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# Prize money

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Greyhound Phoenix Strategy  
Group presentation to the National  
Greyhound Consultative Forum

10<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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## Overview

Prize money in recent years has seen a steady decline and can be correlated with other industry figures also in decline, such as, ownership, breeding, track attendance and Tote figures. Whilst an increase was introduced to Prize money last year this was to offset the previous reduction in already decimated levels. An increase in prize money would be a positive move for the Greyhound Industry if it is spread across all grades of racing. The notion of increasing **only** the Classics will be detrimental to the industry as a whole. Trainers and Breeders incentive schemes must be overhauled in tandem with Prize Money increases.

## Increasing prize money will benefit the industry as a whole

- The more prize money can pay for training fees, the more owners there will be.
- Run money should be paid to owners of all greyhounds that finish 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in races, to the value of €10.
- The less owners have to pay in training fees the more owners can afford to buy from the breeders.
- The trainers will get paid more fees the more dogs there are in training and the more money their dogs win.

## Public Trainer's incentive scheme

The re-introduction of the scheme that paid public trainers run money for greyhounds achieving 15/20/25 races in a calendar year and to scrap their entitlement to the €8 run money incentive scheme. The maximum in respect of any one greyhound was €375, with €125 being paid for achieving 15 races, another €125 after 20 races and a final €125 for 25 races. The total cost to the IGB was approximately €180,000 per year and this payment was made to public trainers in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January every year. It was a payment that underpinned their income and ensured that Dogs were kept in training and created larger pools of greyhounds, required to provide competitive cards.

## Breeders incentive scheme

Breeders Incentive money from winners should be replaced: it is almost a waste of time giving €15 to the breeder. Twenty wins, say 3 dogs, over the lifetime of good offspring equals €900. When you include administration costs and bank charges - most litters will get very little. The total paid out is estimated at €170,000 per year.

- Put this money back into prize money and directly increasing funding for Bitch Stakes
- Creating a Breeder Incentive Scheme Fund for specific races.

## Questions for the IGB

- Various track supporters clubs were promised a fund of €75,000 to be split amongst them? Where is this money and why has it not been paid to date?
- Can the board let us know the prize money figure 2015 and what the estimated figure is for 2016?
- How does the board intend to use the allocated monies in the budget to increase prize money levels in 2017?
- Why does the board feel the need to subsidise further the prize money levels in the Classic's when these are sponsored races?