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Mission Statement

In 2009 the Greyhound Board of Great Britain (GBGB) assumed control of the functions of predecessor organisations that combined to govern, regulate and develop licensed greyhound racing.

The GBGB was created to serve the industry by providing clear leadership and direction to the sport. The organisation is charged to improve the quality of all its functions; to listen to constructive feedback, internally and externally, and to challenge its processes against the changing needs of a sport operating in a competitive environment.

It is committed to improving the quality, management and planning of all its functions to the highest standards achievable and being efficient, effective and accountable to those that it licenses, and the public. Maintaining high standards in greyhound welfare is central to GBGB's responsibilities.

Chairman's Statement

By Tom Kelly

As I joined the Board in May 2015 with the prime objective of improving greyhound racing's income from the betting industry, it might be anticipated that my final report from the Chair would contain excuses - perhaps even an apology - for not having achieved this.

In fact, I am offering neither justification nor expressions of regret. This is partly because I embarked on the task with no promises other than to give it my best shot and with no illusions about the difficulty of the task, but it is mainly because the game is not over.

The large betting companies are still to be convinced that it is in their commercial interests to ensure that a little more of their profits should be invested to improve the financial health of what is still a core betting product. But discussions continue, and, at the time of writing, Lord David Lipsey has been asked by the Sports' Minister to mediate.

GBGB is grateful to Minister Tracey Crouch for her intervention. By the time these words appear in print, the outcome may be known and, if this is the case, it will be then be the time to evaluate the outcome and perhaps to apportion blame.

Funding aside, 2016 was a testing year. A new home had to be found, with speed but not haste, for the Derby following the Mayor of London's death sentence on Wimbledon.

Again, as I write, the wisdom of awarding the greyhound racing's most prestigious event to Towcester has yet to be put to the final test, but I am as certain as it is possible to be that the GBGB's Derby Working Party made the right choice.

If the Derby is a rousing success, much credit will be due to the two independent members of the Working Party – John Turner, who won the race last year with Jaytee Jet, and Steve Fluin, the energetic head of the Champagne Club syndicate.

Another positive development during the year was the decision by the Directors to take radical steps to fill the two empty seats on the Board earmarked for representatives of trainers and owners through the medium of a democratic vote. This process is now complete, and though I stood down from the chairmanship at the end of April, I look forward to trainer Peter Harnden and owner Paul Ephremesen bringing a new breadth and vigour to the Board's activities.

Tom Kelly, *Chairman, May 2017*

"I embarked on the task with no promises other than to give it my best shot..."



"Trainer Peter Harnden & owner Paul Ephremesen bring a new breadth and vigour to the Board"



Chief Executive's Report

By Barry Faulkner

As Tom Kelly has noted in his Chairman's report, securing future funding for the industry remains our key priority. Towards the end of last year DCMS announced that the extension of the Horserace Betting Levy to include betting activity from online operators, often offshore, would commence in April 2017. Previously GBGB had made the case to DCMS that the elements of the scheme which referred to the unique relationship between horseracing and betting applied equally to greyhound racing. This continues to be our view. However, the important thing is to secure improved funding and the most effective way to do that may be through the current mechanism. Be assured that a significant amount of work has gone into this project and continues to do so.

Racing

2016 provided another year of top quality action across Great Britain with many a memorable performance among the top-grade action. Our chronicler of the sporting heroics is Jonathan Hobbs and his review of the year can be found later in this report.

Of course, the pinnacle of the sport is the Greyhound Derby and what turned out to be the final running at Wimbledon provided its usual white-knuckle ride for connections before a memorable final at the beginning of June. With four Irish trained runners in the decider, it was Paul Hennessy who took the plaudits for the Emerald Isle when the John Turner owned Jaytee Jet swooped late to take the £150,000 first prize with just a neck to spare from Pat Buckley's charge Droopys Roddick. It was a memorable send off to the venerable Plough Lane stadium and the old girl will be sadly missed by those of us who liked to gather on the first bend for the duration of the greatest greyhound competition in the world.

In September when Sajid Javid MP, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, announced that he was content for planning permission relating to the redevelopment of the site to be decided by the local authority, the writing was on the wall for greyhound racing at the Plough Lane site. Merton Borough Council had previously granted approval for AFC Wimbledon to build an initial 11,000-capacity stadium in December 2015.

Following the Minister's decision, GRA announced that greyhound racing would cease at the stadium in 2017 and the next running of the Greyhound Derby would not be held at Wimbledon, the rights as the organiser and exclusive rights holder in respect of the competition were transferred to GBGB.

Time was short and a Working Party, comprising GBGB Chairman Tom Kelly and me, together with GRA CEO Clive Feltham and prominent owners Steve Fluin and John Turner, was established with a brief to identify a greyhound track capable of replacing Wimbledon as the home of the Greyhound Derby. Following a thorough process, the proposal from Towcester, GBGB's most recently licensed racecourse, secured the track the right to stage the Greyhound Derby for an initial three year period starting with the 2017 renewal. Earlier in December Towcester had defended their BAGS Track Championship crown, securing victory over Romford in the final race on an exciting finals day at Perry Barr.

