

World Greyhound Racing Federation  
2000 Conference - Sydney

**SPEAKER** MS JUDI HURLEY

**TOPIC** The Women's Story  
'Everyman and his Dog'

**DATE& TIME** Day 1 - Friday 10 th November 2000  
12.20 - 12.40pm



**PROFILE OF SPEAKER AND SYNOPSIS**

**ORGANISATION** Secretary / Treasurer  
Australian Federation of Greyhound Breeders, Owners & Trainers  
Association

**BIOGRAPHY**

I started as an owner in 1971; joined the Owner/Trainer Association shortly after and have been actively involved as Chair and/or Secretary for the past 25 years. I was appointed to the SA Greyhound Racing Board in 1991 as the first woman appointed to a racing board in South Australia. I founded the Australian Federation of Greyhound Breeders, Owners & Trainers in 1980 and have been the Secretary/Treasurer to that Association since that time.

I have been an administrator within the University sector for the past 29 years and have used skills gained from this area to assist clubs and owners/trainers become more influential in the industry. A few years ago, I organised and hosted the former Governor of South Australia, Dame Roma Mitchell, to a Celebration of the Centenary of Women's Suffrage at Angle Park.

**SYNOPSIS**

In Australia today, greyhound racing, as a sport, is more conducive to family involvement than any other form of racing. However this was not always the case, as early greyhound racing in Australia consisted of coursing with participation limited to the male owner and trainer, with female involvement being relegated to the organisation and preparation of food and drink for the many meal breaks and children were usually not seen or heard!

Today, women are involved in all facets of the industry - from controlling authority board member, to employment with various authorities/clubs, to professional trainer, to handler, to breeder, to veterinary surgeon. A breakdown of employment levels of women in the industry shows that, disappointingly, women have made only very small inroads into what appears to be a male dominated sport.

This paper looks at the participation of women in the greyhound racing industry - over the years from the top to the bottom and will include anecdotal tales from industry participants..