

**Greyhound Board**  
of Great Britain

**2020**

Annual Report  
& Accounts





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# Mission Statement

“ The role of the GBGB is to regulate and promote British greyhound racing, with greyhound welfare as our highest priority. ”





# Vision

That British greyhound racing is a successful and sustainable sport, commercially-viable and adequately funded to ensure its future prosperity. We are world-leading in welfare and integrity standards and support everyone involved in the sport to increase its popularity with our British and global audiences.

# Values

## WELFARE

We will always put the welfare of greyhounds at the heart of all we do.

## INTEGRITY

We always act with honesty, impartiality and consistency to earn the trust of our stakeholders.

## PROFESSIONALISM

We pride ourselves on our commitment to quality and effective service delivery and the successful development of those working within the sport.

## GOOD GOVERNANCE

We will always act in the best interests of the sport as a whole and be accountable for our actions.

## RESPECT

We value all those involved in the sport highly – no matter their role – and will always give consideration and due regard to every stakeholder.





# Chairman's Statement

*By Jeremy Cooper*

**Our society and sporting life faced its biggest threat in a lifetime in 2020, with the Covid global pandemic. Very few parts of society were unaffected, including UK greyhound racing.**

It is testament, however, to those involved in greyhound racing that we were the last sport to stop ahead of the first lockdown in March and equally, were the first to recommence racing on 1st June.

In the period of the lockdown and beyond, GBGB provided welfare payments to trainers to assist with feeding and bedding. These payments greatly assisted trainers and their greyhounds but it was very evident that owners also showed an unwavering commitment to their greyhounds and trainers throughout this period.

Like all parts of society, there were casualties as a result of the pandemic with Peterborough, Belle Vue and Poole Stadia forced to close highlighting the importance of spectators in our sport. That said, rising out of the ashes like a phoenix, was the reopening of Towcester later in the year.

Even when racing resumed, for many weeks, it was permitted only behind closed doors and I was extremely grateful to the staff and Board Directors for their leadership and determination in the creation and application of the GBGB Covid-19 Operational Policy. GBGB provided critical support to stakeholders enabling most of us to get back to work and for our greyhounds to once more do what they do best. Even in a restricted environment, everyone involved within the sport demonstrated that greyhound racing could not only take place and but could also put on a show to excite and engage

global audiences watching online.

Notwithstanding the enormous pressures thrust upon the sport in 2020, we continued with our welfare ambitions and the release of the GBGB injury and retirement data for 2020 showed significant improvements in targeted figures, further illustrating that we were far from standing still in driving the sport forward and in meeting our performance against the Greyhound Commitment.

The introduction of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme in September was a seminal moment for UK greyhound racing and further outlines our commitment to racing and retiring greyhounds. Furthermore, it absolutely demonstrates responsible dog ownership by all of our owners in the sport. We fully expect this initiative to have a significant impact on the ability of homing centres to take in retiring greyhounds and serve as a platform for them to find their forever homes at the end of their racing careers.

Whilst we will all have to continue to live with Covid, it is heartening how greyhound racing, as a sport and industry in the UK, has pulled together and united in a way never seen before. To me, this represents a sizeable silver lining to our most challenging of years.

**Jeremy Cooper,**  
GBGB Chairman, July 2021





“ The introduction of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme in September was a seminal moment for UK greyhound racing. ”





# Managing Director's Report

*By Mark Bird*

■ ■ There really has never been a more challenging year for our sport than 2020. The Covid pandemic led to untold damage and anxiety to everyone involved in UK greyhound racing.

I am incredibly proud how, as a sport, we came through this enormous challenge with both fortitude and a newfound determination for the sport to return. ■ ■





## Racing

On 23rd March, with the pandemic gaining a hold across the country, the government put us into Lockdown and told us all to stay at home. This effectively meant that all sport came to a stop and our greyhounds took to their kennels.

No racing meant no income for our trainers and owners and so GBGB immediately started making welfare payments to assist with food and bedding costs. This was further supplemented by owners and some tracks. In total, GBGB made emergency welfare payments of nearly £675,000.

In the weeks that followed in Lockdown, we spoke frequently to Defra and DCMS exploring the ways in which racing could recommence. For the health and fitness of our greyhounds – as well as the financial needs of our trainers and owners – it was vital that racing resumed as soon as possible. However, this could only happen when it was deemed safe to do so and in a way which would not obviously lead to further Covid outbreaks at a local level. Born out of these discussions, the GBGB Operational Policy was formulated. On the 18th May we were granted government permission to re-start trials at stadia and finally, on 1st June, racing recommenced. We maintain that we were both the last sport to finish in March and were the first back on 1st June at 10.21 at Perry Barr, with the 6/1 shot IM SOPHIE winning the first race.

Whilst racing was back, government restrictions meant that all racing was held behind closed doors and that the public were not permitted at all tracks. This was something that remained in place until May 2021.

Despite many people believing that it would not take place due to ongoing restrictions, throughout October, Nottingham held its second English Greyhound Derby, albeit behind closed doors. DEERJET SYDNEY was crowned the winner. With so many major sports cancelling their main tournaments and competitions, it is again a testament to those involved in greyhound racing that this prestigious competition took place at all and remained a major success.

