

LETHAL TRACKS 2022



A REPORT ON TRACK-RELATED DEATHS AND INJURIES

**PREPARED BY:
THE COALITION FOR THE PROTECTION OF GREYHOUNDS**

VERSION 1.0, PUBLISHED APRIL 2023

The image above shows Tiggerlong Fab and Veracruz colliding on the home turn at Wagga Wagga, NSW. Tiggerlong Fab suffered multiple compound fractures of his front leg. Veracruz broke his back. They were both killed by the on-track vet.

LETHAL TRACKS 2022

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Lethal Tracks 2022, the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds' third annual track-related deaths and injuries report.

Greyhound racing kills. In 2022, 227 track-related deaths were recorded. However, the racing industry tries to conceal these deaths - you will never see these dogs named in any industry publication or website. They are considered disposable, and forgotten. CPG tries to record and remember all greyhounds killed by this brutal industry, but the number will always be a significant undercount.

While greyhounds killed at race meetings are noted in stewards' reports, many injured dogs are killed later at vet clinics. This year, CPG has made a concentrated effort to obtain details of these forgotten dogs, using Freedom of Information and Right to Information requests, among other means. Is the industry trying to hide the number of on-track deaths by killing them later? Industry insiders tell us they are.

These deaths - and thousands of injuries - occur while governments continue to pour millions of taxpayer dollars into the dog racing industry. Recent polling, conducted by GREY2K USA Worldwide and CPG, found that 69% of Australians do not support taxpayer funding of greyhound racing*.

At CPG, we continue to be encouraged by the support we see in the community to help greyhounds to live their best lives, as we continue the fight to end greyhound suffering.

Andrea Pollard
President, Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds

Track-related deaths	3-4
Track-related injuries	5
A map of deaths and injuries	6
How racing kills greyhounds	7
Where do most racing deaths occur	8
The most lethal tracks in 2022	9
All track deaths and injuries	10
There are no safe tracks	11
The truth about greyhound racing	12
The dogs we lost to racing in 2022	13
Notes and thanks	14
End greyhound suffering	15



The data in this report regarding track-related deaths, injuries and associated events is drawn from publicly available stewards' reports and additional information from state racing bodies. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

Other sources of information are listed on the relevant page.

A summary of 2022 deaths and injuries is available here: greyhoundcoalition.com/2022-australian-track-deaths-and-injuries/

If you have any feedback on the report, please email info@greyhoundcoalition.com

* greyhoundcoalition.com/greyhound-racing-survey/

TRACK-RELATED DEATHS 2022



THE FIRST DOG KILLED RACING IN 2022

RIP DANICA SPOLLY, 2 YEARS OLD

Collided and fell at the first turn.
Suffered wrist and leg fractures.
Killed at Sale VIC on 4 Jan 2022.

227

GREYHOUNDS KILLED RACING IN 2022

THE LAST DOG KILLED RACING IN 2022

RIP ON PAR, 2 YEARS OLD

Collided on the first turn and "broke down".
Suffered multiple leg fractures.
Killed at The Gardens NSW on 31 Dec 2022.

TRACK-RELATED DEATHS 2022

In addition to greyhounds who die or are killed at the track due to collapse or injury, dogs are removed from the track after serious injury and killed later. NSW is the only state to regularly publish the number of these dogs but does not provide names or details of the catastrophic injuries. The off-track killing of some seriously injured greyhounds in other states was identified via other channels - more information on page 14.

This is just one of the ways the racing industry tries to hide the suffering experienced by the greyhounds they exploit. Mandatory reporting of these animal welfare statistics should be a condition of the tens of millions of taxpayer dollars received by the industry every year.

Each one of these numbers represents a dog who died in fear and agony, for a bet. Where the industry has provided them, we included their names on page 13 of this report.

