

BRIEFING FOR THE MINISTER OF RACING			
<b>Priority</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent	<input type="checkbox"/> Time-Sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routine
<b>Title</b>	Greyhound Review Work Programme - Racing Integrity Board quarterly update		
<b>Date</b>	29 November 2024	<b>Ref</b>	N/A

### Recommendations

The Racing Integrity Board (RIB) recommends the Minister for Racing:

- a) **Note** GRNZ's progress against the six key focus areas of the Greyhound Review Work Programme and performance against its Welfare Targets for the first quarter of the 2024/25 racing season.
- b) **Note** GRNZ 2024/25 Welfare Targets have been approved and RIB commentary on the final version of the targets is included in this briefing.
- c) **Agree** the RIB will continue to report quarterly in the 2024/25 racing season with the next report for Quarter 2 (up to 31 January 2025). **Yes / No**
- d) **Agree** this briefing is shared with the Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare). **Yes / No**
- e) **Agree** this briefing is shared with Greyhound Racing New Zealand. **Yes / No**
- f) **Agree** this briefing is published on the RIB's website. **Yes / No**

### Minister's comments and signature

..... / / 2024

Hon Minister for Racing

# Greyhound Review Work Programme – Racing Integrity Board quarterly update

## Executive Summary

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1. This report provides a briefing on the Greyhound Review Work Programme, primarily relating to Quarter 1 (August – October) of the 2024/25 racing season and includes analysis of the 2023/24 season data.
2. In the RIB's Quarter 4 briefing to the Minister, a revised approach to the RIB's Greyhound Review monitoring was introduced. The new approach continues to review the programme's 15 focus areas, while giving greater attention to six areas with important animal welfare implications.
3. GRNZ has continued to progress animal welfare initiatives and strengthen a number of controls within the last quarter. However, these changes are yet to have a positive impact on injury metrics and rehoming performance. GRNZ is actively investigating data led initiatives to enhance performance in these key focus areas.
4. The RIB considers GRNZ's controls consistently match or exceed the standards of other greyhound racing jurisdictions.
5. GRNZ has strengthened its injury controls, with the introduction of a Safe Return to Racing Policy in August 2024. The RIB considers GRNZ's continued focus on injury reduction initiatives to be appropriate.
6. Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season has seen an increase in the number of Category D and Category F injuries, however, it is expected the injury rate will normalise as the year progresses. Some variation in injury rates is expected due to the unpredictable nature of injuries. Although the most recent 12-month rolling mean injury rate is higher, the difference is not statistically significant compared to the previous 12-month period.
7. GRNZ continues to focus efforts on rehoming greyhounds with 138 adopted during this quarter compared with 125 adopted during the same period in the 2023/24 season. A further increase in rehoming rates is required for GRNZ to reach its recently implemented 2024/25 Welfare Target. Rehoming data identified there were 662 greyhounds awaiting adoption as at 31 October 2024.
8. The RIB recommends GRNZ investigate the feasibility of establishing an internal dedicated rehoming function, consistent with overseas jurisdictions, in order to improve aspects of the rehoming process.
9. RIB verification of private rehoming and breeding records identified opportunities for GRNZ to enhance their systems to maintain more comprehensive and accurate records.
10. The RIB continues to encourage GRNZ to build on its ability to monitor and ensure compliance with existing traceability rules.
11. The RIB and GRNZ are working closely to progress amendments to the Rules of Racing. GRNZ is reviewing or introducing several policies to reflect best practice with implementation expected in the coming months.

12. During this quarter there have been three race day euthanasias and one sudden death. A new policy, covering sudden deaths, has been drafted and is under consultation.
13. All racetracks have now been renovated within the last 18 months, with Manawatu Raceway and Ascot Park Raceway remediation work concluding in November. GRNZ is preparing a track management plan for summer, a time when the risk of serious injuries is heightened.
14. The GRNZ Board has approved the 2024/25 Welfare Targets. The RIB believes the targets are realistic and substantively focused on the appropriate areas.
15. The RIB's focus over the next period is to continue monitoring GRNZ's performance.