There were inevitable casualties of the pandemic however, with track closures at Peterborough in May, Belle Vue in August and Poole in September. These tracks represented a huge amount in terms of greyhound racing history, most notably that Belle Vue had been the first purpose-built stadium built in 1926.

With three tracks closing, it was tremendous news that Towcester Stadium relicensed and reopened in June 2020, with new management and ambitious plans centred around greyhound racing

## Welfare and Integrity

Our track injury and retirement data for 2020 again highlighted excellent progress. Whilst far from being complacent, the data showed a significant reduction in euthanasia rates for both treatment costs and for those dogs deemed unsuitable for homing. This data reflected the huge effort being applied in welfare areas across the sport which is leading to ever-improving standards.

The performance targets GBGB set itself back in 2019 were ambitious and stretching – to reduce by half the instances of dogs being put to sleep due to the high cost of some treatments. In 2019 there were 123 such instances and this was reduced in 2020 to 24, a reduction of over 80%.

Our other target of reducing the amount of humane euthanasia's at tracks by half did decrease from an overall figure of 242 in 2018 to 200 in 2020. Whilst this does represent a decrease of nearly 18%, it also reflects that more work is needed to try and reach our target by the end of 2021.

The number of dogs being put to sleep because they were deemed unsuitable for homing moved from 83 in 2019 to 23 in 2020, a reduction of 72%. This again outlines the commitment that our community has in ensuring that the welfare of our greyhounds is at the heart of everything that we do.

Finally, in September the GBGB launched its Greyhound Retirement Scheme (GRS). This 'retirement bond' was mooted for many years by people within the sport and it has now been fully realised and welcomed by all of those involved within greyhound racing and by animal welfare charities, especially homing centres.

The GRS very much demonstrates responsible dog ownership and safeguards our greyhounds' futures in preparation for their transition from athlete to loving pet. We await the results of the first year of the GRS in operation but the future looks incredibly positive for our dogs.

**Mark Bird,**  
GBGB Managing Director



# The Greyhound Commitment

**On behalf of our sport and industry, the Greyhound Board of Great Britain, working with our trusted stakeholders and relying on voluntary funding from bookmakers, is proud to make and uphold the following commitments:**

- 1** Greyhound welfare and safety is at the heart of everything we do.
- 2** Every racing greyhound is treated with care and respect throughout its career.
- 3** Our independently verified injury rates remain the lowest in the world and will improve further still.
- 4** Wherever possible, every dog leaving racing enjoys a long and happy retirement.
- 5** Every race is run fairly and safely and that attending a race meeting is an enjoyable and fun experience for all involved.
- 6** Those working within the sport have access to training at the beginning of their careers, and ongoing, accredited professional development.
- 7** Funding received from the betting industry significantly contributes to greyhound welfare.
- 8** Together, we continue to promote our sport and nurture the public's love of greyhounds.

**To find out how we are meeting these Commitments, please visit: [www.gbgb.org.uk](http://www.gbgb.org.uk)**





**Greyhound Board**  
of Great Britain

# 2020

## Greyhound of the Year Awards

The canine stars of 2020 were celebrated at a special virtual event held and broadcast online on the evening of Sunday 14th February 2021.

The ceremony, hosted by Darrell Williams and Jonathan Hobbs, gave viewers a chance to look back at the racing highlights of 2020 and the phenomenal performances of our sport's top athletes.