TAXPAYER FUNDING FY22 ⁽¹⁾

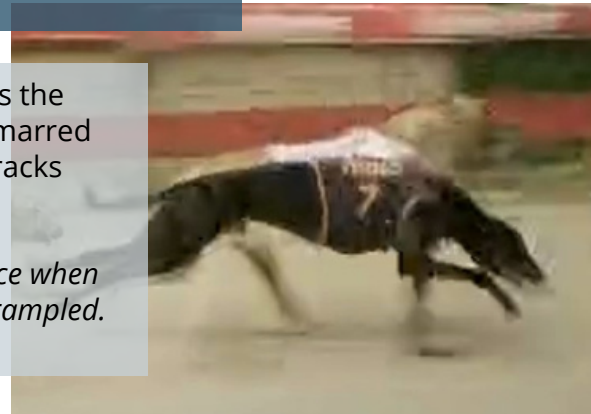
GREYHOUNDS
KILLED AT THE
TRACK

NSW	59	\$32m	14	NSW
VIC	48	\$17m	29	VIC
QLD	18	\$49.3m	(2)	QLD
SA	17	\$724k	11	SA
WA	11	\$25.65m	5	WA
TAS	5	\$5.93m	8	TAS
NT	2	(3)	(3)	NT

GREYHOUNDS
REMOVED
FROM THE
TRACK AND
KILLED LATER

The Million Dollar Chase held at Wentworth Park in Sydney is billed as the world's richest greyhound race. A spate of greyhound racing deaths marred the build-up to the MDC 2022, with four greyhounds dying on NSW tracks the week before.

The image shows Mojave Ghost. He was 19 months old and in his first race when he collided with a dog on the first turn at Wentworth Park, fell and was trampled. He suffered a fractured foreleg and was killed after the race.



1. See greyhoundcoalition.com/government-funded-racing-industry/ for more information.

2. CPG is awaiting response to Freedom of Information request submitted to Queensland Racing Integrity Commission.

3. No statistics are released by the NT racing industry or NT government.

TRACK-RELATED INJURIES 2022



10,592

GREYHOUNDS INJURED RACING IN 2022

HORRIFIC INJURIES ARE INEVITABLE

On average in 2022, 29 greyhounds were injured every day. Almost one in five greyhound racing injuries were classed as major. This included bone fractures, torn muscles and dislocations. Over a dog's racing life, they can be injured numerous times. While some racing injuries suffered by greyhounds are minor, they are all foreseeable and avoidable.

A MAP OF DEATHS AND INJURIES

227 KILLED
10,592 INJURED

RIP ZIPPING JADE

Collided with the catching pen gate.
Suffered shoulder and neck fractures.
Killed at Northam WA on 24 Apr 2022.

RIP DWARSHUIS

Suffered a cardiac arrest.
Collapsed in the catching pen.
Died at Rockhampton QLD on 31 Aug 2022.

WA
16
834

NT
2
96

QLD
18
1,558

SA
28
901

NSW
73
3,643

VIC
77
3,289

TAS
13
271

RIP SATURDAY SMILE & MORTON SPECKLE

Both dogs were 21 months old.
Morton Speckle was in his first race and Saturday Smile in his fourth.
They both suffered fractured legs.
They were both killed at Shepparton VIC on 18 Aug 2022.

These figures include dogs killed at the track and, where the information is available, those removed from the track with injuries and killed later. Names and details were not provided for 43 of the greyhounds reported by the industry as being killed off-track. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

HOW RACING KILLS GREYHOUNDS

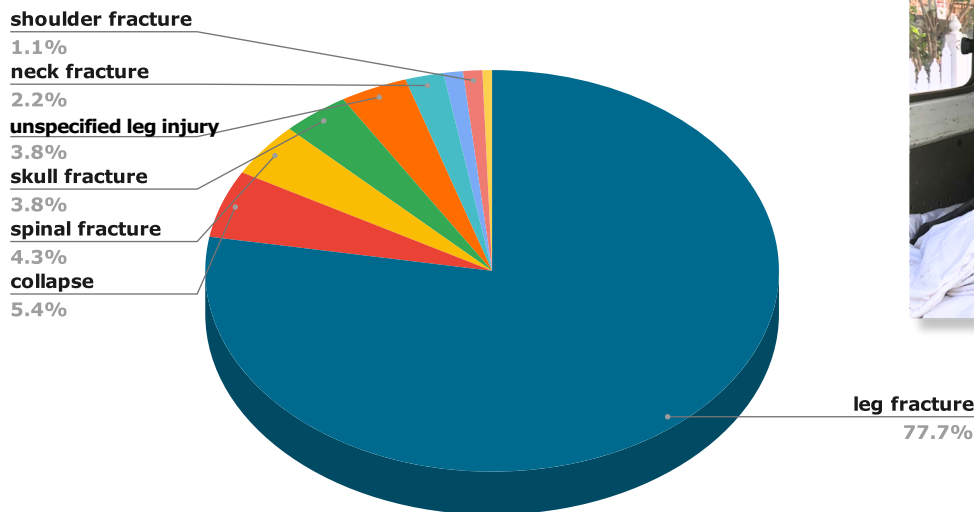
Every race puts a greyhound in danger. They run at up to 70km an hour, placing their bodies under great stress. A dog will often "break down" as its leg fractures under the strain, or it will collide with other dogs on the track, particularly when bunched up around turns.

