

3rd meeting of the GBGB Veterinary Sub-Committee – 17th June 2010

Summary Notes

Matters Arising

Sudden death review meeting update

- Members of the sub-committee reported on a successful Sudden Death Project update meeting at Nottingham University and confirmed it is likely to be a regular event. Different theories for the pathogenesis of the disease were discussed and good communication channels formed.
- Richard Payne reported on a meeting with Peter Curl at the British Horseracing Authority. The BHA are developing their own Sudden Death project and are keen to understand the GBGB's project and have asked to see current GBGB Protocols. This has been agreed as part of the Memorandum of Understanding with the BHA and Peter Curl will be asked to meet with Simon Gower and Richard Payne to discuss.
- The sub-committee discussed chronic respiratory disease and its continuing presence in the greyhound racing population. They debated the issues surrounding the development of a reporting procedure for kennel sickness and respiratory disease.
- A GBGB Calendar article will be produced educating on the following differential diagnoses - gastric dilatation, haemorrhagic gastroenteritis and haemorrhagic pneumonia.
- Hot weather advice printed in June 2009 will be reprinted in the 2nd July GBGB Calendar and placed on the GBGB website.
- The VSC will monitor discussions taking place on the Australia Greyhound Vets Association e-loop regarding a post race distress syndrome, thought to be due to hypoxia, and any subsequent research that takes place.

VMD advice regarding reporting of unlicensed medication

- The presence of unlicensed medication in trainers' kennels, and procedures for reporting and disposing of it were discussed in relation to advice given by the VMD. The Chairman will seek further clarification on this matter in a meeting with the VMD on 20th July.
- An article is to be produced for the GBGB Calendar, educating trainers on the correct disposal of medication and sharps and giving advice on where to purchase sharps bins.

Veterinary Inspection Form

- The Veterinary Inspection Form has been approved and will now be advanced to production stage and put in to the Calendar and on to the GBGB website for downloading to allow trainers to view it before their inspections.

Bio security Guidance notes for trainers

- This document has been approved by the Welfare Standing Committee and will be distributed as a Calendar article.

Production of Treatment Book Stickers

- The stickers will now be produced and are likely to be piloted at Swindon, Oxford and Poole.

Duty of Care notice

- The sub-committee discussed the production of a list of local emergency/out of hours vets contact details to display at tracks as discussed in relation to the Duty of Care notice at the last meeting. A memo will be sent out to Racing Offices, asking them to produce this list in collaboration with their track vet.

Training

Establishment of Training Working Group

Training days for track vets

- The Training Working Group will be formed and will look to finalise a date and put together a skeleton schedule for the GBGB vets' training day. The training day will feature both scientific updates and seminars educating on GBGB procedures, and is likely to take place in November. The Training Working Group will endeavour to ensure that the programme allows for AGTV and SGV AGMs to take place during the event.
- The sub-committee discussed updating the track vets training DVD, with the aim of having an updated version ready in time for the training day in November.

Service Level Agreements

- The Sub Committee discussed the introduction of a National Service Level Agreement and Simon Adams prepared a paper that was tabled at the Welfare Sub Committee meeting on 5th July.

AOB

Kennelling/ 'Welfare Breaks'

- Prompted by a discussion taking place on the SGV e-loop, the sub-committee debated whether some greyhounds would benefit from being allowed out of their kennels during kennelling for a 'welfare break' to empty their bladders/bowels. Sub-committee members will consult fellow track vets for feedback.

RCVS Advice on the use of Samples, Post Mortems and Disposal (Advice Note 32)

- The committee considered the new RCVS Advice Note 32 regarding the use of tissue samples and agreed that the Sudden Death Protocol falls within these guidelines.