

## **Racing Post article**

### **GBGB: 2009 a new era for UK greyhound racing**

By Jonathan Kay 2.54PM 31 DEC 2008

JANUARY 1 marks the official start of a new era for UK greyhound racing with the official launch of the Greyhound Board of Great Britain to oversee the functions formerly undertaken by the British Racing Greyhound Board and National Greyhound Racing Club.

The amalgamation of the BGRB and NGRC into a new structure was the main recommendation of the 2007 Donoughue report into greyhound racing governance and all but one of the ten GBGB board members have been appointed following the announcement that both Professor Sir Gordon Duff (Florey Professor of Molecular Medicine at the University of Sheffield School of Medicine) and Bob Stott (former chief executive of Morrisons Supermarkets, and a director of the Rugby Football League and Leeds Building Society) have accepted positions as independent directors.

The remaining position, for a qualified vet, is still to be finalised, as is the second independent director of the Greyhound Regulatory Board, under the chairmanship of Dr Ian Reynolds.

Ian Taylor has been in situ for some time as the GBGB's chief executive and among the other positions already finalised is the appointment of the former BGRB general secretary Richard Hayler as director of Commercial, Policy and Industry Affairs.

One of the GBGB's first priorities will be to seek official recognition from the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS), a primary requirement from the government that will need to be met if the greyhound industry is to retain self-regulation. Early meetings have already taken place between GBGB representatives and Lord Lindsay, Chairman of UKAS.

Work will also soon commence to establish the GBGB standing committees, likely to address welfare, racing and commercial issues.