Any contact between dogs running at these speeds can be catastrophic. They fall violently and the impact is enormous. Fractured legs are the most common injury leading to death with dogs also suffering broken necks and backs.

Many leg fractures are treatable at an estimated cost of \$5,000. Even if the leg is not repairable many greyhounds live full and active lives with three legs. Despite this, many industry participants still choose to kill young and otherwise healthy greyhounds.

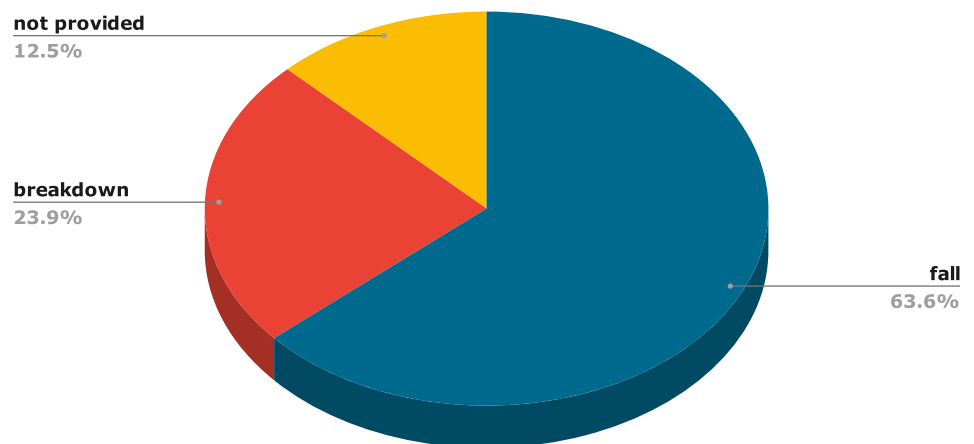
78% OF GREYHOUNDS KILLED RACING ON AUSTRALIAN TRACKS IN 2022 SUFFERED FRACTURED LEGS

Fatal injuries by type



Gorgeous Gracie is ready to start her new life on three legs. Pictured with her best friend Blue. They are being cared for by the amazing [Amazing Greys](#)

Fatal injuries by cause



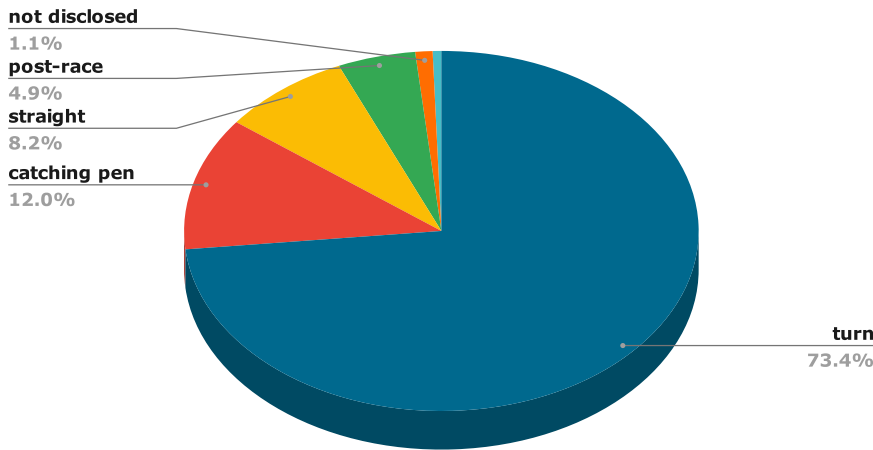
These figures include dogs killed at the track and, where the information is available, those removed from the track with injuries and killed later. Names and details were not provided for 43 of the greyhounds reported by the industry as being killed off-track. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