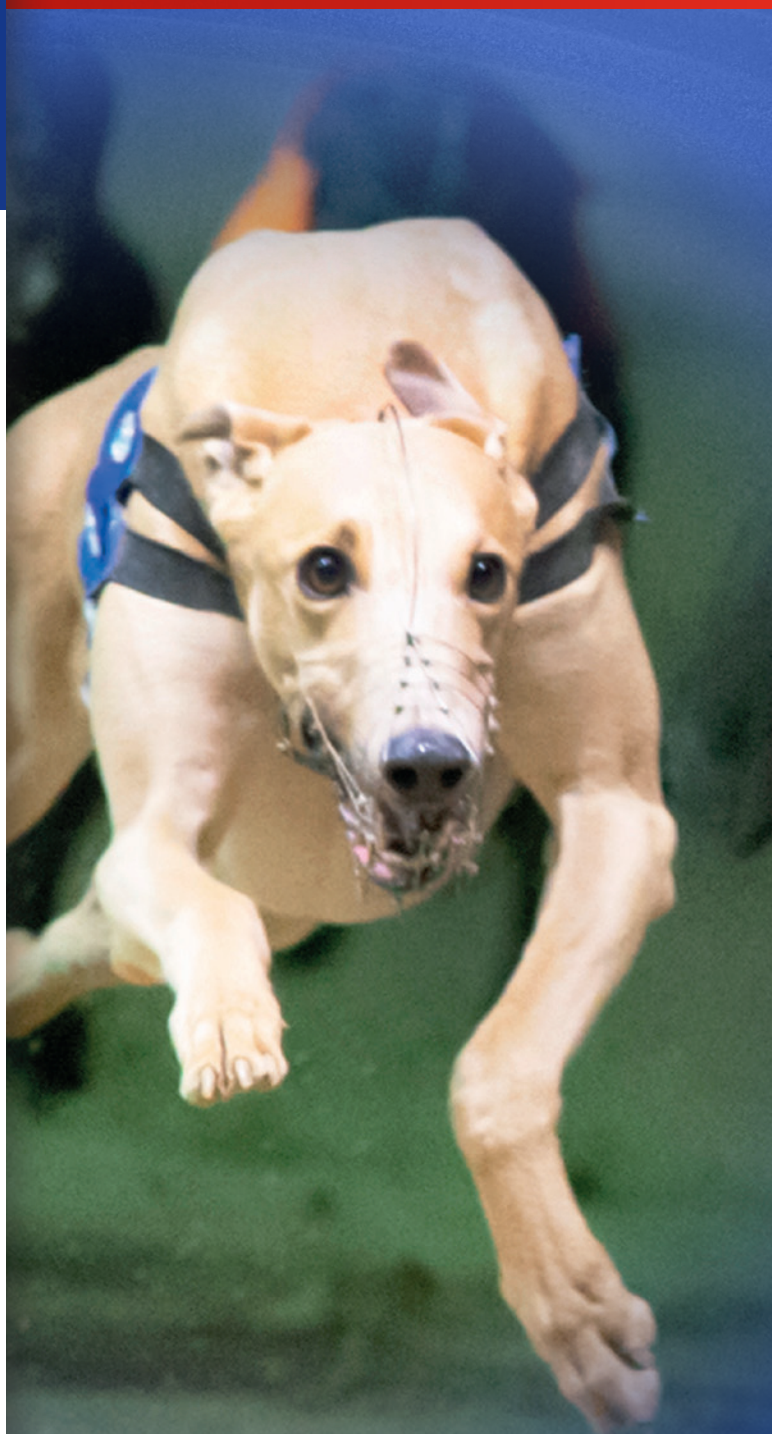
The evening was also an opportunity to recognise the hard work and dedication of the trainers, owners and kennelhands who care for our canine athletes and ensure they have everything they need to perform at their very best. Congratulations to connections of all the nominees and award winners.

***The evening was generously supported by a number of sponsors.***

### Supported by:



pa betting services



**Greyhound Board**  
of Great Britain



# The Winners

## GBGB Greyhound of the Year and Marathon Performer of the Year

### AAYAMZA ROYALE

Ballymac Eske – Ascot Lydia

**Trainer:** Mark Wallis

**Owner(s):** Ayamzaboys Syndicate

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: Coral Cesarewitch, Romford

Winner: Coral TV Trophy, Brighton & Hove

Runner Up: Star Sports Dorando Marathon, Nottingham

Finalist: RPGTV St Leger, Perry Barr

Track Record: 945m distance, Brighton & Hove

**12 Open Race Wins**



## GBGB Newcomer of the Year

### TENPIN

Romeo Recruit – Droopys Sarafina

**Trainer:** David Mullins

**Owner(s):** Kane Messenger, Michael Olley, Robert Olley

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: Coral Romford Puppy Cup, Romford

Winner: The Brinkleys Poet At Stud Young Guns, Central Park

Finalist: Ladbrokes Kent Derby, Central Park

**8 Open Race Wins**



## Star Sports Bitch of the Year

### QUEEN JESSIEJ

Leamaneigh Turbo – Skate On

**Trainer:** Elizabeth McNair

**Owner(s):** K.S.S. Syndicate

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: 74th British Bred 2yr Old Produce Stakes, Swindon

Runner Up: The Property 192 Oaks, Swindon

Finalist: Ladbrokes Puppy Derby, Monmore

Finalist: Ladbrokes Gold Cup, Monmore

**14 Open Race Wins**



## Colossus Hurdler of the Year

### ROXHOLME BISCUIT

Kinloch Brae – Roxholme Magic

**Trainer:** Ricky Holloway

**Owner(s):** Hayley Keightley

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: Colossus Bets Grand National, Central Park

Winner: The Hazard Syndicate Kent National Hurdle, Crayford

**8 Open Race Wins**



## Charles Russell Speechlys Sprinter of the Year

### SHREWD CALL

Ballymac Vic – Shrewd Clover

**Trainer:** David Mullins

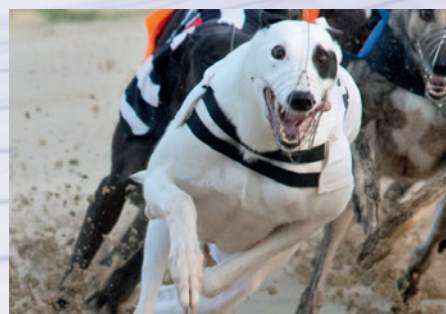
**Owner(s):** Kelly Searle

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: Colossus Bets Silver Salver, Central Park

Winner: The Greene King IPA Sprint, Yarmouth

**10 Open Race Wins**





**PA Standard Distance Performer of the Year**

**KILARA LION**

*Droopys Jet – Kilara Lizzie*

**Trainer:** Patrick Janssens

**Owner(s):** Chris Crampton, Harry Crapper, David Priestley, Nigel Thomas

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: 74th East Anglian Greyhound Derby, Yarmouth