Welfare and integrity

Welfare and integrity is the bedrock of the work of the GBGB and a full report is provided by Mark Bird and his team later in this report. GBGB's kennel improvement programme has moved on with the aim of producing a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) through the British Standards Institute (BSI).

Microchipping regulation for all dogs came into force in April 2016 and although all racing greyhounds registered with GBGB have been microchipped since 2010, well in advance of last year's legislative change, GBGB has worked with the Irish Coursing Club and Defra to ensure compliance with the new regulations.

During the course of 2016 Welfare Director Dr Peter Webbon has been working on a matrix to provide a framework for Welfare activities for GBGB in 2017 and beyond and it will provide a solid base from which the organisation can progress in this vitally important area.

UKAS

In 2015 GBGB underwent its first racecourse and head office inspections under a new standard - ISO/IEC 17065 – so the 2016 inspections were the second time that UKAS representatives audited GBGB procedures against that standard. The UKAS inspectors reviewed documentation and personnel to ensure that our inspection and licensing of racecourses remained independent, consistent and impartial. As has happened since the very first audit in 2010, following the review UKAS confirmed GBGB's reaccreditation.

"2016 provided another year of top quality action across Great Britain."

Representation

At the end of 2016 GBGB commenced a process to ensure that the views of owners and trainers are fully represented on the GBGB Board of Directors. Nominations for two Practitioner Directors, one for owners, the other trainers, were sought and at the end of the process, Peter Harnden has joined the Board to represent trainers and has been joined by Paul Ephremsen in the Owners' seat. We welcome them to the Board and look forward to their contributions.

PEOPLE

Tom Kelly

As Tom mentioned earlier, he has stepped down as Chair of the GBGB at the end of his two-year tenure. I worked for Tom for a number of years in a previous role and it has been a pleasure to work with him again. His hard work, skill, wisdom and guidance have been much appreciated by me and everyone at GBGB and we wish him the very best for the future.

John Haynes

John Haynes stood down from his duties with Greyhound Board of Great Britain in September. John was a member of the Board from its inception in 2009 and prior to that was a member of the Board of Directors of the GBGB's predecessor, the British Greyhound Racing Board, where he was first appointed in 1999.



John has represented owners and trainers robustly during his time with both organisations, ensuring the practitioners' voice has been heard at the highest level within the sport.

John also joined the board of the British Greyhound Racing Fund in 2000 and became a trustee of the Retired Greyhound Trust in 1999 where his interest in greyhound welfare made him a valuable contributor to the work of the Trust.

And finally...

At the May 2017 Board meeting I informed the Board of my intention to step down as Chief Executive in November when I reach my 65th birthday. As I said in a press release, "The last seven years have proved tough going for greyhound racing which was particularly badly impacted as the recession bit. However, regardless of how difficult it has been, it has never been dull. My team at the GBGB have shown admirable commitment during my tenure to ensure that the services provided by them for the benefit of the sport never diminished."

Barry Faulkner
Chief Executive

Greyhound of the year Awards 2016

Held at:

The
BREWERY

London

Sunday 29th January 2017

The awards gala evening was held a new venue; The Brewery and was attended by 400 people. The evening celebrated not just the achievements of our canine athletes, but, also those people who look after them; trainers, kennel-hands, owners & homers.

The evening was generously sponsored by a notable number of sponsors.

Supported by:



2016 Awards' Special Report

Greyhound of the Year Awards 2016 – The Winners

GBGB Greyhound of the Year and William Hill Standard distance Performer of the Year

Droopys Buick

Yeah Man – Droopys Hilda

Trainer: Jimmy Wright
Owner: The Conlon Family
2016 Achievements: Winner, Coral Olympic, Hove,
Winner, Betfred Eclipse Stakes Nottingham,
Finalist, RPGTV Scottish Derby, Shawfield



Betfred Newcomer of the Year

Bubbly Bluebird

Droopys Sydney – Broadstrand Xola

Trainer: Paul Young
Owner: Champagne Club Syndicate
2016 Achievements: Winner, William Hill Puppy Plate, Sunderland,
Winner, Coral Puppy Trophy, Hove,
Winner, Nottingham Stadium Puppy Classic, Nottingham,
Winner, John Smiths Kent Derby, Central Park,
Finalist, Betfred Eclipse Stakes, Nottingham



GBGB British Bred Greyhound of the Year

Badabing

Kinloch Brae – Ardine Lunar

Trainer: John Mullins
Owner: Sopranos Syndicate
2016 Achievements: Winner, British Breeders Stakes, Nottingham,
Finalist, 70th British Bred Produce Stakes, Swindon,
Finalist, Coral Champion Stakes, Romford