WHERE DO MOST DEATHS OCCUR

Dogs are hurt everywhere on a racetrack. They are at particular risk when racing around tight turns at high speeds where collisions with other dogs are unavoidable. Greyhounds also crash into the running rail or into the catching pen gate at the end of the race. They also collide with, and are mutilated by, the lure. In January 2022, Krakatoa was decapitated by the lure at Cranbourne, VIC.

Most deaths at the track occur when on-track vets kill dogs who have suffered broken legs. Seriously injured dogs are also removed from the track and later euthanased at vet clinics. Greyhounds also collapse and die on the tracks from heart attacks, internal haemorrhaging and skull fractures.

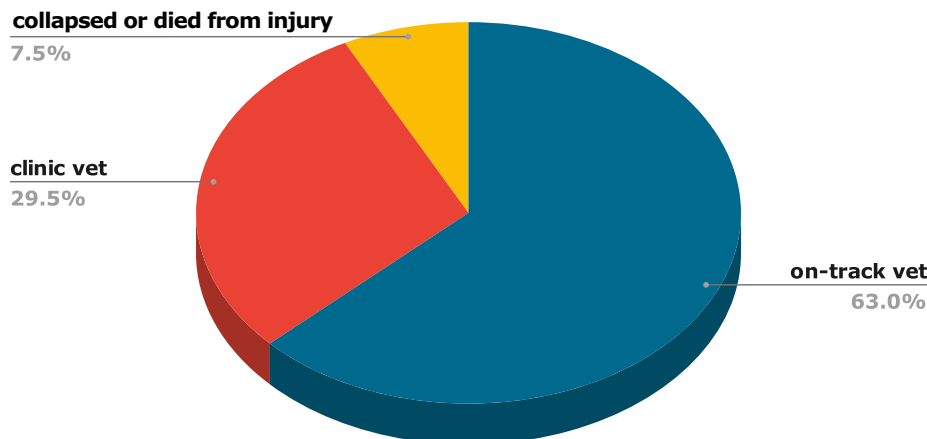
Fatal injuries by track location



Two-year-old Cheryald collides and falls on the back turn. She suffered a fractured leg and was killed after the race. Five other dogs were injured during the race meeting at Dubbo NSW.

73% OF GREYHOUNDS WERE FATALLY INJURED IN 2022 RACING AROUND TIGHT AND CONGESTED TURNS

How and where greyhounds die



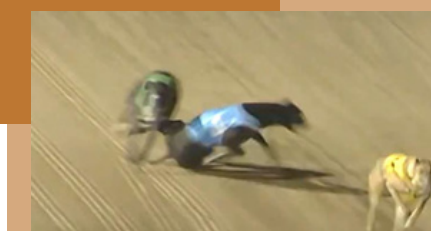
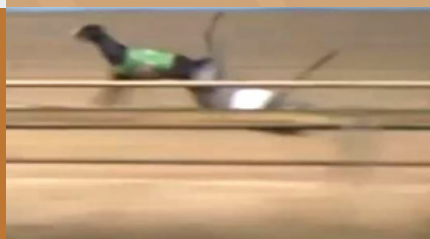
These figures include dogs killed at the track and, where the information is available, those removed from the track with injuries and killed later. Names and details were not provided for 43 of the greyhounds reported by the industry as being killed off-track. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

THE MOST LETHAL TRACKS IN 2022

DEATHS

Shepparton in Victoria was the deadliest track in Australia with 10 greyhounds killed racing in 2022. February was a particularly lethal month for Victorian greyhounds with seven dogs losing their lives for gambling “entertainment”. On 7 February, Stack and Bad Boy Vegas were killed in the same race at Shepparton. That meant of the six dogs in the race, two were killed.

