

CONSULTATION NOTICE - RULES OF RACING

Code of Racing	Greyhound
Rule	Multiple Greyhounds Australasia Rules
Description	Removal of Ear Tattooing of Greyhounds, Breeding Rules, Prohibited & Exempted Substances, and Welfare & Others
Authorised for Consultation	April 8, 2024
Consultation Closes	May 6, 2024
Submissions to	policies@racingqueensland.com.au

Racing Queensland (**RQ**) has received notice from Greyhounds Australasia (**GA**) that the GA Board has endorsed for external consultation multiple proposed amendments to the GA Rules. The proposed amendments are listed below and have been categorised into four groups by GA:

- Part 1: Removal of Ear Tattoo Requirements
 - New Definition: Alternate Method of Identification
 - Amended Definitions: C3 Vaccination and C5 Vaccination
 - Amended Definition: DNA fingerprint analysis
 - GAR 48 (4): Registration and Naming of a Greyhound
 - GAR 63 (5): Multiple sired litters
 - GAR 64 (1) & (2): Registration of a litter
 - GAR 71 (4): Result of service
 - GAR 72 (9) (b) (i): DNA fingerprint analysis
 - GAR 89: Examination in relation to the identity of a greyhound
- Part 2: Breeding Rules
 - GAR 45: Other rules in relation to export
 - GAR 56: Registration of sires and breeding females
 - GAR 57: Limit on the age at which a breeding female can be serviced
 - GAR 58: Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a breeding female
 - GAR 59A: Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by caesarean section of a breeding female
 - GAR 67: Breeding unit of semen collection and registration
 - GAR 70: Import and export regulations in relation to breeding units of semen
- Part 3: Prohibited & Exempted Substances
 - GAR 138: Meaning of an exempted substance - (a) ethinylestradiol and/or levonorgestrel
 - GAR 139: Permanently banned prohibited substances and certain offences in relation to them - (y) Bisphosphonates

- Part 4: Welfare & Others
 - Amended Definition: Presentation or presented
 - GAR 42 (d): Restrictions on greyhounds competing due to central or peripheral nervous system or vision condition
 - GAR 76: Scratching after box draw

GA has provided an overview for each group of rules as well as full details and background to each proposed rule amendment. These documents from GA are found in the pages that follow.

Industry participants and other stakeholders are invited to provide feedback on the proposed rule amendments as per the details at the top of this document.

Following the closure of the period of consultation, RQ will compile any feedback/submissions received and provide to GA.





DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES – MARCH 2024 NOTES

PART 1: REMOVAL OF EAR TATTOO REQUIREMENTS

Summary:

The reliable identification of greyhounds is a fundamental integrity measure underpinning the sport of greyhound racing, and the tattooing (branding) of an ear with a unique registration code, is currently compulsory in all Greyhounds Australasia (GA) jurisdictions, with the exception of New Zealand.

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo in all NZ-registered greyhounds, with the practice ceased from 1 February 2023.

Concurrently, the GA Board sought to assess the phase-out of the ear tattoo and designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

The working group noted that advancement and access to technology have improved techniques for the identification of individual animals, and so has the reliability of identification methods employed by and available to the greyhound industry.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Controlling Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

This change will see all jurisdictions move to the microchip as the primary method of identification, with integration of alternative identification measures as tools for secondary identification to be implemented by each responsible Controlling Body.

In preparation for the termination of the ear tattooing of greyhounds and the removal of the ear tattoo as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the second phase of amended GA Rules are provided for external consultation with the amended rules to remove all reference to ear tattoos.

This is the case in the majority of the amended draft GARs presented, with two exceptions related to GAR 89 Examination in Relation to the identity of a Greyhound and the introduction of a newly defined term within the GARs, “Alternate Method of Identification”



Following substantial discussion at the GA Rules Forum and input of GA Committees, the proposed amendments to GAR 89 seek to maintain the primary consideration for the integrity of any event. Draft amendment GAR 89(1) maintains that no greyhound shall be permitted to race unless the identification of the said greyhound is established to the satisfaction of stewards.