GBGB 2016 Bitch of the Year

Domino Storm

Makeshift – Swift Erin

Trainer: Mark Wallis
Owner: Kieron King
2016 Achievements: Winner, Betfred Select Stakes, Nottingham
Finalist, The Lowther Stakes, Towcester,
Finalist, RPGTV Oaks, Belle Vue



2016 Awards Special Report

Greyhound of the Year Awards 2016 – The Winners

SIS Marathon Performer of the Year

Roxholme Magic

Definite Opinion - Sizzling Sarah

Trainer: Hayley Keightley
Owner: Hayley And The Dream Boys Syndicate
2016 Achievements: Winner, William Hill Dorando Marathon, Wimbledon, 4 Track Records; Wimbledon, Sheffield, Kinsley



Coral Hurdler of the Year

Ballymac Manix

Ballymac Vic - Moyar Kite

Trainer: Seamus Cahill
Owners: Boles Catchpole Lawrence Sharp Walsh Syndicate
2016 Achievements: Winner, William Hill Springbok, Wimbledon, Winner, MTS Cleansing Services Grand National, Sittingbourne, Finalist, William Hill Champion Hurdle, Wimbledon



PA Sport Sprinter of the Year

Walshes Hill

Zero Ten – Incredible Lulu

Trainer: Jimmy Wright
Owner: Andrew Wood
2016 Achievements: Winner, BAPP Group Scurry Cup, Belle Vue, Winner, Festival Flyer, Sunderland Track Record, Newcastle 290M



Greyhound Media Group Graded Greyhound of the Year

Winker Harloid

Leeview Jet – Eric's Lass

Trainer: David Pruhs
Owners: Gary Grother
2016 Achievements: Progressed from A8 to A1 grade, winning an Open race on the way.



2016 Awards Special Report

Greyhound of the Year Awards 2016 – The Winners

GBGB Best Dam of a British Bred Litter

Shaws Dilemma

Breeder: K.S.S. Syndicate
Owner: K.S.S.

2009 Oaks winner Shaws Dilemma had two litters on the ground by Droopys Scolari in 2016. An October 2012 litter contained several open race winners, as did a December 2014 litter, which contained RFS Puppy Derby winner King Eden.



George Ford Award for Services to Retired Greyhounds

Alison Brown

Alison has been the driving force behind Edinburgh Greyhound Trust (GT). Alison's skills in fundraising are fantastic, making the most of PR opportunities and getting the very best value for money when sourcing items for the branch (if there's a bargain to be had, Alison is a great negotiator!) All this combined with consistently successful homing has meant that GT have been able to undertake work to provide the greyhounds and volunteers at Edinburgh GT with wonderful new facilities this year. Alison took the lead in organising the 2016 Scottish Greyhound Gathering and is busy planning for 2017. Alison and the Edinburgh branch keenly took on the role of being the 1st branch to trial the new greyhound journey database software alongside GT's main office.



GWA Harry Lloyd Services to Greyhound Racing Award

Stuart Forsdike

STUART FORSDIKE, whose work as chairman of the British Greyhound Breeders Forum has helped reinvigorate the home-breeding scene, was the winner of the Harry Lloyd Services to Greyhound Racing Award. The Essex-based businessman, who has enjoyed plenty of success as an owner and breeder with his Aero prefix, was honoured by the Greyhound Writers Association for his commitment to the sport, his support of the Greyhound Trust and for his sterling work in shaking up the British breeding scene.



Charles Russell Speechlys Owner of the Year

The Conlon Family

The Conlon Family were the 2016 Charles Russell Speechlys Owners of the Year. The family owned GBGB Greyhound of the Year Droopys Buick, which won the Coral Olympic and the Betfred Eclipse, as well Category One finalists Droopys Trapeze and Droopys Country.



2016 Awards Special Report

Greyhound of the Year Awards 2016 – The Winners

BAGS Kennel-hand of the Year

Angela Harrison

The 2016 BAGS Kennelhand of the Year was Angela Harrison of Jimmy Wright's Alnwick kennels. Angela was proposed by owner Raymond Carr, who said; "Angela works seven days a week, often putting in over 15 hours a day. Recently, there was a week where she was at Sheffield on the Tuesday, Belle Vue on the Wednesday and Hove on the Thursday. She keeps all the owners informed about their dogs and is dedicated to the puppies she brings up from whelping. She would be a thoroughly deserving recipient of this award. " Angela has since taken over Jimmy Wright's licence and is now a professional Trainer.



Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year

Mark Wallis

Mark Wallis was crowned Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year for the eighth time and the third year running.