Stack collides, falls and is killed at Shepparton VIC on 7 Feb 2022.



Bad Boy Vegas collides, falls and is killed at Shepparton VIC on 7 Feb 2022.

Shepparton VIC	10
Mount Gambier SA	9
Cannington WA	9
Angle Park SA	9
Wentworth Park NSW	8
The Gardens NSW	8
Geelong VIC	8

INJURIES

Ipswich QLD	595
Cannington WA	460
Albion Park QLD	406
Richmond NSW	398
Traralgon VIC	386
The Gardens NSW	368
Mandurah WA	343
Bendigo VIC	318

The Deaths figures include dogs killed at the track and, where the information is available, those removed from the track with injuries and killed later. Names and details were not provided for 43 of the greyhounds reported by the industry as being killed off-track. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

TRACK DEATHS AND INJURIES

When you look at this list of suffering, it is easy to see why most countries have rejected greyhound racing. There are only seven countries with commercial dog racing and Australia is by far the largest. Details of many greyhound racing deaths are still concealed by the racing industry and more transparency is urgently required.

DEATHS

NSW	
Bathurst	4
Bulli	1
Casino	2
Coonamble	2
Dapto	3
Dubbo	2
Gosford	3
Goulburn	2
Grafton	2
Gunnedah	4
Kempsey	1
Lithgow	1
Maitland	2
Moree	1
Nowra	2
Potts Park	1
Richmond	1
Richmond Straight	1
Taree	2
Temora	2
The Gardens	8
Wagga Wagga	4
Wentworth Park	8
NT	
Darwin	2
QLD	
Albion Park	2
Bundaberg	1
Capalaba	2
Ipswich	7
Rockhampton	4
Townsville	2
SA	
Angle Park	9
Gawler	6
Mt Gambier	9
Murray Bridge	3
Murray Bridge Straight	1
TAS	
Devonport*	2
Hobart	6
Launceston	5
VIC	
Ballarat	5
Cranbourne	1
Geelong	8
Healesville	1
Horsham	2
Sale	2
Sandown Park	1
Shepparton	10
The Meadows	3
Traralgon	5
Warragul	5
Warrnambool	5
WA	
Cannington	9
Mandurah	6
Northam	1

INJURIES

NSW	
Bathurst	126
Broken Hill	33
Bulli	151
Casino	222
Coonamble	41
Dapto	184
Dubbo	170
Gosford	157
Goulburn	201
Grafton	174
Gunnedah	106
Kempsey	15
Lismore	28
Lithgow	31
Maitland	104
Moree	16
Nowra	164
Potts Park	14
Richmond	398
Richmond Straight	128
Tamworth	18
Taree	194
Temora	115
The Gardens	368
Wagga Wagga	154
Wauchope	1
Wentworth Park	296
Young	34
NT	
Darwin	96
QLD	
Albion Park	406
Bundaberg	122
Capalaba	149
Ipswich	595
Rockhampton	150
Townsville	136
SA	
Angle Park	301
Gawler	213
Mt Gambier	201
Murray Bridge	136
Murray Bridge Straight	50
TAS	
Devonport*	16
Hobart	113
Launceston	142
VIC	
Ballarat	300
Bendigo	318
Cranbourne	12
Geelong	275
Healesville	261
Horsham	155
Sale	208
Sandown	294
Shepparton	293
The Meadows	264
Traralgon	386
Warragul	303
Warrnambool	220
WA	
Cannington	460
Mandurah	343
Northam	31

*Racing at Devonport stopped in March 2022.

These figures include dogs killed at the track and, where the information is available, those removed from the track with injuries and killed later. Names and details were not provided for 43 of the greyhounds reported by the industry as being killed off-track. Please see the notes on page 14 for more information.

THERE ARE NO SAFE TRACKS

Millions of taxpayer dollars are wasted by the industry on futile "safety" upgrades that will never stop greyhounds being maimed and killed while racing. The industry says that straight tracks are safe, but refuses to transfer racing on curved tracks to straight tracks. And deaths and injuries still happen on straight tracks.