The proposed rule GAR 89(1) is also contingent on the accompanying inclusion, of a newly defined term within the GAR's.

The term, "*Alternate Method of Identification*", has been concurrently presented for consultation and provides for a method of identification, other than microchip, as determined by the controlling body.

The definition is constructed to provide flexibility to individual jurisdictions, dependent upon their capabilities. It also provides jurisdictions with the ability to add methods of identification as new technologies become available, without having to singly amend the associated GA rule.

The GA Board has approved the following proposed GA rule amendments, related to Ear Tattoo removal, for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Ear Tattoo Removal

- i) Definition – Alternate Method of Identification
- ii) Definition – C3 & C5
- iii) Definition – DNA Fingerprinting
- iv) GAR 48 (4) Registration and Naming of a Greyhound
- v) GAR 63 (5) Multiple sired litters
- vi) GAR 64 (1) & (2) Registration of a litter
- vii) GAR 71 (4) Result of Service
- viii) GAR 72 (9) (b) (i) DNA fingerprint analysis
- ix) GAR 89 Examination in Relation to the identity of a Greyhound

Termination of Greyhound Ear Tattoo - FAQs

Q. When will the requirement for greyhound pups to have an ear tattoo cease?

A. It is intended that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for an ear tattoo to be applied as part of the identification process for greyhound pups will cease. Current identification methods of microchipping and marking will continue to occur.

Q. What methods will replace the ear tattoo for the identification of greyhound pups?



- A. The microchip will remain as the primary identifier for registered greyhounds. Several alternate identification methods are currently being advanced by Controlling Bodies to replace the ear tattoo.

Q. What happens if the microchip cannot be located or read by the scanner?

- A. Each greyhound pup will continue to be provided with a unique registration code (currently the ear tattoo/brand) that will sit within the greyhound's digital profile and remain uniquely attributed to that greyhound for life.

If the microchip cannot be located or read, then a replacement microchip will need to be inserted and a DNA sample may be taken to verify the greyhound's identity.

Controlling Bodies are currently addressing the implementation of alternate methods of identification, which would be available to operate if the microchip cannot be found. It is intended that these measures will be incorporated into the race day procedures at a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction level.



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES - MARCH 2024 NOTES

PART 2: BREEDING RULES

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time jurisdictions have instituted additional measures concerning the regulation of breeding. These measures have been adopted through several governing mechanisms such as codes of practice and the local rules of greyhound racing.

Regulation of the number of litters and the age of breeding females are prescribed within the GRV Code of Practice and the NSW (GWIC) local rules.

Within the following proposed amendments, several draft GARs seek to capture the provisions prescribed within the codes of practice and local rules to ensure an aligned and consistent approach across all GA jurisdictions.

Concurrently additional consideration has been provided within the draft amendments, for the number of Caesarean Section whelping that a breeding female may have.

In August 2023, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board approved an update to the policy for the approval of Greyhound Passport for export and the execution of GA Rule 44 and Rule 45.

The updated policy provided clarification on destination country requirements (excluding New Zealand) for GA Passport approval where greyhounds are being exported, for racing and/or breeding.

The policy stated that from August 1, 2023, the GA-recognised Racing & Breeding Authorities were limited to:

- Great Britain – Greyhound Board of Great Britain
- Ireland – Greyhound Racing Ireland
- Ireland – Irish Coursing Club
- United States of America – National Greyhound Association

These jurisdictions are also acknowledged as member countries of the International Alliance of Greyhound Registries.