To support the work of the Greyhound Trust call: **0208 335 3016** to make a donation

or visit www.greyhoundtrust.org.uk

Category One - Roll of Honour

Racecourse	Event	Winner
Crayford	Ladbrokes Golden Jacket	Patches Kerry
Monmore Green	Ladbrokes Puppy Derby	Castell Henry
Swindon	Calne Racing Arc	Ballymac Brogan
Sheffield	Pinpoint Three Steps To Victory	Patches Kerry
Shawfield	RPGTV Scottish Derby	Hot Pipe
Kinsley	Betfred Gymcrack	Droopys Trapeze
Sheffield	Bresmed Northern Sprint	Glenanore Ace
Brighton & Hove	Coral Regency	Billys Bullet
Wimbledon	William Hill Greyhound Derby	Jaytee Jet
Sunderland	William Hill Grand Prix	Pinpoint Boom
Sunderland	William Hill Classic	Roxholme Scolari
Swindon	70th British Bred Produce Stakes	Bansha Rooskey
Brighton & Hove	Coral Sussex Cup	Barricane Tiger
Towcester	Colossus Bets TV Trophy	Borna mindy
Monmore Green	Ladbrokes Gold Cup	Jaytee Sparticus
Monmore Green	Ladbrokes Summer Classic	Ferryforth Fran
Nottingham	Puppy Classic	Bubbly Bluebird
Romford	Coral Champion Stakes	Ascot Woodie
Sheffield	Betfred Steel City Cup	Pinpoint Den
Yarmouth	East Anglian Derby	Clondoty Alex
Doncaster	Pinpoint Yorkshire St Leger	Rubys Rascal
Crayford	Ladbrokes Gold Collar	Yahoo Victor
Central Park	John Smiths Kent Derby	Bubbly Bluebird
Central Park	MTS Cleansing Services Grand National	Ballymac Manix
Newcastle	William Hill All England Cup	Oscar Whisky
Nottingham	British Breeders Stakes	Badabing
Wimbledon	William Hill St Leger	Ferryforth Fran
Wimbledon	RFS Puppy Derby	King Eden
Nottingham	Betfred Eclipse	Droopys Buick
Romford	Coral Essex Vase	Bubbly Torpedo
Belle Vue	RPGTV Oaks	Forest Twilight
Wimbledon	Racing Post Juvenile	Ballymac Ramsey
Nottingham	Betfred Select Stakes	Domino Storm

GBGB Governance Update

GBGB Governance update

Under the amended GBGB Articles of Association the number of directors on the main board is 12, comprising four promoters nominated by the Race Course Promoters Association, two practitioner directors, representing owners and trainers, four independent directors, the Chief Executive and the Chairman. A full list of directors can be found on page 27.

The GBGB main board is supported by a committee structure of standing committees and sub committees.

The Budget Committee meets once a year and agrees the GBGB's budget and consists of the Chair, CEO, two promoter representatives, a practitioner representative and two independent directors.

The Business Standing Committee (BSC) deals with financial and commercial matters that are then approved by the main board. The BSC is supported by the Marketing sub-committee, consisting of five track representatives with GBGB Executive support, and the Racing sub-committee, consisting of three promoter representatives and two trainer representatives. The Marketing sub-committee also reports to the BSC but scarcity of funds has meant that it has not been possible to facilitate and significant national marketing campaigns and presently the marketing budget is distributed among tracks for local marketing campaigns.

The Welfare Standing Committee (WSC) oversees all of the GBGB's welfare functions and is chaired by the GBGB's independent Welfare Director. Membership includes GBGB's veterinary director, two promoter representatives, the GBGB CEO together with a representative from a canine welfare organisation and the CEO of the Greyhound Trust. Three committees feed into the WSC; The Track Safety Committee (TSC), the Trainers Assistance sub-committee (TASC) and the Veterinary sub-committee (VSC).

The TSC considers elements of welfare policy relating to greyhound tracks including track safety, the inspection and assessment of tracks, track improvement work and related grants to stadia from the Track Safety budget, track preparation and maintenance routines, related research, testing and evaluation. It is chaired by a promoter representative and also consists of two promoter representatives, a veterinary expert and an acknowledged expert in track preparation. The committee is supported by two GBGB members of staff.

The TASC considers the part of welfare policy relating to trainers. This includes the operation of the Trainers Assistance Fund and management of the fund budget.

It is currently chaired by the GBGB CEO and consists of three trainers or former trainers and the GBGB's Welfare and Integrity manager.

The VSC provides accurate and comprehensive veterinary and scientific advice to the WSC on issues of greyhound health and welfare concern. It is chaired by the GBGB's veterinary director and consists of the GBGB's Senior Stipendiary Steward, the GBGB's welfare and integrity manager and three practising veterinarians.

The regulatory functions of the GBGB are overseen by the Greyhound Regulatory Board (GRB), which is incorporated within the GBGB but independent of it. The GRB consists of the Director of Regulation, three independent GBGB directors, including the chief executive and an independent member.



