

1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the GBGB Veterinary Sub-Committee - 19th February 2010

Summary Notes

Terms of Reference

- The composition of the Veterinary Sub -Committee will be reviewed at least every two years. Members will be appointed with the emphasis being on achieving a good representation of knowledge, skills and good geographical distribution rather than any affiliation to any particular veterinary group
- Minutes of meetings will be private and confidential, for sub-committee members only. A bullet point summary of the main actions and outcomes from each meeting will be produced and made available for wider dissemination.

Appointment of Vice Chairman

- Richard Payne was appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee.

Overview of Current Research

- Richard Payne gave an overview of the ongoing Sudden Death Survey. It was agreed that it would be useful to publish an update on the survey results so far. It was also agreed to clarify reporting protocols from track vets to the GBGB and raise awareness of the non- fatal symptoms of a possible bleed which may precede a case of Sudden Death. A piece will be written by Richard Payne for the GBGB Calendar and a laminated reporting protocol produced to be displayed in track vet's rooms.
- It was discussed that as per GBGB rule 173, following a case of sudden death, samples may be taken by the on-duty licensed veterinary surgeon for analysis, but consent is required from the owner for a post mortem to be carried out.
- Past research commissioned by the BGRB Welfare Committee and the NGRC Veterinary, Welfare and Scientific Committee will be revisited and discussed at future meetings of the sub-committee.

Training for Veterinarians

- The following three main areas for training were identified and it was agreed that it would be most efficient if these were co- ordinated by the sub-committee.
  - Initiatives, including presentations at universities, to engage student vets
  - Induction training for newly-licensed track vets
  - Continuing Professional Development seminars and training days for experienced track vets

- Members of the VSC will contact Veterinary Schools with a view to giving talks on greyhound racing to student vets
- The VSC will plan topics to be covered in seminars for induction and for experienced track vets. Dates of forthcoming training events will be published in due course.

#### Residential kennel veterinary inspection form

- A redrafted version of the veterinary inspection form will be reviewed and finalised by the VSC, incorporating recommendations made by the sub-committee and feedback from SGV and AGTV and the Greyhound Trainers Association on the version of the form used in 2009. Areas discussed included the need for clarification on wording regarding the examination of greyhounds and the procedure for reporting suspected use of unlicensed medication.

#### Biosecurity and Disease monitoring and control

- Simplified protocols will be produced detailing both routine and emergency biosecurity guidelines, for lamination and placing in kennels.
- The procedure for reporting an infectious disease outbreak will be formalised and incorporated into the vets inspection form.

#### Issues relating to Microchipping

- Issues are being dealt with on a case by case basis. Vets are reminded to contact the GBGB with any problems.

#### Any other business

##### **(i) Tail tip dressing**

- It was discussed and agreed that a small bandage may be applied by a vet only (any applied by a trainer should be removed) and that haemostatic agents may be used only after a race or trial within the parameters of GBGB rule 217.

##### **(ii) Veterinary room equipment**

- Will be discussed by the VSC in future meetings

##### **(iii) Treatment Books and replacement stickers**

- The VSC will develop a treatment sticker in order that vets may document treatment given at the track and to allow trainers to take the duplicate sticker back to the kennels to keep treatment books up to date (if they are not brought to the track).

#### Date of next meeting

- The next meeting will take place at the GBGB offices, Procter House at 11am on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April