The industry boasts that it works with University of Technology Sydney on designs to make tracks safer, but dogs still suffer and die on these tracks.

In 2017, the NSW Government promised a five-year, \$30m track safety upgrade program. In 2022, despite these upgrades, NSW recorded 59 on-track deaths.

The new, supposedly safe flagship racetracks – **Angle Park, Traralgon, Grafton, Horsham** – have cost \$14m of taxpayer funds and killed or injured around 2,000 dogs since they opened.



The sight of greyhounds being injured and thrown around upgraded tracks has once again shattered the racing industry's claims that racing can be made safe. The Grafton track was rebuilt for \$4.6 million by taxpayers.

This image is from a night at the track where seven greyhounds were injured.

The race videos show visual evidence of the reality of racing, ranging from violent cartwheels to staggering on torn ligaments.



VIDEO: Greyhound euthanised after running on broken leg at Ipswich

Shocking footage has revealed a greyhound's final moments, running at an Ipswich track with a broken leg. The death has renewed local opposition to a \$40 million racing complex proposed for the city.

THE COURIER MAIL, 24 MARCH 2022

State governments fund lethal tracks

Despite the overwhelming evidence that racetracks will always kill and maim greyhounds, state governments are still using taxpayer money to build new tracks.

They are unwanted by the majority of Australians as people are not interested in watching dogs being maimed and possibly killed. These tracks exist to feed the online gambling industry, which costs Australians billions in financial losses and associated social impact.

The QLD government is planning to spend \$40m of taxpayer money to build a greyhound mega-racetrack near Ipswich. This is despite a petition with 73,000 signatures stating that Australians do not want the Ipswich racing complex to proceed and that the money should be used for areas of public and community interest.

THE TRUTH ABOUT GREYHOUND RACING

Survey finds widespread industry neglect of greyhounds, [read more](#)

89%

OF GREYHOUNDS SHOW SIGNS OF NEGLECT WHEN THEY LEAVE THE INDUSTRY



Ben was dumped at a pound after being injured. A community-run rescue picked him up from the pound and organised surgery which was funded by the public.

Racing industry is failing miserably to rehome greyhounds, [read more](#)

GREYHOUND BREEDING IS
6 TIMES
THE RACING INDUSTRY'S
CAPACITY TO REHOME



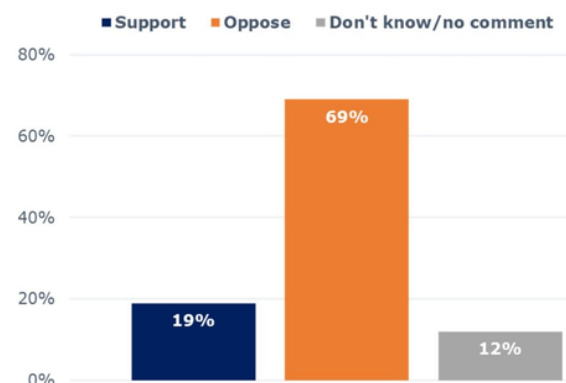
Image courtesy of Farm Transparency Project

National survey commissioned by GREY2K USA Worldwide and CPG shows majority of Australians oppose greyhound racing, [read more](#)

69%

OF AUSTRALIANS OPPOSE TAXPAYER FUNDING OF THE RACING INDUSTRY

Do you support or oppose governments subsidising the greyhound racing industry with taxpayer dollars?



NOTES

General

- CPG volunteers manually check racing industry stewards' reports and consolidate injury and death data. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided, errors and omissions may occur particularly when stewards' reports are updated with additional information after the race date. If you wish to confirm the accuracy of the information please check the stewards' reports made available by racing bodies in each state or contact the state racing body directly.
- The data in this report regarding off-track deaths following serious racing injury is drawn from a variety of sources as below:
 - NSW is the only state to regularly publish the number of dogs that are removed from tracks with serious injuries and later killed and dogs that are fatally injured at trials. They do not provide the names of the greyhounds or the details of their catastrophic injuries.
 - A Right to Information request has been submitted to the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission regarding the number of greyhounds killed off-track after suffering serious injury.
 - The details of off-track deaths of greyhounds in TAS were provided by Let Greyhounds Run Free, based on Parliamentary Questions on Notice and a Right to Information request.
 - The number of off-track deaths in VIC following serious racing injury was identified via a Right to Information request, no details about the individual greyhounds were provided.
 - CPG was unable to obtain details of greyhounds killed off-track in SA as the SA greyhound racing industry is exempt from freedom of information. The names and details of dogs who suffered injuries that incurred a greater than 60 days stand-down and were then listed as deceased in FastTrack, Greyhound Racing Victoria's Data & Operations Portal, have been included in this report.
 - The details of off-track deaths of greyhounds in WA were provided by Free the Hounds.