Winner: Ladbrokes Kent Derby, Central Park

**12 Open Race Wins**



**Racing Post Greyhound TV Stayer of the Year**

**SMALLMEAD**

*Definate Opinion – Ballymac Razl*

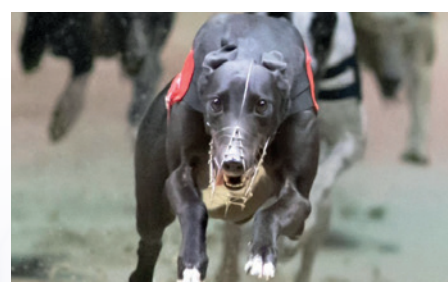
**Trainer:** John Mullins

**Owner(s):** David Calcutt, Lee Calcutt

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: RPGTV St Leger, Perry Barr

**12 Open Race Wins**



**ARC Graded Greyhound of the Year**

**COLD MOUNTAIN**

*Superior Product – Knockmant Tily*

**Trainer:** Paul Sallis

**Owner(s):** Lee Onions, William Adamson, Martin Lloyd

The January 2017 son of Superior Product and Knockmant Tily impressed the GBGB judging panel by maintaining a high level of performance throughout the year. A winner of 12 of 28 graded starts in 2020, Cold Mountain proved a regular A1 winner which the panel considered to be a superb return at a track considered to have one of the strongest kennel strengths in the country.



**GBGB Best Dam of British Bred**

**SKATE ON**

*Cashen Legend – Grannys Image*

**Trainer:** Liz McNair

**Owner(s):** K.S.S. Syndicate

For the fourth year running, Skate On is the GBGB Best Dam of British Bred 2020. The one-time Oaks runner-up and star sprinter on the track has proved one of the outstanding dams of the modern era. Skate On's offspring amassed 362 points in 2020 with littermates Queen Jessiej (150) and King Drake (75), from a May 2018 batch by Leamaneigh Turbo, her top two points-scorers.



**GBGB British Bred Greyhound of the Year**

**QUEEN JESSIEJ**

*Leamaneigh Turbo – Skate On*

**Trainer:** Elizabeth McNair

**Owner(s):** K.S.S. Syndicate

**2020 Achievements:**

Winner: 74th British Bred 2yr Old Produce Stakes, Swindon

Runner Up: The Property 192 Oaks, Swindon

Finalist: Ladbrokes Puppy Derby, Monmore

Finalist: Ladbrokes Gold Cup, Monmore

**124 Open Race Wins**



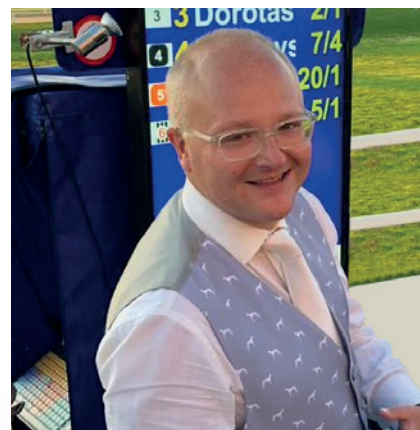


# The Winners

## *Greyhound Writers' Association Services to Greyhound Racing Award*

### **Ben Keith**

Ben Keith is the 2020 recipient of the GWA Services to Greyhound Racing award. Ben is a lifelong greyhound fan, a passion which has manifested itself in his unwavering backing of the Greyhound Derby. He is hugely respected in the game as a real champion of the sport and is already a Greyhound Ambassador for the Greyhound Board of Great Britain.



## *Coral Owner of the Year*

### **K.S.S. Syndicate**

It is the sixth time the syndicate, led by Brendan Keogh, has won the title having scooped the award following successes in 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018 and 2019. Their team of greyhounds, trained by Liz and Rab McNair, amassed a huge 594 points, finishing ahead of Evan Herbert (254) and Kenny Glen (222).



## *BAGS Kennelhand of the Year*

### **Megan Flood**

The 2020 BAGS sponsored Kennelhand of the Year is Megan Flood, Kennelhand to Romford trainer Maxine Locke. Having joined Maxine aged 17, Megan has long been a key member of the Locke kennel and her work impressed the Kennelhand of the Year panel.



## *Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year*

### **Patrick Janssens**

Patrick Janssens was crowned the 2020 Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year, ending the long reign of multiple winner Mark Wallis, his former boss. Having finished fourth in 2018 and then second in 2019, Janssens' rise to the top was completed in 2020.





