

World Greyhound Racing Federation  
2000 Conference - Sydney

**SPEAKER** DR DAVID AUER

**TOPIC** The Grass Roots..  
Prevalence and types of track injuries to racing greyhounds in South East Queensland

**DATE A TIME** Day 1 - Friday 10th November 2000  
3.00 - 3.20pm



**PROFILE OF SPEAKER AND SYNOPSIS**

**ORGANISATION** Director  
Queensland Racing Science Centre

**BIOGRAPHY**

Dr David Auer is a veterinarian with postgraduate qualifications in veterinary pharmacology. He is currently the Director of Integrity Services at the Racing Science Centre in Brisbane and has responsibility for overseeing the sample collection and analysis in the three codes of racing in Queensland. Dr Auer is currently a member of the Scientific Advisory Council to the International Federation of Horse Racing Authorities and a member of the Standing Committee to the International Conference of Racing Analysis and Veterinarians.

**SYNOPSIS**

The prevalence and type of major injuries reported by official racing veterinarians and the association between track type and condition at each of six tracks in South-East Queensland were investigated. Races were held on grass and sand tracks, during the day, twilight and at night and on circular and straight tracks. Only 205 Greyhounds were seriously injured out of the 17,290 runners which, meant that the probability of a serious injury was approximately 1.2 %. There were no significant differences in the injury rate between the different racing venues, the type of racing surface or the time of day when the race was held. Some differences in the type of injury were found and related to track type including a greater relative risk of fractures (1.35) on sand tracks while the relative risk of tendon and ligament injuries (1.87) was greater on grass tracks.