

World Greyhound Racing Federation  
2000 Conference - Sydney

**SPEAKER** MR KEN NORQUAY

Greyhound Racing and Future Directions

**TOPIC** 'Greyhound Racing 2010 - Will we survive the competition?'

**DATE& TIME** Day 2 - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2000  
10.00 - 10.20am

**PROFILE OF SPEAKER AND SYNOPSIS**

**ORGANISATION** Chief Executive  
Western Australian Greyhound Racing Authority

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ken Norquay was born in the Sydney suburb of St. Leonards in 1949. His first introduction to greyhound racing was back in the 1960's, the boom era in Australian greyhound racing, remembering the likes of ROMAN EARL, BLACK TOP, the MOSS' dogs and the mighty champion ZOOM TOP, when Ken and his father acquired their first greyhound to own and train.

In 1968, after a self confessed very ordinary performance as a greyhound trainer, he considered that progressing to the other side of the fence would be a more sensible career move, and became a junior clerk in the registration section of the NSW National Coursing Association, then the sole headquarters for greyhound racing at Wentworth Park.

At 23 years of age he was promoted to Assistant Secretary under Gerry Candrick and was given the task of overseeing the construction and official opening of the now defunct Penrith track. In 1976, at the youthful age of just 26, he became NCA Secretary, a very quick rise up the corporate ladder in just 8 years.

Having left the NCA after 14 years service to take up a position as General Manager of the Gabba in Queensland. In 1986 he departed the greyhound scene for a thoroughbred stint at the fledgling Sunshine Coast Turf Club. There he held the reins as GM, taking that club from virtual country status to be one of the highest profile provincial racing centres in Australia today.

He was lured back into greyhound racing administration when attracted to the West in 1993, taking over the head position with the WA Authority, which is arguably one of the market leaders in the sport today. Ken is also the Secretary of the Australian Greyhound Racing Association.

With almost 35 years experience in the racing industry, primarily at the top of the administration ladder for the majority of those years, who better to take us through the topic Greyhound Racing 2010 - will we survive the competition?, is a person who has seen it all before and is well credentialed to predict what may lay ahead . .....

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### SYNOPSIS

- Survival against competitors should bring out speakers' views on 'what competitors we have and how are we handling them?'
- Should greyhound racing organisations be reliant on the core business or should they diversify?  
Should the entrenched traditions of the industry have changed over time? Have our competitor's modus operandi changed? What makes a successful sport in the 21` century? The speakers should address what changes have occurred for the better, and perhaps what needs to change in the future.
- Is there a need to plan the industry's future?
- We need to review how the industry is run throughout the world. For example discussion on private enterprise ownership of tracks (USA model), Statutory Control (current Australian model) or corporatelcompany structured control (as in South Australia's new model). What is the workable way to go?
- Are the roles of ANZGA (Aust), AGTOA (USA) and BGRB (UK) working for their respective industries? What further thoughts could be encouraged?