# 2020 Roll of Honour

Race	Track	Distance	Greyhound	Trainer
Coronation Cup	Romford	575m	Antigua Rum	M Wallis
Winter Derby	Brighton & Hove	500m	Volcanic Reef	H Dimmock
Golden Jacket	Crayford	714m	Skilful Sandie	P Janssens
Juvenile	Sheffield	500m	Ice On Fire	J Fenwick
Springbok	Central Park	480mH	Burgess Doc	L Field
Golden Sprint	Romford	400m	Goldies Hoddle	P Janssens
Puppy Derby	Monmore Green	480m	Newinn Jacko	E Gaskin
Steel City Cup	Sheffield	500m	Headford Ranger	K Hutton
Silver Salver	Central Park	265m	Shrewd Call	D Mullins
All England Cup	Newcastle	480m	Bower Luke	P Rosney
Sussex Cup	Brighton & Hove	515m	Bockos Doomie	P Janssens
Regency	Brighton & Hove	695m	Zascandil	K Boon
Champion Hurdle	Central Park	480mH	Swift Loki	J Turner
Gold Cup	Monmore Green	480m	Gonzo	J Bateson
Summer Stayers	Monmore Green	630m	Kingsbrook Glyn	K Hutton
74th East Anglian Derby	Yarmouth	462m	Kilara Lion	P Janssens
Champion Stakes	Romford	575m	Desperado Dan	P Janssens
Puppy Cup	Romford	400m	Tenpin	D Mullins
74th Produce Stakes	Swindon	476m	Queen Jessiej	E McNair
Guy and Dolls	Romford	400m	Melodys Secret	S Mavrias
Cesarewitch	Romford	925m	Aayamza Royale	M Wallis
Three Steps to Victory	Sheffield	660m	Roxholme Kristof	H Keightley
Kent St Leger	Crayford	714m	Droopys Bird	S Harms
Maiden Derby	Henlow	460m	Roxholme Olaf	H Keightley
Gold Collar	Crayford	540m	Desperado Dan	P Janssens
The Derby	Nottingham	500m	Deerjet Sydney	P Buckley
Grand National	Central Park	480mH	Roxholme Biscuit	R Holloway
British Breeders Stakes	Nottingham	500m	Queen Dolly	E McNair
St Leger	Perry Barr	710m	Smallmead	J Mullins
Birmingham Cup	Perry Barr	480m	Droopys Carat	A Harrison
Kent Derby	Central Park	480m	Kilara Lion	P Janssens
Essex Vase	Romford	575m	Kilmessan Puma	D Mullins
British Bred Derby	Sheffield	500m	Elderberry Sky	P Cowdrill
English Puppy Derby	Towcester	500m	Surprising	S Cahill
Greyhound Olympic	Brighton & Hove	515m	Newinn Jacko	E Gaskin
TV Trophy	Romford	945m	Aayamza Royale	M Wallis
Brighton Belle	Brighton & Hove	515m	Droopys Aoife	E Gaskin
The English Oaks	Swindon	476m	Ballymac Trend	A Kibble
National Sprint	Nottingham	305m	Loggies Lito	S Harms



# Regulatory Review

## Introduction

Staff changes in 2020 saw the addition of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme Co-ordinator, Paula Beniston and Commercial Director, Mark Moisley.

## Complaints

A total of 29 complaints were received in 2020 (13 fewer than in 2019) and each complaint was investigated. The result of these investigations resulted in 1 training licence being suspended, 5 local inquiries and 2 improvement notices being issued.

The complaints data for 2019/20 is as follows:

	Tracks	Trainers	Welfare	Drugs	Licensing	Other
2020	11	9	2	0	0	7
2019	22	14	2	1	0	3

80% of complaints were investigated within 30 days.

## Sampling

A total of 6,288 samples were taken for analysis during the contract year 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020, with the breakdown as follows:

### Race / Trial Samples

Type	Analysed	Not Analysed
Blood	33	9
Other	9	0
Hair	2	0
Urine	6,244	16
	<b>6,288</b>	<b>25</b>

Of these samples, 0.38% were confirmed by LGC as positive for prohibited substances. The breakdown of the 24 positive samples is assessed as:

	Number	% of total samples	% of total positive samples
Doping	2	0.03%	8%
Medication	8	0.13%	33%
Feed Contaminant	9	0.14%	38%
Contaminants (other)	5	0.08%	21%

### Point of Registration (POR) Sampling

The breakdown of the POR samples for the contract year 1st January to 31st December 2020 is as follows:

Type	Analysed	Not Analysed
Blood	6,239	3
Urine	135	11
	<b>6,374</b>	<b>14</b>

69 screening positives were reported from POR samples, with the main screen findings being for methylprednisolone, nandrolone (and metabolites) and dexamethasone.

# Welfare Report

## Welfare

The cessation of racing between the end of March and the beginning of June due to the COVID-19 pandemic was unprecedented. Although this placed an enormous financial strain on the industry, it was pleasing that funding could be allocated to all trainers through emergency payments to support the welfare of each greyhound through this difficult period. More than £600,000 was allocated to trainers during the initial lockdown period, and these payments continued beyond June for trainers that were unable to return to racing when the restrictions were gradually lifted.

Unfortunately, Peterborough, Poole, and Belle Vue stadiums closed permanently in 2020, however, it was pleasing that many of trainers and greyhounds attached to these stadiums were able to relocate to other racecourses. For those trainers and greyhounds that were unable to relocate, both GBGB and racecourse promoters provided the necessary financial and logistical support to ensure each of those greyhounds were found a suitable space within a homing charity so they could be found their forever home.

Despite the burdens of COVID, significant progress was made with the welfare initiatives outlined in our Greyhound Commitment – the industry blueprint for driving welfare standards across the sport. The Injury Recovery Scheme (IRS) which provides financial support to owners, trainers, and racecourses alike with veterinary costs associated with career ending injuries, received a further boost in 2020 as more and more racecourses introduced complementary schemes through added funding and veterinary support. The total IRS spend in 2020 was that of £92,000. Homing figures for 2020 were at an industry high with 95% of greyhounds retired from



racing in 2020 being found loving homes. Although this year saw an unprecedented demand for all types of canines, the launch of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme in September 2020 will develop the network of responsible homing centres available to owners and trainers through affiliation with the scheme and the provision of £400 bond payment to assist with the costs of their retirement

## Code of Practice and Kennel Improvement Programme

In 2020, a Code of Practice was launched to outline the minimum standards and best practice recommendations for the construction, maintenance, and management of greyhound residential kennels, while providing expert guidance and recommendations on all aspects of greyhound welfare.