## Background

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### Purpose

16. This briefing provides you with an update on the Greyhound Review Work Programme and GRNZ's Welfare Targets (previously Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)) for the 2024/25 season. This briefing covers Quarter 1 (August - October) of the 2024/25 racing season and an update on subsequent activity as appropriate.
17. RIB verification of compliance and performance uses information from the 2023/24 season and Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season.

### Background

18. On 13 February 2024, the RIB received direction from you that the current level of monitoring and quarterly reporting should continue until further notice.
19. This is the seventh Minister's briefing provided on the Greyhound Review programme, since the RIB submitted its final report on 12 December 2022. Subsequent briefings were provided by the RIB on:
  - 14 April 2023
  - 14 September 2023
  - 19 December 2023
  - 11 April 2024
  - 28 May 2024
  - 10 September 2024.
20. This briefing follows the format introduced in the 10 September 2024 update.
21. A dashboard, summarising the status of controls and measures for each of the 15 focus areas, is provided in Appendix 1.
22. GRNZ has committed to monitor and report on compliance with controls throughout the season.

## Key Focus Areas

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### Key Focus Area 1: Injuries

#### *Adequacy of controls*

23. The RIB considers GRNZ's controls are substantively adequate and in some cases are more comprehensive than other greyhound jurisdictions.
24. GRNZ has improved injury reporting to align with industry best practice. Welfare Targets, now report the rate of serious injuries as a rolling 12-month mean expressed as a normalised injury rate<sup>1</sup>. This method takes into account the volatility of injury rates, which reflects the underlying biological system.

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<sup>1</sup> Rate of injuries per 1000 race starts.

25. Within the previous quarter, GRNZ has strengthened controls around injury reduction initiatives with the new Safe Return to Racing Policy being implemented on 1 August 2024.
26. GRNZ anticipates a need for changes to the Safe Return to Racing Policy to accommodate initial issues with the practical implementation of the policy, clarify definitions, and improve the tracking of race and trial starts.
27. Return to Racing Fitness Best Practice Guidelines, which support the Safe Return to Racing Policy, have been issued for consultation. The RIB is currently reviewing the guidelines and preparing feedback. No publication date has been scheduled.
28. In August 2024, GRNZ revised the Rules of Racing to change the default vacant starting boxes for races with fewer than eight starters, based on recent injury data analysis. GRNZ and the RIB will monitor the effectiveness of this injury reduction initiative.

#### *Compliance with controls*

29. The RIB considers the level of adherence with established controls is satisfactory at this time.
30. The Safe Return to Racing Policy, effective from August 2024, initially saw several instances of non-compliance reported by the RIB. GRNZ addressed these issues by making system changes, resulting in improved compliance.

#### *Measurement*

31. GRNZ's Welfare Target results for Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season:
  - Category D<sup>2</sup> injuries – 7.15 per 1000 starters across the previous 12-months (rolling mean), against a target of 5.97
  - Category F<sup>3</sup> injuries – 3.16 per 1000 starters across the previous 12-months (rolling mean), against a target of 2.07
  - 66 races on straight tracks towards a target of 260 for the season
  - 69% of total races conducted as preferred box draw (PBD) against a target of 65%.
32. The rate of serious injuries (Categories D and F) increased in the first two months of this quarter, contributing to a higher mean injury rate for the previous 12-month period. Statistically, there is no significant difference in the injury rate for the most recent 12-month period compared to the 12-months prior.
33. The new Safe Return to Racing Policy captured 209 greyhounds returning from a serious injury or break during Quarter 1. Of the 209, 156 (75%) went on to race within the quarter. GRNZ and the RIB will continue to monitor compliance with, and the effectiveness of, the policy.

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<sup>2</sup> Injuries with stand downs of 22 days or more.

<sup>3</sup> Catastrophic and injuries with a 43-90 day stand down. Injuries that apply under Category F: death or euthanasia on-track; any skull or spine fracture or paralysis (partial or complete); any long bone fracture (i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia); a hock fracture/dislocation where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; metacarpal/metatarsal fracture where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; any other joint injury where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; a skin injury where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; a soft tissue injury (including muscle injury) where the stand-down period is 90 days.