The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments, in relation to breeding, for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Breeding Rules

- i) GAR 45 Other Rules in Relation to Export
- ii) GAR 56 Registration of Sires and Breeding Females
- iii) GAR 57 Limit on the Age at which a breeding female can be serviced
- iv) GAR 58 Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a breeding female
- v) GAR 59A Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a breeding female by caesarean section
- vi) GAR 67 Breeding Unit of Semen Collection and Registration
- vii) GAR 70 Import and Export regulation to breeding units of semen



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES – MARCH 2024 NOTES

PART 3: PROHIBITED & EXEMPTED SUBSTANCES

Introduction:

In May 2022, Greyhounds Australasia (GA) introduced simplified and modernised National Rules. As part of the 2022 GA Rules rewrite, a significant public consultation process was conducted.

Feedback provided by key stakeholders during this consultation related to exempted, therapeutic and permanently banned (prohibited) substances.

The introduction of changes to exempted substances or permanently banned substances can only be proposed for introduction into the GA rules, once an extensive process has been undertaken that requires consultation with specialist groups, targeted research, and study, followed by an extensive risk analysis to ensure that both the welfare of greyhounds and the integrity of the sport are maintained.

Following such processes, draft amendments to the GARs are proposed. Specifically, GAR 139 *Permanently banned prohibited substances* and GAR 138 Meaning of *exempted substance*.

The proposed addition to GAR 139 would prohibit the use of Bisphosphonates in greyhounds. Bisphosphonates are drugs that inhibit the normal biological mechanism for bone maintenance/repair, which can lead to increased bone fragility. Bisphosphonates can also cause retention of calcified cartilage in skeletally immature animals, leading to developmental orthopaedic disease.

Additionally, the proposed amendment to GAR 138 (a) would add ethinylestradiol and/or levonorgestrel to the exempted substances available for veterinary prescription for the control of oestrus in female greyhounds.

The GA Board has approved the following draft rules for consultation by the Controlling Bodies:

Prohibited and Exempted Substances

- i) GAR 139 Permanently banned prohibited substances and certain offences in relation to them. (y) Bisphosphonates
- ii) GAR 138 Meaning of an exempted substance. (a) ethinylestradiol and/or levonorgestrel



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES – MARCH 2024

PART 4: WELFARE & OTHERS

Introduction:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022.

Since that time, there have been measures identified as opportunities to increase the workability of the GARs. Three such measures are presented as draft amendments within this program of proposed rules.

The first proposed amendment concerning the GARs relates to the consolidation of the definition of presentation and presented, the draft would see alignment to the specifications outlined within the local rules of racing in both Victoria and NSW.

The proposed amendment to the GAR Definition seeks to capture these local rule alterations and ensures an aligned and consistent approach across all GA jurisdictions.

The second draft proposal for GAR 76 relates to measures imposed in the event of a greyhound being scratched from an event after the drawing of boxes. Under the current provisions of GAR 76(2) and GAR 76(4), the stand-down measures imposed commence on the date of the event.

In the scenario whereby a greyhound is scratched in the days between the box draw and the event, a loophole exists whereby a greyhound may compete in an alternate event as the stand-down does not commence until the day of the original event. i.e. scratch on Tuesday from a Friday race, but race on the Wednesday before penalty commencement (Friday).

The draft amendments to GAR 76, seek to close out such a loophole by ensuring that the stand-down commences at the time of scratching and continues for the period outlined from the day of the event.

The third proposal outlines an amendment to GAR 42 which looks to capture any veterinary episode, described within GAR 42, that occurs on a racecourse.

The proposed rule amendment, part (d) of GAR42, provides clarity concerning the location and application of a sanction to a greyhound that suffers a prescribed veterinary episode including seizure or collapse.

The following draft rules are presented for consultation by the Controlling Bodies:

**Welfare & Others**

- i) Definition: Presentation or Presented
- ii) GAR 42 (d) Restrictions on Greyhounds Competing due to central or peripheral nervous system or vision condition
- iii) GAR 76 Scratching after box draw



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

New Definition: Alternate Method of Identification

Summary:

As advancement and access to technology have improved techniques for the identification of individual animals, so too has the reliability of identification methods employed by and available to the greyhound industry.

