during the initial stages of the review of the Welfare of Racing Greyhounds Regulations 2010. I am encouraged to learn that the initial findings from the review suggest that the Regulations have, in the main, met their original objectives and that the model of self-regulation combined with Government review and external accreditation has worked.

I am pleased to inform you that I have been authorised by the GBGB Board of Directors to agree to your proposals and for this agreement to be presented as the non-regulatory option in the consultation process. For clarity, I set out the areas of agreement below:

Trainer's kennels

GBGB will put in place an agreed set of standards for trainers' kennels and these standards will be enforced by GBGB inspectors with in-depth knowledge of racing greyhound welfare. In addition, GBGB will ensure that through the British Standards Institution (BSI) a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) is developed for trainer's kennels.

Once a PAS has been agreed, GBGB will obtain an extension to its current scope of UKAS accreditation to include trainer's kennels by December 2017.

Publication of injury and euthanasia statistics

GBGB undertakes to annually publish summary figures for greyhounds injured or euthanised at racecourses licensed by GBGB and for these figures to be presented as a percentage of total greyhound runs each year. GBGB will commence with publishing 2017 figures in the first part of 2018.

GBGB will make available anonymised track injury and euthanasia data available for bona fide* research purposes, beginning with figures from 2017.

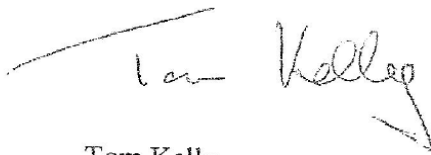
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Publication of retirement records

GBGB will annually publish summary statistics for the number of GBGB registered greyhounds that leave the sport each year (and by what method). GBGB will commence with publishing 2017 figures in the first half of 2018.

I am grateful to have received from your officials the relevant extracts from the consultation document and I have asked my Manager of Welfare & Integrity Services, Duncan Gibson, to agree the precise wording with your officials by 3rd November 2015.

Yours sincerely



Tom Kelly
Chairman

* Bona fide research purposes as agreed by GBGB Welfare Standing Committee and DEFRA.