The Trainers Assistance Fund continued to support development and improvements to residential kennels and awarded £269,000 in development and improvement grants to 49 professional trainers, while a further 29 trainers were granted awards towards the cost of improving transport arrangements.

## Injury and Retirement Data

Injury data remains consistent with previous years, while retirement data continued with its upward trend recording the highest total percentage of greyhounds homed following the end of their racing career. With the introduction of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme in September 2020, which provides each newly registered greyhound a financial bond to assist with its homing costs, it is expected that additional homing charities will join this scheme and provide greater homing opportunities in the future.



A summary of the 2020 data is as follows:

## Injury Data 2020

Total Greyhound Runs 318,346

Type of injury	Recorded injuries	% of injuries against total runs
Hock Injuries	624	0.20
Wrist Injuries	612	0.19
Foot Injuries	680	0.21
Hind Long Bone	18	0.01
Fore Long Bone	99	0.03
Fore Limb Muscle	381	0.12
Hind Limb Muscle	778	0.24
Other	383	0.12
<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>1.12</b>
<b>Track Fatalities</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.06</b>

## Retirement Data 2020

### Summary Retirement

Retained by Owner / Trainer	613	9%
Greyhound Trust / Charity	5,484	76%
Rehomed by Owner / Trainer	765	11%
Breeding / Independent Racing	210	3%
Other (including private homing non-charity)	17	-
<b>Homed/retained</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>94.5%</b>

### Put to Sleep (PTS) / Sudden / Natural Death

Treatment costs	24	0.3%
No Home found	0	0.0%
No Viable Option Away from Racecourse	79	1.11%
Designated Unsuitable for Homing	23	0.2%
Sudden Death	41	0.6%
Humane Grounds at Racecourse	200	2.8%
Terminal Illness / Natural Causes / Other	44	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>5.5%</b>



# Racing Review

*By Jonathan Hobbs*

"The past six months have seen unprecedented challenges hit UK sports, but it is thanks to the hard work and collective determination of Nottingham, its staff and this year's sponsors that the jewel of the British racing calendar still looks set to be such an impressive one."

So said Mark Bird, the GBGB's Managing Director, as he heaped praise on Arc-owned Nottingham and the industry ahead of the start of the rescheduled 2020 Star Sports Derby at Colwick Park, which had switched from April to October amid the effects of Covid-19.

Like other sports, greyhound racing had been stopped for the first lockdown on March 23, 2020, but was back in situ on June 1 having implemented the necessary biosecurity measures and protocols at tracks and kennels to ensure livelihoods were maintained and, most importantly, the greyhounds themselves could do what they enjoy most - race.

Racing restarted behind closed doors, a scenario which would continue for the rest of 2020, but meant that greyhound racing led the way. The sport was first out of the traps, leaving others behind, as it consolidated its links with the betting industry and was able to help trainers and owners support the greyhounds in their care.

However, it meant wholesale changes to the GBGB calendar included the moving of the Greyhound Derby from April. After initial concerns it might not even take place, the sport was able to celebrate the Classic - albeit not in person - with a reduced 96-dog entry and five-round format for the now £50,000 showpiece.

Ireland had claimed glory the previous year with Priceless Blake winning for Paul Hennessy as Nottingham became just the fifth track to stage the great race and now it was the turn of compatriot Pat Buckley to take the trophy back across the Irish Sea as Deerjet Sydney added his name to the sport's most famous roll of honour.

In leading home another Irish-trained 1-2-3 in an English Greyhound Derby Final ahead of Ballydoyle Valor (Graham Holland) and Coolavanny Chick (Noel Hehir), Deerjet Sydney completed the set for Pat Buckley as he became only the third trainer to win a Scottish, Irish and English Derby in the sport's 90 years-plus history.

The Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary-based handler had gone close in previous English Derbys at Wimbledon with 2016 runner-up Droopys Roddick and finalists Lenson Rocky and Mind The Net, but now celebrated with daughter Emma on the Nottingham sand a great victory for the June 18 son of Droopys Sydney and Madgies Wish.

Deerjet Sydney's delighted owner Kenny Glen, unable to attend like everyone else, watched the action unfold on RPGTV and

had one of those nights many owners can only dream of as the Buckley-trained Doolin Duke won the RPGTV Derby Plate and Gonzo landed the supporting Arc Trophy for Julie Bateson, both greyhounds owned by Glen.

Nottingham, which had been purchased by the Arena Racing Company earlier in the year, would later hand the Derby baton back to Towcester for the 2021 running but drew praise from the sport for the two years it staged the world's greatest greyhound race when options were scarce following Towcester's first incarnation as a greyhound track.

Better times, however, returned to the Northamptonshire venue as Henlow promoter Kevin Boothby announced he had secured a ten-year lease on the track and vowed to bring the Derby back as well as a host of other major competitions, with plans announced to use the facilities in and around the racecourse to stage concerts and other events.