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules (control body) which removed the requirement for mandatory ear tattoo in all NZ registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and rate their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group, the GA Board has determined that the practice of ear tattoo in registered greyhounds will no longer be required.

In preparation for the ceasing of ear branding of greyhounds and thereby removing ear tattoo/brands as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following definition is to be included within the GARs to provide Controlling Bodies' opportunity to employ alternate methods in establishing a greyhound's identification.

New Definition:

Alternate Method of Identification:

*A method of identification, other than **microchip**, as determined by the **Controlling Body**.*

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Amended Definitions: C3 Vaccination and C5 Vaccination

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules (control body) which removed the requirement for mandatory ear tattoo in all NZ registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and rate their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group, the GA Board has determined that by no later than 1 July 2024, the practice of ear tattoo in registered greyhounds will no longer be required.

In preparation for the ceasing of ear branding of greyhounds and thereby removing ear tattoo/brands as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GAR's), the following proposed definitions have been amended to remove reference to ear branding or ear tattoos.

Draft Definition:

C3 Vaccination: - means a vaccination administered to a *greyhound* by a *veterinarian* to provide appropriate protection against canine parvovirus, canine distemper virus and canine adenovirus (hepatitis) and must be confirmed by the issuing of a certificate from that *veterinarian* confirming the *identity* of the *greyhound* (by reference to its sex, colour, microchip), the vaccine administered, the date of vaccination and the due date for the next vaccination booster/review and is in a form acceptable to a *Controlling Body*.

C5 Vaccination: - means a vaccination administered to a *greyhound* by a *veterinarian* to provide appropriate protection against canine parvovirus, canine distemper virus, canine adenovirus (hepatitis), parainfluenza virus and bordetella bronchiseptica and must be confirmed by the issuing of a certificate from that *veterinarian* confirming the *identity* of the *greyhound* (by reference to its sex, colour, microchip), the vaccine administered, the date of vaccination and the due date for the next vaccination booster/review and is in a form acceptable to a *Controlling Body*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Amended Definition: DNA fingerprint analysis

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules (control body) which removed the requirement for mandatory ear tattoo in all NZ registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhound Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and rate their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group, the GA Board has determined that by no later than 1 July 2024, the practice of ear tattoo in registered greyhounds will no longer be required.

As part of GA's review of rules associated with the cessation of the ear tattoo, it is proposed that the current definition associated with the term "DNA fingerprint analysis" be revised and amended to include the term 'identity'.

This amendment will align the proposed definition with the proposed draft amendments to GAR 89, whereby a sample of DNA may be taken for the purposes of establishing a greyhound's identity.

Draft Definition:

DNA fingerprint analysis: -

means the chemical process by an *approved DNA laboratory* used for the purpose of identifying and ascertaining the **identity**, biographical heritage or pedigree of a *greyhound* from a *DNA sample*."

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 48 (4) Registration and Naming of a Greyhound

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo (brand) in all NZ-registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the GA Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Control Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rule has been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft Rule:

GAR 48 Registration and naming of a greyhound

(1) A *greyhound* is not eligible to compete in an *Event* or be used for breeding purposes until it is registered (in the case of registration for breeding purposes, as a *breeding female* or *sire*) and named.

(2) Application for naming of a *greyhound* may be made by an *owner* after a *greyhound* has attained 12 months of age, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the State or Territory where the *greyhound* was whelped:

- (a) a completed prescribed application form together with a prescribed *fee*; and
- (b) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.



(3) Application for naming of a *greyhound* whelped other than in Australia must be made to the approved *Registration Controlling Body* in the country where the *greyhound* was whelped.

(4) Identification by way of any markings, or microchip, supplied with an application and must be certified by a person approved by a *Controlling Body*.