GBGB Governance Update

The GRB's responsibilities are as follows:

- To implement and manage the Rules of Racing
- To propose, amend and provide advice on the Rules of Racing
- To provide the identification and registration of greyhounds for licensed racing
- To license greyhound stadia, trainers, owners, kennel staff and track officials
- To inspect and maintain standards required of all licensed parties
- To manage the drug sampling programme
- To set standards for racing integrity
- To investigate complaints, alleged breaches of the Rules of Racing and, where necessary, to implement the disciplinary process

The GRB implements the disciplinary process through local inquiries held by stipendiary stewards and independent disciplinary committee hearings.

The GRB is served by the Doping and Medication Review panel and the Rules Review Committee. The Doping and Medication Review panel is tasked with ensuring that the GBGB's doping and medication policies are up to date and reflect best practice. It comprises of the Director of Regulation, the GBGB veterinary director, the GBGB Welfare and Integrity Manager, the Senior Stipendiary Steward, and independent scientific adviser, the GBGB's doping and medication expert and representatives of the GBGB's contracted sampling laboratory.

The Rules Review Committee is responsible for ensuring that the Rules of Racing are fair and conducive to the highest standards of integrity. It is comprised of the Director of Regulation, the GBGB Welfare and Integrity Manager, the Senior Stipendiary Steward, two promoter representatives, a GBGB independent director and a trainers' representative.

As one of the requirements for its UKAS accreditation, the GBGB also established an Independent Impartiality committee to ensure that its licensing processes are consistent, fair and impartial. The impartiality committee is comprised of four independent members with relevant knowledge, competency and experience.



2016 Regulatory Review

Introduction

Staff changes in 2016 saw the retirement of GBGB Investigating Officer, Clive Carr with Chris Hufton moving into this role, having previously been a Sampling Steward. Stipendiary Stewards Lorraine Sams and Jim Snowden also left the organisation and they were replaced by Hayley Huntley and Meriel France respectively.

Complaints

A total of 57 complaints were received in 2016 (up 11 from 2015).

The complaint data for 2015/16 are as follows:

	Tracks	Trainers	Welfare	Drugs	Licensing	Other
2015	19	13	5	0	0	9
2016	16	22	9	0	1	9

75% of all complaints were investigated within the accepted 40 days.

Sampling

A total of 8,705 samples were taken in 2016, with the breakdown as follows:

Urine	8,578
Blood	101
Other (incl. vomit)	25
Hair	1

Of these samples, 43 samples were confirmed by LGC as positive for banned substances. The breakdown of the 43 positive samples is assessed as:

	Number	% of total samples	% of total positive samples
Doping	6	0.07%	13.95%
Medication	16	0.18%	37.20%
Feed Contaminant	18	0.20%	41.90%
Contaminants (other)	3	0.03%	6.95%

In 2016, the Greyhound Board entered into a joint administration study with Greyhounds Australasia to consider the effects of meloxicam, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug. Both screen findings and confirmed findings for meloxicam since October 2015 have been held in abeyance. Following the completion of this administration study, all positive findings will be processed in accordance with Appendix VI of the GBGB Rules of Racing.

In 2017, it is envisaged that a new Sampling App will allow for a greyhound to be scanned via an iPhone or Android phone along with a sample barcode and tamper proof bag. A trainer would sign for the sample and all of this would then be electronically uploaded onto the sampling database and could be subject to analysis.

Investigations

A high number of positive samples for pentobarbital led to the GBGB briefing and working with the DEFRA Food Standards Agency (Food Crime Unit), presenting our evidence relating to potential diversion of Category 2 classified meat into Category 3 meat, with the obvious risk of contamination of prohibited substances. This was a complicated area of debate and the GBGB were grateful for the assistance of Professor Tim Morris, GBGB Independent Scientific Advisor, for his work in ensuring that the GBGB discharged its responsibilities in terms of the handling of positive cases. It was agreed that sharing of information and intelligence between the FSA and GBGB would continue.

Disciplinary

In 2016, there were 36 Disciplinary hearings, a third representing contamination of racing greyhounds rather than direct administration (reported as above). Following consultation with the Doping and Medication Review Panel, residue limits have been agreed on pentobarbital screenings, whilst we still await the results of an Australian administration study, jointly funded by the GBGB as to other substances which could be contaminant cases, such as Meloxicam. There are in excess of 20 confirmed Meloxicam cases awaiting the outcomes of the study before they are put before the Disciplinary Committee.

Disciplinary Committee costs

2013	£64,047
2014	£57,882
2015	£70,039
2016	£58,919

Legal costs

2013	£88,242
2014	£116,024
2015	£114,982
2016	£39,024

A review of the Disciplinary Committee processes was completed by the GRB Chair and Director of Regulation. Its recommendations to restructure the process to be more streamlined, concise and timely were agreed by the Board as was the development of a penalty tariff. Both pieces of work will be completed in 2017.