34. GRNZ has committed to ongoing investigation of causal factors for racing injuries. The RIB identified 32 outlier<sup>4</sup> race meeting events over the last quarter. GRNZ is now completing its own injury outlier event analysis with guidance from the RIB.

#### *Work programme*

35. In October, Australian research on risk factors for forelimb and hindlimb fractures in greyhounds was published. An action list of potential injury reduction initiatives has been developed. Upon review, it was found that GRNZ had already implemented eight of the ten suggestions, with the remaining two under consideration.
36. Serious Injury Review Committee (SIRC) met on 8 October to consider all serious injuries sustained in the previous two months. As part of a standing agenda, this committee will now discuss the injury outlier events with a view to identifying potential causal factors and mitigation strategies.
37. Training practices and facilities have been identified as potential risk factors for injuries. GRNZ has distributed a survey to all licenced persons (LPs) to gather information on home training facilities and regimes. A second survey, focusing on management, nutrition and supplement use is currently being developed.
38. Racing continues at the Whanganui straight track. GRNZ and the RIB will monitor and report on injury rates when sufficient data is available.
39. GRNZ has identified age as a risk factor for racing injuries, supported by literature. Age related injury data continues to be analysed, with consideration being given to placing restrictions on the frequency of racing for older greyhounds.
40. GRNZ is exploring the feasibility of trialling a double arm lure at two racetracks as an injury reduction initiative.

### **Key Focus Area 2: Rehoming**

#### *Adequacy of controls*

41. The RIB considers GRNZ's controls are substantively adequate.
42. Controls around rehoming greyhounds will be adjusted when the new Rehoming Policy is implemented in December 2024. The GRNZ Board approved the policy and GRNZ is focussing efforts on educating participants before the policy is implemented. The RIB considers these changes strengthen the private rehoming aspects of the policy in particular.
43. GRNZ has recognised the Rules of Racing need to be updated to include:
  - the desexing requirement outlined in the Rehoming Policy
  - greyhounds kept by LPs as pets.

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<sup>4</sup> An outlier, in statistical terms, refers to a data point that significantly deviates from the majority of other observations in the dataset.

### *Compliance with controls*

44. The RIB acknowledges the level of adherence with established controls to be satisfactory at this time.
45. GRNZ has observed increasing non-compliance with entry requirements for Great Mates (GM) leading to longer waiting times for some greyhounds. GRNZ has communicated the issues with LPs and the RIB is satisfied GRNZ has appropriate controls in place to manage non-compliance.
46. GRNZ's new private rehoming process is now embedded into the adoption system. The new systems and processes add a layer of robustness.
47. In November, the RIB audited a sample of records for greyhounds privately rehomed in the 2023/24 season to verify compliance with the rules, standards and policy. Of the 111 greyhounds privately rehomed, 43 (38%) were reviewed by the RIB.
48. The audit identified some issues with processes, incomplete records and unavailable documentation which have been notified to GRNZ. Whilst the issues detected would not have had a direct impact on the rehoming outcome, they represent an area for improvement.
49. The RIB is encouraging GRNZ to enhance information gathering systems and storage processes to ensure better compliance with its own controls.
50. GRNZ has committed to continue to monitor and provide the RIB with quarterly reports on compliance with the Rehoming Policy.

### *Measurement*

51. GRNZ has changed the Welfare Target assessing access to the Great Mates rehoming programme to report the number of greyhounds on the waiting list.
52. GRNZ's Welfare Target results for Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season:
  - 349 greyhounds on the waiting list against a target of 275
  - 138 greyhounds were adopted, with a season target of 650.
53. The number of adoptions is an increase on Quarter 1 of the 2023/24 season (125), however, GRNZ has recognised improvements are required to meet the target.
54. Accordingly, GRNZ is encouraging rehoming organisations to be more active in the promotion of rehoming. This includes greater collaboration with journalists to drive an increase in adoptions.
55. As at 1 November 2024, GRNZ reported there were 672 greyhounds awaiting adoption; no reduction in the number from 1 August 2024:
  - 229 at GM rehoming/Rehabilitate to Rehome kennels
  - 94 with other rehoming agencies/foster carers
  - 349 on the rehoming waiting list with LPs.
56. The RIB recognise that other greyhound jurisdictions have an internal dedicated rehoming function. This appears to be one way of managing to uphold high

standards and output in relation to rehoming. The RIB recommends GRNZ investigate the feasibility of in-housing some, or all of the functions, in the future.

