

World Greyhound Racing Federation
2000 Conference - Sydney

SPEAKER MR MARK ROSANOWSKI
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TOPIC The New Zealand Story

DATE& TIME Day 1 - Friday 10 November 2000
11.25 - 11.45am



PROFILE OF SPEAKER AND SYNOPSIS

ORGANISATION New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association

BIOGRAPHY

The New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association applied for a grant from the NZ Racing Industry Board in order to send me to the WGRF Conference.

I have been a journalist for the Association's monthly newspaper 'The NZ Greyhound' for 13 years and have also had spells as the New Zealand correspondent for the 'Australian Greyhound Monthly' and the weekly racing publication 'Friday Flash'.

Very recently I ended an eight-year stint with the New Zealand TAB's television channel Trackside 'on which I presented the feature greyhound race meetings around the country. For the last twelve months I was the Producer of Greyhound Racing for the channel.

Ten years ago I trained in radio broadcasting and began in that forum by producing and presenting a programme for the local greyhound club. Presently I am the race commentator for the Southland Greyhound Racing Club on the country's radio racing network, Radio Pacific.

I have been an enthusiast for 17 years and have been an owner, trainer, administrator and punter at various times but it has been my media interests that have kept me closest to the sport.

I have seen greyhound racing in New Zealand, Australia, England, Ireland and Scotland and have enjoyed races as varied as a \$25 sweepstake at Chelsey in Mid-Canterbury, New Zealand to the 50,000 pound Irish Derby in Dublin, Ireland.

SYNOPSIS

My session will look at the short history of greyhound racing in New Zealand since the introduction of totalisator betting on the sport just 20 years ago and the explosion of meetings in recent years that has made the transition from an amateur sport to a professional industry a difficult and demanding one.

The story is ultimately one of TRIUMPH but also one of ongoing battles as the industry continues to beat the odds set against them by both internal and external forces.