“ Racing restarted behind closed doors, a scenario which would continue for the rest of 2020, but meant that greyhound racing led the way. ”

However, with a behind-closed-doors policy for sport, Boothby and other promoters had to suffer the harsh realities faced by business because of Covid - so credit where it is due that, with the support and dispensation of the GBGB's open race planners, most of the traditional major competitions were able to be staged in 2020.

They may have had different dates in the GBGB Calendar than usual, and some events were incorporated on the same nights by way of big-race double-headers, but it generally worked well and the numbers of open races increased throughout the course of 2020 - allowing the best trainers and fastest greyhounds to come to the fore.

Greyhound of the Year was Aayamza Royale as the Mark Wallis-trained marathon star landed the prestigious TV Trophy



at Hove - breaking the track record in the semis - adding to her Coral Cesarewitch victory. Owned by the Ayamzaboys Syndicate, headed by Nigel Smith and Mitch Brenner, Aayamza Royale also ran third in the St Leger at Perry Barr.

The stayers' Classic was won by the John Mullins-trained Smallmead - later crowned the RPGTV Stayer of the Year at the GBGB Awards, held virtually in the early part of 2021 - with the relaunched M Lambe Birmingham Cup final, sponsored by trainer John Lambe, also staged the same night with Droopys Carat taking the honours for Angela Harrison.

However, it was the Patrick Janssens-trained Kilara Lion who pushed Aayamza Royale closest in terms of the sport's top honour after wins in the RPGTV East Anglian Derby and the Ladbrokes Kent Derby at Central Park, taking the scalp of the classy Tenpin in the latter after the David Mullins-trained star had greatly impressed.

Tenpin annexed both the Coral Puppy Cup at Romford and Brinkleys Poet Young Guns at Central Park, a new event sponsored by leading owners Nic and Amanda Jeal which was also staged at Sheffield - Ted Soppitt's Blackstone Milo won there - and that helped Romford handler Mullins to a strong year overall.

His Shrewd Call lifted the Charles Russell Speechlys Sprinter of the Year title after success in the Silver Salver at Central Park and the Greene King IPA at Yarmouth.

The British-bred scene was once again dominated by Liz McNair and owners and breeders the KSS Syndicate with the 74th Produce Stakes heading the way of Queen Jessie and the British Breeders Stakes seeing Queen Dolly lead home King Louis for a notable kennel and litter one-two.



Queen Jessie was later voted GBGB British Bred Greyhound of the Year and Star Sports Bitch of the Year and her dam Skate On became GBGB Best Dam of British Bred for the fourth year running. Pat Cowdrill's Elderberry Sky won the British Bred Derby at Sheffield. Overall, and in the circumstances of Covid, the British Greyhound Breeders Forum (BGBF) had a strong year on the track and that momentum was carried into 2021.

Roxholme Biscuit continued trainer Ricky Holloway's outstanding record in this sphere by landing the Colossus Hurdler of the Year having won the Grand National at Central Park, backed by the same sponsor, as well as the Hazard Syndicate Kent National Hurdle at Crayford.

Amid all the above, however, we had a new champion trainer as Patrick Janssens dethroned 11-time winner Mark Wallis. Wallis's former assistant had led his ex-boss for much of 2019 before being reeled in, but on this occasion the Belgium-born handler held the advantage and ended the long reign of multiple winner Wallis.

Janssens finished the year on 872 points, 193 points clear of Wallis (679) and ahead of Liz McNair (594), Kevin Hutton (394), David Mullins (347) and Ernie Gaskin (315).

Janssens said he was very proud to have lifted the coveted trophy and paid tribute to the team behind him at his Thetford kennels - wife Cheryl, daughter Ria and partner Luke Staunton, and sports physiotherapist Ron Mills - whose collective hard work saw the team win a magnificent seven GBGB Category One titles in 2020.

#### RPGTV/GWA Greyhound of the Month Awards 2020

January	<b>Guvnas Dream</b>
February	<b>Springwell May</b>
March	<b>Burgess Doc</b>
April	-
May	-
June	<b>Freedom Shandy</b>
July	<b>Shrewd Call</b>
August	<b>Kingsbrook Glyn</b>
September	<b>Roxholme Kristof</b>
October	<b>Deerjet Sydney</b>
November	<b>Kilara Lion</b>
December	<b>Aayamza Royale</b>



# UKAS Update



The Covid-19 pandemic affected the working practices of almost every organisation in the world to some extent, including UKAS (the United Kingdom Accreditation Service), the independent body which verifies and accredits GBGB for its track licensing (or 'certification') process.

UKAS ensures that its clients are, depending on their

areas of activity, testing, verifying, licensing or inspecting to a defined level, such as an international (ISO), or British (BSI) standard. UKAS clients are as varied as organisations that test and inspect roads and bridges and those that licence medical laboratories to, as in GBGB's case, tracks staging greyhound racing.

GBGB licenses tracks against the GBGB Rules of Racing, using a process that complies with an international standard for licensing bodies - ISO 17065 - to ensure the integrity of the racing and the safety of the canine athletes that take part. The secondary legislation in the Welfare of Racing Greyhounds (2010) states that any track staging greyhound racing must be licensed by either its local authority or by an organisation accredited by UKAS - such as GBGB.