57. GRNZ is monitoring the effectiveness of promotional events to deliver adoption outcomes.

#### *Work programme*

58. The USA adoption programme continues, with 54 greyhounds exported during Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season. Kennel spaces in the USA are limited, and therefore GRNZ has committed to only send greyhounds with a confirmed kennel space.

### **Key Focus Area 3: Licenced Person and Greyhound Registrations**

#### *Adequacy of controls*

59. The RIB considers GRNZ's controls are substantively adequate and align with or exceed industry norms.
60. GRNZ has been consulting on the new Breeding Exemption Policy and implementation is subject to Rule changes required to remove ambiguity between the policy and the Rules. The implementation date has not been confirmed.
61. GRNZ is developing a Lost Microchip Policy, however, consultation has been postponed pending a Rule change. Two standard operating procedures, Microchip Replacement and DNA Collection, have been provided to relevant parties to facilitate the process until the policy is implemented.
62. The greyhound check-in processes, consistent with other greyhound jurisdictions, are embedded. The process ensures all registered greyhounds are accounted for at least annually.

#### *Compliance with controls*

63. The RIB acknowledges the level of adherence with established controls to be satisfactory at this time.
64. The RIB continues to encourage GRNZ to implement means of measuring compliance with traceability controls.
65. In November, the RIB audited a sample of records from the 2023/24 season for breeding greyhounds, to verify compliance with the rules and standards. Of the 75 litters whelped (born), records for 40 breeding greyhounds were reviewed by the RIB.
66. The audit identified issues with processes, incomplete records and unavailable documentation which have been communicated to GRNZ. While these issues would not have required immediate intervention, they again represent opportunity for improvement.
67. The RIB is encouraging GRNZ to enhance information gathering systems and storage processes to ensure better compliance with its own controls.

#### *Measurement*

68. GRNZ's Welfare Target results for Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season:



- 98.7% of racing greyhounds were subject to a check-in within the last six months, against a target of 100%
- 98.8% of non-racing greyhounds were subject to a check-in within the last year, against a target of 98%.

69. The RIB is of the view the Welfare Targets have been substantively achieved this quarter.

#### **Key Focus Area 4: Standards, Rules and Policies**

##### *Adequacy of controls*

70. GRNZ and the RIB continue to advance the rule amendments for Tranche 2. Although progress has been slow this quarter due to staffing arrangements, the RIB and GRNZ are near agreement on the amendments required to proceed.
71. GRNZ are reviewing the Hot Weather Racing and Travel Policy based on findings from the first two years of implementation and recent greyhound thermoregulation research carried out in Australia<sup>5</sup>.

#### **Key Focus Area 5: Euthanasia / Death**

##### *Adequacy of controls*

72. The RIB considers GRNZ's controls are substantively adequate and align with or exceed industry norms.
73. Controls around euthanasia and death will be strengthened when the new Euthanasia Policy is implemented in December 2024. The GRNZ Board approved the policy and GRNZ is focussing efforts on educating participants before the policy is implemented.
74. GRNZ is consulting on a Sudden Death Policy to establish procedures when a greyhound dies during or after a race or trial. The policy mandates post-mortems for greyhounds that die suddenly enabling GRNZ to review findings.

##### *Compliance with controls*

75. The RIB considers the level of adherence with established controls to be satisfactory at this time.

##### *Measurement*

76. GRNZ's Welfare Target results for Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season:
- No greyhounds (0%) were euthanased in breach of GRNZ's Euthanasia Policy that GRNZ is aware of, within the target range of < 2% of total euthanasias.
77. During Quarter 1, there were three race day euthanasias and one greyhound died following racing (included in Category F injuries).

