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# Integrity Issues

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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

The GPS Group supports the implementation of the Morris report and believes we need to consider further the implications of a ban on feeding CAT 2 meat to Racing and Trialing greyhounds.

Implementing small changes in how stakeholders are communicated with and informed would have a positive lasting effect on the industry.

## Actions in regard to integrity issues that could benefit the industry

The following are some ideas that might be considered in evaluating the current testing procedures:

- Introduce a grade of infringement regarding drugs A, B, C.
- Introduce Thresholds
- Penalties for Drug Abuse should be severe and consistent, with regard to the category of drug. Multiple offenders should be banned.
- Follow the example of the UK whereby a Steward/Stewards who specialise in sampling are engaged to carry out the testing procedures
- Create areas at all tracks which are defined, monitored by camera and are the only designated place where all testing is carried out.
- Introduce a pre-race parade area and ensure that the parade is not broken until arrival at traps and is under the supervision of a Control Steward at all times.
- Target testing should be introduced and test all features, classics and any other discretionary finals.
- Target -test trial dogs with the preference of next day testing
- Out of competition testing should be videoed.

## Improve Communication

- Detail “Drug” and “Level” in any correspondence or publishing.
  - This would create clarity amongst all stakeholders and avoid any unnecessary demonization of individuals and the knock on effect it can have on the industry as a whole.
- The Control Committee structure and modus operandi needs explaining to all stakeholders
  - It should meet monthly and operate with full transparency and be reviewed bi-annually.

## Questions for IGB

- Has BnG made any progress in its proposal to combine the laboratory resources of all animal sports bodies into a single national resource?
- Why are there lengthy delays in publishing adverse analytical test results?
- We need priority testing in the early stages of competitions to ensure results are back before the start of each round of a competition. Why did the 2016 Irish Derby fail on this point?
- When will the trainer’s medical book be introduced?
- In July 2014, a booklet to deal with breaches of Rules and Regulations was to be published, is there any update on this?
- Ms. Geraldine Larkin is quoted as saying “ *The future regulation of the industry requires the involvement of all stakeholders. This is not something that Bord na gCon can achieve on its own, however active it may be.*” If this is the case what meaningful dialogue is Ms. Larkin facilitating with Stakeholders? How did the IGB allow to be published such Rules & Regulations that prohibited the giving of water to any Greyhound in their kennel, if they were being re-kenned after a race, together with other worrying omissions, such as the use of a Dog-Lead?