



## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 31 May 2017

### Two participants suspended over alleged welfare breaches

A trainer in the State's Wimmera Mallee region and a breeder in Melbourne's northern suburbs have been suspended following property inspections by Greyhound Racing Victoria welfare inspectors.

GRV Stewards this week suspended the registration of the Wimmera Mallee trainer under Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) 92 (5)(c) pending the outcome of an inquiry to be conducted by GRV Compliance and Investigations departments.

It is alleged the trainer committed a serious breach of Greyhounds Australasia Rules after GRV authorised officers discovered a dead rabbit in the kennelling area of the property, during a routine search.

A breeder in Melbourne's northern suburbs has also been suspended over alleged welfare breaches under GAR 92 (5)(c), pending the outcome of an inquiry to be conducted by GRV Compliance and Investigations Departments.

The breeder is alleged to have committed breaches of the Greyhounds Australasia Rules in relation to animal husbandry, resulting in five pups having to be euthanased.

GRV's General Manager of Integrity Shane Gillard said there were no more excuses and nowhere to hide for anyone who breached GRV and GA rules.

"We will catch the bad eggs and kick them out of our industry," Mr Gillard said.

"Our Integrity Unit has decades of police experience in proactively investigating any wrong doing.

"The Unit works closely with GRV's Welfare Unit and Stewards, Victoria Police Sports Intelligence Integrity Unit, the Office of the Racing Integrity Commissioner, municipal and shire rangers, Veterinary Board investigators and the RSPCA and other animal welfare organisations.

"Over the past 18 months we have greatly increased the capacity of our welfare and integrity teams and this has led to more than 2800 property inspections and dozens of investigations based on intelligence supplied by our participants."

GRV's Welfare Inspectorate now has dedicated inspectors who conduct kennel and property inspections across Victoria, ensuring that industry participants involved in all stages of the greyhound's lifecycle are aware of their responsibilities and meet both GRV and other legislative requirements.

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“The vast majority of people involved in Victorian greyhound racing are good, honest people who are doing the right thing and we are encouraged by all those participants who are working with us to identify those people who aren’t doing the right thing,” Mr Gillard said.

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**For media inquiries please contact:**

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