Welfare Report

Welfare

As a result of the Post Implementation Review of The Welfare of Racing Regulations 2010, DEFRA agreed with GBGB that it should work through the British Standards Institute (BSI) and with the relevant stakeholders to develop a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) for trainers' kennels. A Working Group was convened in October 2016 with stakeholders, including trainers, welfare charities, promoters and veterinary surgeons to outline a scope for the project. In turn, January saw the first meeting of the Steering Group which developed the kennel specification. There was a further meeting in May and one is planned for July with the PAS being due for publication in December 2017.

Kennel Improvement Programme

£213,000 of kennel improvement grants were awarded in 2016 to 66 Professional Trainers. Additionally, a further £8,000 of grants were made towards the cost of travel cages and air management systems in trainers' vans.

Track Injury Database

The Track Injury Database roll out was completed in March 2016. Reports on injury data will be published in Q1 in 2018.

Microchipping Regulations

Since April 2016, all canines in England and Wales must be microchipped and the keeper's details logged with a DEFRA approved national microchipping database.

GBGB worked closely with DEFRA and the Kennel Club to ensure that Micro Dog ID Ltd (Irish Coursing Club microchipping database) was adapted to become a DEFRA compliant database, something achieved in July 2016. All GBGB registered greyhounds are now compliant with the new regulations.

The Micro Dog ID Ltd database will shortly be able to communicate directly with the GBGB Registry through a daily update which registers any new keeper details for GBGB registered greyhounds when either racing or retired. This facility will also be offered to litters of British bred greyhounds from circa 9 weeks of age.

Future updates will include a live feed from the RGT to the microchipping database when greyhounds are in RGT care, together with when they are homed.



UKAS

In 2010, GBGB achieved accreditation from the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) for its racecourse inspection and licensing processes against the GBGB Rules of Racing, having demonstrated that the systems used to carry out these activities met all the required components of ISO 17065, an internationally recognised standard for licensing or 'certification' bodies. In meeting this standard, GBGB's processes were endorsed as being carried out in a consistent, impartial and non-discriminatory manner by trained and competent personnel.

GBGB is subject to two UKAS inspections per year; one field based audit where a UKAS technical assessor witnesses a GBGB Stipendiary Steward carrying out an annual racecourse inspection, and one at Head Office. The Head Office inspection involves an audit of GBGB's procedures (collectively termed a 'quality system') against ISO 17065. UKAS inspectors assess for compliance with the standard in a number of areas including the publication of requirements for licence holders (GBGB Rules of Racing), the communication of any changes to these requirements, surveillance procedures to ensure that track licence holders continue to comply with the Rules of Racing, confidentiality of data and records obtained during the certification process and HR processes to maintain and monitor the competency and impartiality of personnel.

Any inspection findings identified by UKAS are highlighted at the end of each audit. GBGB must then detail actions to be taken to resolve these non-conformities and provide evidence within a set timeframe, which must then be ratified by UKAS in order for the continuation of accreditation to be confirmed.

UKAS operate a four-yearly inspection cycle. Each year GBGB undergoes a surveillance inspection and follows the procedure detailed above to maintain accreditation. Every fourth year UKAS carry out a full reaccreditation audit where UKAS inspectors complete a more detailed inspection and assess compliance with all aspects of ISO 17065, as opposed to a sample as is the case during surveillance audits. In 2015 GBGB successfully completed a transition from international standard EN45011 to ISO17065 as required by UKAS.

In the seven years since accreditation was achieved, GBGB has engaged fully with the UKAS process throughout and has strived to improve the certification system year on year to establish an inspection and licensing process which is efficient and effective for all involved.

GBGB Impartiality Committee

ISO 17065 specifies a requirement for the existence of an impartial group or committee with independent expertise that can review the activities of the Certification Body (i.e. all members of GBGB staff involved in the GBGBs accredited processes) and monitor objectivity. The GBGB Impartiality Committee meets up to four times per year and receives updates from staff on track licensing activities and any other relevant aspects of GBGB work which might impact impartiality. The committee also works to engage with a variety of stakeholders to inform and answer questions on the purpose and progress of GBGB's UKAS project and its role going forward as well as seeking input and feedback from these groups.

Current members of the Impartiality Committee are - Jenny Williams (Chair), Peter Cadman, Dr Andrew Higgins and Dr Ed Houghton.

UKAS Accreditation-Training Kennels

Following the Defra review of the 2010 Welfare of Racing Greyhound Regulations, GBGB has committed to work with relevant industry stakeholders to develop a BSI publicly available specification (PAS) for licensed kennels which is due to be published in December 2017. GBGB will then work to gain UKAS accreditation against this PAS, utilising the knowledge gained from its experience of the UKAS process to develop an appropriate quality system.



Racing Review

By Johnathan Hobbs

THE King is dead; long live the King. Wimbledon Stadium, the home of the Classic since 1985, staged its last Derby Final in 2016 when, on a pulsating night, Jaytee Jet realised a long-held ambition of his trainer Paul Hennessy by winning arguably the most thrilling of the 32 finals of the world's greatest greyhound race to be staged at Plough Lane.