Given this lack of transparency and inconsistent or non-existent reporting across the state racing industries, the number of track-related deaths included in this report is likely to underestimate the actual number of deaths.

In appreciation

Our thanks to Let Greyhounds Run Free (TAS) and Free the Hounds (WA) for providing the details of greyhounds who were killed in these states during 2022 and for their outstanding greyhound advocacy. Thanks also to our wonderful allies GREY2K USA Worldwide for their ongoing support including the commissioning with CPG of a [national survey](#) in Australia on attitudes towards dog racing. Special thanks to Animal Liberation who fight with such energy and compassion for greyhounds and for all species.

There are so many extraordinary people in rescues, animal welfare and advocacy groups, and in politics who are working tirelessly to protect greyhounds and to bring this brutal industry to an end. It is an honour to have such extraordinary allies.

Images

Images in this report were kindly provided by community-run rescues and sourced from race videos and image sharing sites including <https://www.farmtransparency.org/>, <https://pixabay.com/> and <https://www.canva.com/>.

END GREYHOUND SUFFERING

ADOPT 🐾 FOSTER 🐾 DONATE 🐾 VOLUNTEER

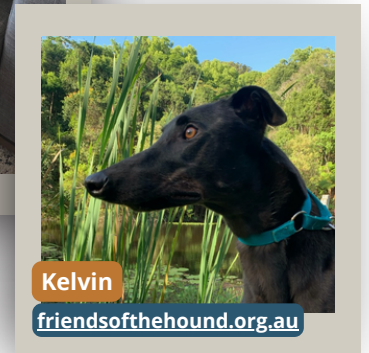
Community-run rescues around Australia need you more than ever. There is a rehoming crisis across Australia caused by the racing industry refusing to take responsibility for the dogs they breed, exploit and discard.

These awesome rescues are powered by volunteer compassion and determination and operate on a fraction of the budget enjoyed by the industry rehomers.

Here's just a few of the amazing greyhounds waiting at community-run rescues around Australia. If you can't adopt, please consider fostering. You'll get all the help and support you need. It's life-saving work.

If any of the gorgeous greys we've featured have already been adopted, the wonderful rescues are sure to be able to find your perfect match.

You can find a list of these life-saving organisations here: greyhoundcoalition.com/links-to-greyhound-rescue-groups/.



In 2022, the greyhound racing industry has proved yet again it is unreformable. Breeding is on the increase, despite thousands of dogs being discarded every year and left homeless. Dogs continue to be maimed and killed on lethal tracks and live baiting, doping and abuse are again featuring in the media. It is time that this brutal, outdated and unsustainable industry is closed down.

ABOUT THE COALITION FOR THE PROTECTION OF GREYHOUNDS

CPG is a dedicated group of people across Australia committed to ending greyhound racing. Until that happens we do everything we can to protect greyhounds by exposing the cruelty of the racing industry.

Please join with us to demand that state governments stop taxpayer funding of greyhound racing: greyhoundcoalition.com/end-taxpayer-funding-greyhound-racing



www.greyhoundcoalition.com



[save_greyhounds](https://twitter.com/save_greyhounds)



[@greyhoundcoalition](https://tiktok.com/@greyhoundcoalition)



[coalitionprotectgreyhounds](https://www.instagram.com/coalitionprotectgreyhounds)



[CoalitionForTheProtectionOfGreyhounds](https://www.facebook.com/CoalitionForTheProtectionOfGreyhounds)