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<sup>5</sup> Brownlow, M., & Streckfuss, E. (2024). Hot dogs: Thermoregulatory function and dysfunction in the racing greyhound (*Canis familiaris*) and the rationale for cooling strategies. *Australian Veterinary Practitioner*, 54(2), 83 – 115.

## Key Focus Area 6: Track Standards

### *Adequacy of controls*

78. As part of its ongoing maintenance and improvement program, GRNZ is developing a track management strategy for summer, in response to recent Australian research<sup>6</sup> indicating an increased risk of serious tarsal injury during this period.

### *Measurement*

79. During Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 season, of the 108 scheduled race meetings, six partial meetings (6%) were abandoned due to concerns with either the track surface (one meeting) or track equipment (five meetings).

### *Work programme*

80. Ascot Park Raceway was closed for immediate remediation work following concerns with the track surface during an abandoned race meeting on 16 October 2024. Racing is scheduled to resume in late November 2024.
81. Work commenced on the scheduled track resurfacing and maintenance at Manawatu Raceway on 7 October 2024. Racing resumed in November 2024.
82. When work is complete on Ascot Park Raceway and Manawatu Raceway, all seven tracks will have been renovated within the last 18 months.
83. GRNZ intends on better utilising the Whanganui straight track for the remainder of the 2024/25 season, with an application being lodged for scheduling additional meetings.
84. GRNZ has renewed the contract of the Racing Safety and Infrastructure Manager for a further two years and the employment of all track staff has moved from clubs to GRNZ.
85. GRNZ has continued to update and improve track equipment within the last quarter. In October, the SafeChase lure system was installed at Hatrick Raceway. New Steriline starting boxes, which are industry standard, have been ordered for Cambridge and installation is scheduled for early 2025.

## Other Focus Areas

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### *Population management*

86. In August 2024, GRNZ commenced reporting the status and number of greyhounds entering and exiting the industry.
87. The greyhound population at the start of the 2024/25 season was 3000 greyhounds and at the end of Quarter 1 this had reduced to 2892.
88. During this quarter, 56 greyhounds entered<sup>7</sup> the industry, and 164 greyhounds exited<sup>8</sup> the industry.

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<sup>6</sup> Gibson, M. J., Legg, K. A., Gee, E. K., Smet, A., Medd, J., McMullen, C., Auld, L. & Rogers, C. W. (2024). Incidence and risk factors for limb fracture in greyhound racing in Western Australia. *Australian Veterinary Journal*, 102, 543–549. <https://doi.org/10.1111/avj.13377>.

<sup>7</sup> Greyhounds enter the industry when they are born or imported into New Zealand.

<sup>8</sup> Greyhounds exit the industry when they die, are euthanased, exported or rehomed outside the industry.

89. GRNZ noted low breeding numbers and a high number of greyhounds on the rehoming waiting-list.

*Inform and educate the industry*

90. GRNZ continues to disseminate welfare-based information to participants. There are no significant updates to report this period.

*GRNZ information systems*

91. GRNZ is progressing a significant multi-year IT work programme which will further strengthen data quality, transparency of reporting and inform evidence-based policy development.
92. Progress is ongoing with software expected to be released to the testing environment in Quarter 2 of the 2024/25 season. The RIB will continue to provide updates as appropriate.
93. GRNZ is working with the RIB to develop a pre-race report that provides the on-track veterinarians and Stewards with information on greyhounds that may require a greater level of examination in the pre-race veterinary check. The information is based on known and potential risk factors for injuries that have been demonstrated through the work the Serious Injury Review Committee has undertaken.

*Governance*

94. Progress continues and there are no significant changes to report this period.

*Investigate and adjudicate on animal welfare breaches*

95. One LP, charged with failing to provide all required documentation for eight privately rehomed greyhounds, has admitted the breach and the RIB is in the process of filing penalty submissions.
96. One greyhound tested positive for a prohibited substance (corticosteroid) in September 2024. The LP has admitted the charge with a penalty decision pending.
97. Since the end of the Quarter 1, an investigation relating to a positive test for a prohibited substance has been initiated.