More an old lady than a peer of the realm, Wimbledon finally shut its doors a few months into the new year, and passed the baton to a real peer of the realm in Lord Hesketh, the boss of Towcester, whose rapid rise up the industry ranks culminated in the awarding of what would become the first Star Sports English Greyhound Derby at the Northamptonshire venue in 2017.

But let's wind back to the night of Saturday, June 4, 2016.

The William Hill Derby had lived up to its billing again with a huge entry, some fantastic performances and a final line-up which oozed class and a host of big-race winners - not to mention a talented quartet of greyhounds from Ireland ready to wrest back the trophy they had last won in 2008 courtesy of the late, great Seamus Graham's Loyal Honcho.

In Droopys Roddick and Jaytee Jet, Ireland boasted two of the best, with the former having won Limerick's Kirby Memorial and Wimbledon's Puppy Derby for Pat Buckley and the latter the winner of the Easter Cup at Shelbourne - a first major success for his owner John Turner - as well as the Irish Derby Consolation. He had also reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon the year before as a raw but exciting talent.

Peregrine Falcon might have been a price, but he was an Easter Cup finalist, plus had made the Irish Derby final the previous year. Pat Curtin trained him for a team of owners including ex-footballer Niall Quinn, while Lenson Rocky was a strong second string for Team Buckley and popular owner Len Ponder. Here was a progressive young sort just out of puppy stage and third in the Tralee Juvenile Classic after running unbeaten to the final.

The home side was led by Charlie Lister OBE, a man with seven Derby titles under his belt, who had produced Cloran Paddy to light up Wimbledon with his power-packed performances including a memorable quarter-final win from Lenson Rocky. He was joined by Hiya Butt for Mark and Hayley Keightley, another lightly-raced sort in the UK, but whose blistering early speed had seen him make the bend in front in each of the five rounds at Wimbledon.

Could he do it again? Absolutely! Hiya Butt exploded from the boxes and defied those who felt a trap five pitch in the the £150,000-to-the-winner final would be his undoing. He blasted round Wimbledon and led them to the home straight in a gallant bid to make all, before Lenson Rocky, Droopys Roddick and, finally and brilliantly, Jaytee Jet threw down challenges. Just over a length separated the first four home.

For winning trainer Hennessy and his family, there was pure joy. His first English Derby triumph after so many near-misses had come virtue of a September 2013 son of Droopys Scolari and Chin Gach Gook, whose pace and power had been evident the previous year, but who faced a run-off just to qualify for the third round after dead-heating for third in the second round with Badmoonrising.

That rival was later withdrawn, Jaytee Jet was in the third round and duly rocketed round Wimbledon in 28.01sec to take the favourite's mantle. It is a game of fine margins! Nevertheless, for the Hennessy/Turner owner-combination it was thoroughly deserved, albeit one at the chief expense of Team Buckley, who suffered another Derby near-miss. Their time will surely come.

So it did, too, for longtime greyhound enthusiasts Scotchie Brown (trainer) and Roy Smith (owner), who helped kick off the Classic year with their Hot Pipe winning the RPGTV Scottish Derby at Shawfield. Theirs was a 25-1 shocker, but again the scenes were as joyous as at Wimbledon, as the locals saluted the long-priced hero who defeated such luminaries as Irish Derby champion Ballymac Matt, Eden The Kid and Droopys Buick at the famous Glasgow venue.

Ballymac Matt was later in the year to make another Irish Derby final, but this time finished behind Graham Holland's Rural Hawaii, the oldest of Graham's three finalists at Shelbourne Park, who landed a first Derby for the Englishman who has become star of the training ranks across the Irish Sea. However, headlines of a different kind followed after his star tracker Clares Rocket was involved in a kidnapping ordeal which made him national news before his safe return.

Racing Review

"The King is dead, long live the King. Wimbledon Stadium, the home of the Classic since 1985, staged its last Derby Final in 2016."

Droopys Buick, who faced a tough draw in the Scottish Derby final, confirmed the promise of his GBGB Newcomer of the Year award the previous year to ultimately claim Greyhound of the Year honours for 2016 as Jimmy Wright's dog, who had a tough draw in the Shawfield final, swooped late in the Greyhound Writers' Association reckoning to deny star youngster Bubbly Bluebird.

Victories in the Coral Olympic (Hove) and Betfred Eclipse - the Nottingham final crucially saw him defeat Bubbly Bluebird among others - sealed the deal for the Conlon family-owned star who was campaigned brilliantly and throughout the year by his trainer Jimmy Wright alongside partner and Kennelhand of the Year, later holder of the trainer's licence herself, Angela Harrison.