UKAS inspect GBGB twice every year - once at GBGB's Head Office and once at a track, where a UKAS assessor inspects a GBGB Stipendiary Steward carrying out an annual inspection. From March 2020, when the first Covid lockdown was implemented and the government issued instructions to work from home wherever possible, UKAS carried out all its inspections remotely. Assessors and accredited bodies such as GBGB utilised virtual meeting software and secure file sharing applications to carry out what would usually be office-based audits. Remote technology also allowed UKAS technical assessors to view field inspections despite not being on-site, to keep all participants safe and all processes Covid-secure.

During their audit, UKAS were able to view both the practical and theoretical sides of track inspection and licensing to fully assess compliance with all clauses of the international standard ISO 17065. In addition, all elements of GBGB's COVID-19 Operational Policy, which was developed and implemented in response to the pandemic, were also assessed and deemed "comprehensive" ensuring a "well-managed return to racing".

Whilst the audits presented unique challenges for UKAS and GBGB, the remote procedures used worked effectively and allowed GBGB to demonstrate to UKAS that, despite the extraordinary circumstances of 2020, our inspection processes continued at the same consistently high standards.

## Impartiality Committee

The Impartiality Committee is a key element of GBGB's UKAS accreditation and comprises an independent group of individuals with relevant experience and expertise who monitor the consistency and impartiality of GBGB's track inspection and licensing activities.

Long-standing track vet Antony Collins stepped down as a member of the Impartiality Committee in 2020, with the committee thanking Antony for his excellent contributions and support of the committee's work.

New committee member Robert Quest joined the committee in June 2020 bringing a wealth of welfare, regulatory and licensing experience as Assistant Director of the City of London Corporation Animal Health and Welfare Team. Robert has also been a member and chair of various Local Government Association panels and Defra boards and was the local authority representative for both the Canine and Feline Sector Group (of which he is now Chair) and the Companion Animal Sector Council.

In taking up his place, Robert joined committee members Michael Elks (Chair) and Peter Laurie.

The Impartiality Committee met in the early stages of the pandemic to ensure all accredited work that continued was being carried out consistently and impartially. They then met quarterly, as in each normal year, to monitor GBGB's activities.





“ Despite the extraordinary circumstances of 2020, our inspection processes continued at the same consistently high standards. ”





# Statement of Income and Retained Earnings

*For the year ending  
31st December 2020*

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>5,184,206</b>	5,155,658
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>5,184,206</b>	5,155,658
Administrative expenses	<b>(5,549,378)</b>	(5,049,999)
Other operating income	<b>66,964</b>	-
<b>Operating (loss)/Profit</b>	<b>(298,208)</b>	105,659
Interest receivable and similar income	<b>2,409</b>	2,523
<b>(Loss)/Profit before tax</b>	<b>(295,799)</b>	108,182
Tax on (loss)/profit	<b>10,225</b>	(10,225)
<b>(Loss)/Profit after tax</b>	<b>(285,574)</b>	97,857
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year	<b>590,370</b>	492,413
Loss)/Profit for the year	<b>(285,574)</b>	97,957
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the year</b>	<b>304,796</b>	590,370

## Company Information

*The Greyhound Board of Great Britain limited (By Guarantee)*

### Directors

The Directors who served during the year were:

I Smyth (appointed 21 January 2021)  
J Coleman  
J Cooper  
J McKenna  
M Bird  
P Cadman  
P Harnden  
Dr P Webbon  
R Corden  
S Franklin (resigned 21 January 2021)  
Dr S Gower  
W Glass

### Company Secretary

A Yilmaz

### Registered Number

06740544

### Registered Office

Greyhound Board of Great Britain  
Genesis House,  
17 Godliman Street,  
London, EC4V 5BD

### Independent Auditor

Barnes Roffe LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Leytonstone House,  
3 Hanbury Drive, Leytonstone,  
London, E11 1GA

### Solicitors

Olswang  
90 High Holborn London, WC1V 6XX

CharlesRussell Speechlys  
5 Fleet Place, London,  
EC4M 7RD

### Banking

Royal Bank of Scotland  
62-63 Threadneedle Street,  
London, EC2R 8LA

### Photography

Steve Nash  
[www.steve-nash.co.uk](http://www.steve-nash.co.uk)

### Design & Print

J E Burns Graphics Ltd  
Derby, DE22 1GF



# Balance Sheet

*For the year ending  
31st December 2020*

	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Intangible assets		52,441		87,690
Tangible assets		102,261		132,393
		154,702		220,083
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	690,108		635,283	
Cash at bank and in hand	3,436,348		1,471,121	
	4,1026,456		2,106,404	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(3,976,362)		(1,736,117)	
<b>Net current assets</b>		150,094		370,287
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		304,796		590,370
<b>Net assets</b>		304,796		590,370
<b>Capital and reserves</b>				
Profit and loss account		304,796		590,370
		304,796		590,370

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

*The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 20th May 2021.*





**GREYHOUND BOARD OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Genesis House, 17 Godliman Street, London , EC4V 5BD

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 [@GreyhoundBoard](https://twitter.com/GreyhoundBoard)

**[www.gbgb.org.uk](http://www.gbgb.org.uk)**