*Information management*

98. The RIB continues to review and verify GRNZ data and insights.

*GRNZ / RIB engagement*

99. The RIB and GRNZ regularly engage, both formally and informally, on activities including any issues raised through the industry review.
100. GRNZ has developed and provided the RIB with a copy of the updated programme plan for the first half of the 2024/25 season.

### *Stakeholder engagement*

101. GRNZ prepares a quarterly report for the Minister for Racing, including information on progress against their Welfare Targets which is published on the GRNZ website.
102. GRNZ met with the Chair of NAWAC in October 2024 to discuss the welfare progress the industry has made.
103. No other significant stakeholder matters are noted in this period.

### **GRNZ 2024/25 Welfare Targets**

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104. GRNZ Welfare Targets were approved by the GRNZ Board in November 2024 (Appendix 2).
105. The following revisions have been made to the Welfare Targets:
  - GRNZ has adopted the recommended approach to report injury rates as a 12-month rolling average, in line with industry best practice
  - Access to Great Mates rehoming programme has previously focussed on the duration greyhounds spend on the waiting list. GRNZ believes that a more meaningful measure is the number of greyhounds on the waiting list and has updated Welfare Target eight to reflect this. The three-year objective is for greyhounds to have access to a rehoming facility within an average of three months.
106. GRNZ has introduced a new Welfare Target aiming to achieve a certain number of adoptions in a racing season.
107. The RIB is of the view the targets are focussed on appropriate areas to enhance welfare outcomes and GRNZ has set realistic targets based on last season's performance.
108. The RIB recommended changes to the traceability Welfare Target have not been adopted by GRNZ. The RIB would like to see focus directed towards improving compliance and oversight with GRNZ's existing traceability rules, ensuring records regarding a greyhound's location are accurately maintained.
109. The RIB believes the changes to the rehoming Welfare Target, assessing access to Great Mates rehoming programme, fails to fully consider the time individual greyhounds spend in the rehoming system. While not covered in the Welfare Targets, further metrics on rehoming are provided to the RIB as part of GRNZ's commitment to increased level of reporting.

### **Next Steps**

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110. The RIB will continue to work with GRNZ to monitor progress against the 15 focus areas of the Greyhound Review programme.
111. The RIB's proposed priorities over the next period include:
  - a. monitoring GRNZ's revised approach to compliance and measurement reporting
  - b. undertaking a sample-based audit of compliance with the Safe Return to Racing Policy and verification of outlier injury events

- c. monitoring population management and traceability
- d. continuing to work with GRNZ to progress the Tranche 2 rule changes
- e. reporting on GRNZ's 2024/25 Welfare Targets.

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## Appendix 1: Dashboard - status of controls and measures for the 15 Greyhound Review focus areas

Performance Criteria		Controls			Measurements		
		Adequacy	Compliance	Notes	Performance	Validation	Assessment
Key focus areas	1. Injuries	✓	✓	New policy strengthening controls	✓	✓	Higher injury rate for Q1 but not statistically different to previous 12-month period
	2. Rehoming	✓	✓	Policy implementation pending	✓	✓	Focus on improving adoption rate Validation identified areas requiring improvement
	3. Licenced persons and greyhound registrations	✓	✓	Focus continues on traceability location data	✓	✓	Validation of breeding records identified areas requiring improvement
	4. Standards, rules and policies	✓	N/A	Policy amendments pending	N/A	N/A	Tranche 2 Rules progressing
	5. Euthanasias and deaths	✓	✓	New policy in consultation stage	✓	☐	On track to meet 2024/25 season Welfare Target
	6. Track standards	✓	N/A	Developing plan to address period of higher injury risk	✓	N/A	Remediation of all tracks within last 18 months
Other focus areas	7. Population management	✓	N/A	-	N/A	☐	Breeding numbers low and waitlist for rehoming growing
	8. Inform and educate the industry	✓	✓	-	✓	☐	-
	9. GRNZ information systems	✓	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	Software improvements pending
	10. Governance	✓	✓	Governance committees established	✓	✓	Committees have met as intended
	11. Kennel standards	✓	✓	Standards in place	✓	✓	-
	12. Investigate / adjudicate on animal welfare breaches	✓	✓	RIB responsibility	N/A	N/A	-
	13. Information management	✓	N/A	-	✓	✓	RIB continues to review and verify data as necessary
	14. GRNZ / RIB engagement	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	Constructive and regular engagement with RIB
	15. Stakeholder engagement	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	GRNZ provides quarterly public reports and annual accountability documents