Bubbly Bluebird took the Newcomer of the Year title after an incredible run of success as The Champagne Club's pride and joy almost made a clean sweep of the puppy competitions, culminating in success in Nottingham's Puppy Classic before annexing Central Park's all-aged Kent Derby, at which stage Paul Young's dog was favourite for the following year's Derby.

As ever, Mark Wallis had a huge say on the open-race scene as the boss of Imperial Kennels won a record eighth Trainer of the Year title, and fifth in a row. He has monopolised the competition in recent years and, in surpassing John McGee's haul of seven titles, he posted a record 1,386 points - some 495 points clear of the chasing pack - courtesy of 272 open-race wins.

However, he had to give best to fellow Towcester-based handler Kevin Hutton at the six-handler Trainers' Championship shootout at Central Park - a second in a row for Hutton - but his team of star open-racers again never let him down with 'pocket rocket' and Bitch of the Year Domino Storm beating the dogs to win the Betfred Select Stakes at Nottingham. She then lost nothing in defeat in the final of the RPGTV Oaks at Belle Vue behind Mark and Hayley Keightley's Forest Twilight.

That followed a potential race-of-the-year buckle with her chief rival in the semis, but come final night the Keightleys had a ball, landing a famous Manchester big-race double as Hiya Butt gained reward for his gallant third in the Derby to roar clear in the final of the RPGTV Laurels. Incidentally, it was a good 48 hours for the husband and wife team as they travelled to Ireland to see their marathon superstar Roxholme Magic win the Bookmakers' Marathon at Harold's Cross.

It proved a brilliant year for the last-named who was one of the stars of Derby final night at Wimbledon again as she retained her Dorando Marathon title in track record-breaking style, adding to other track records at Sheffield, Kinsley and Hove the previous year, as well as Crayford in early 2017, although she missed the Colossus Bets TV Trophy at Towcester in mid-summer where Diane Henry's Borna Mindy was a terrific winner.

Other stars of the track to really capture the greyhound public's imagination included that outstanding sprinter Walshes Hill who finally broke his big-race hoodoo, bowing out from an outstanding track career with victory in the Bapp Group of Companies Scurry Gold Cup at Belle Vue having taken the William Hill Festival Flyer at the Sunderland gala.

Billys Bullet was another hugely popular winner. He retired after winning at Hove at the back-end of the year after crowning a remarkable return from injury earlier in the year when winning the Coral Regency for the Wallis camp, having looked to have suffered a career-ending injury in the same competition the previous year. His victory drew emotional parallels to another Wallis star Adageo Bob's victory in the Mitch Millward Essex Vase, another memorable occasion in December 2015.

Profit & Loss Account

For the year ended 31 December 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
TURNOVER	4,138,917	3,995,717
Less overheads	(4,136,200)	(4,003,387)
Administrative expenses		
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)	2,717	(7,670)
Interest receivable	1,502	463
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR BEFORE TAX	4,219	(7,207)

COMPANY INFORMATION

The Greyhound Board of Great Britain limited (By Guarantee)

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B Faulkner
R Corden
J Curran
P Ephremsen (appointed 18 May 2017)
C Feltham
W Glass
Dr S Gower
R Griffiths QC
P Harnden (appointed 26 January 2017)
J Haynes (resigned 14 October 2016)
R Holloway (resigned 28 January 2016)
T F Kelly (resigned 27 March 2017)
Dr P Webbon

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A Yilmaz

REGISTERED NUMBER

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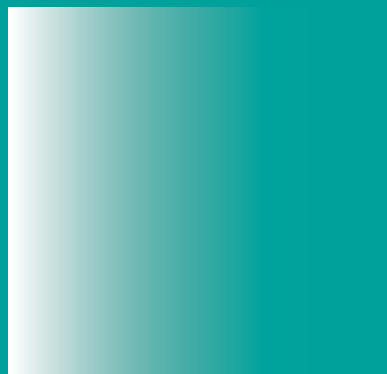
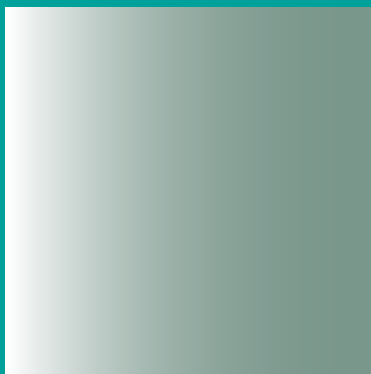
Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2016

	2016 £	2016 £	2015 £	2015 £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets		157,144		186,353
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	786,386		716,172	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,303,699		540,437	
	2,090,085		1,256,609	
CREDITORS:				
Amounts falling due within one year	(2,184,779)		(1,384,431)	
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)		(94,694)		127,822
TOTAL ASSETS		62,450		58,531
CAPITAL & RESERVES				
Profit and loss account		62,450		58,531
MEMBERS' FUNDS		62,450		58,531

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime, in accordance with the Provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Board for issue on 18 May 2017.



Greyhound Board
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