## Legend

- Adequacy** = the RIB considers that GRNZ's rules, policies and standards are substantively adequate and align or exceed industry norms.
- Adequacy** = the RIB considers that GRNZ's rules, policies and standards are substantively inadequate or fail to meet industry norms.
- Compliance** = the RIB considers that GRNZ is substantively complying with its own rules, policies and standards.
- Compliance** = the RIB considers that GRNZ is substantively failing to comply with its own rules, policies and standards.
- Performance** = the RIB considers that GRNZ's performance measurements align with KPIs, industry norms or acceptable practice.
- Performance** = the RIB considers that GRNZ's performance measurements consistently fail to meet with KPIs, industry norms or acceptable practice.
- Validation** = where the RIB has undertaken validation of GRNZ's reported performance metrics.
- Validation** = where the RIB has not undertaken its own validation, but instead relied on GRNZ's performance metrics.

*Note: The RIB will not be validating all of GRNZ's reported performance metrics every quarter, but will select samples for validation.*

## Appendix 2: GRNZ 2024/25 Welfare Targets

	Category	Description	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
1	Euthanasia	Euthanasias outside of GRNZ's Euthanasia Policy	<2% of total euthanasias	<2% of total euthanasias	<2% of total euthanasias
2	Safety	Reduce the number of Category D injuries as per GA classifications (22+ days). Measured as rate per 1,000 starters against a 2020/21 benchmark of 7.02	10% reduction (6.32 per 1,000 starters)	12.5% reduction (6.14 per 1,000 starters)	15% reduction (5.97 per 1,000 starters)
3	Safety	Reduce the number of Category F injuries as per GA classifications (43+ days). Measured as rate per 1,000 starters against a 2020/21 benchmark of 2.25	5% reduction (2.14 per 1,000 starters)	7.5% reduction (2.08 per 1,000 starters)	10% reduction (2.02 per 1,000 starters)
4	Safety	Number of races on straight tracks	260	300	350
5	Safety	Percent of total races conducted as Preferred Box Draws (PBD)	65%	70%	70%
6	Education	Registered persons participate in GRNZ continuous professional development and animal welfare training as a condition of their licence renewal	100%	100%	100%



	Category	Description	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
7	Traceability	All greyhounds within the industry are subject to at least an annual independent "check-in"	Racing dogs 100% Non racing 98%	Racing dogs 100% Non racing 99%	Racing dogs 100% Non racing 100%
8	Rehoming	Retired greyhounds have access to enter the Great Mates rehoming programme in a timely fashion (as measured by a reduction in the number of dogs on the GM waiting list)	275	225	175
9	Rehoming	Increase greyhound adoptions	650	675	700

## **Abbreviations / acronyms**

Cat. D Injury	Category D injuries are injuries with stand downs of 22 days or more.
Cat. F Injury	Catastrophic and injuries with a 43-90 day stand down. Injuries that apply under Category F: death or euthanasia on-track; any skull or spine fracture or paralysis (partial or complete); any long bone fracture (i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia); a hock fracture/dislocation where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; metacarpal/metatarsal fracture where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; any other joint injury where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; a skin injury where the stand-down period is 60 or 90 days; a soft tissue injury (including muscle injury) where the stand-down period is 90 days.
GM	Great Mates (GRNZ's rehoming scheme)
GRNZ	Greyhound Racing New Zealand
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LP	Licensed Person
PBD	Preferred Box Draw
RIB	Racing Integrity Board
Rules	GRNZ's Rules of Racing
SIRC	Serious Injury Review Committee