(5) A *Controlling Body* must consider and then either accept or reject a name suggested for a *greyhound*. When considering suggested names in an application to register a *greyhound*, a *Controlling Body* may reject names which include:

- (a) figures;
- (b) initials;
- (c) names of prominent persons;
- (d) words which have a religious or political significance, or any word that in the opinion of the *Controlling Body* is unsuitable; and/or
- (e) in the interests of *greyhound* racing, any name deemed inappropriate, for whatever reason.

(6) On being satisfied of the bona fides of an application for naming of a *greyhound*, a *Controlling Body* must submit the name/s provided to them to *Greyhounds Australasia*, which will allocate a name.

(7) If none of the names submitted are suitable, *Greyhounds Australasia* may request a further list for consideration or otherwise allot a name. If *Greyhounds Australasia* allots a name, the applicant must accept it.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 63 (5) Multiple Sired Litters

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo (brand) in all NZ-registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Control Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rules have been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rule amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule:

GAR 63 Multiple sired litters

(1) If the prior approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained before any *service* is conducted, a *service* may involve more than one *sire* being used on the *breeding female* during the same cycle, but only if:

- (a) the owner/s of the *breeding female*, or a *person* authorised pursuant to *these Rules*, makes written application to a *Controlling Body* seeking approval to use multiple sires and provides the following information to a *Controlling Body*:
 - (i) the names of all intended *sires* including acknowledgement from the *studmasters* of the intent for the *breeding female* to be serviced by the listed multiple sires;
 - (ii) the name of the *breeding female*;



(iii) the anticipated time, place and method of the services, and any other details the *Controlling Body* requires;

(iv) if not the registered owner of the *breeding female*, a fully completed consent form (in a form prescribed by a *Controlling Body*) which records the consent of the registered owner that multiple *sires* will be used for any *service*; and

(v) the person in charge of the *breeding female* provides an undertaking to the relevant *Controlling Body* prior to the registration of the litter that all *greyhounds* resulting from a whelping by the *breeding female* shall, at the breeder's sole cost, be subject to *DNA fingerprint analysis*.

(2) A *Controlling Body* in its absolute discretion may approve, refuse or impose other conditions as it sees fit on any application made in accordance with this rule.

(3) In relation to each *sire* used for breeding, a prescribed form must be lodged by a *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* with a *Controlling Body* in accordance with rule 61.

(4) Pursuant to rule 71 a prescribed form notifying the result of *service* must be submitted and in it all *sires* used are to be listed as the *sire*.

(5) Upon a litter being microchipped prior to registration of a litter in accordance with rule 64 of *these Rules*, the entire litter must simultaneously be subject to *DNA fingerprint analysis* and parentage confirmation in accordance with rules 72 and 73.

(6) Registration of a litter pursuant to rule 64 is to record and give effect to the confirmed parentage of each individual *greyhound*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 64 (1) & (2) Registration of a Litter

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo (brand) in all NZ-registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Control Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rules have been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule:

GAR 64 Registration of a litter

(1) Unless an exemption is granted by a *Controlling Body*, before an application for registration of a litter can be made, a litter to be the subject of an application for registration must be inspected, have their sex, colour recorded and be microchipped by a person authorised to perform those functions.

(2) An *authorised person* may refuse to record the sex, colour of a *greyhound* and/or microchip a *greyhound* if they are of the view that the condition of the premises where a *greyhound* is present are unsatisfactory, or a *greyhound* appears to be unwell.

(3) Application for registration of a litter whelped in the jurisdiction of a *Controlling Body* must be made by lodging with the relevant *Controlling Body*, within a time prescribed by the *Controlling Body*:

- (a) a completed prescribed form together with the prescribed *fee*;
- (b) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 71 (4) Result of Service

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo (brand) in all NZ-registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the GA Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Control Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rules have been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule:

GAR 71 Result of service

(1) The *owner of a breeding female*, or a *person* otherwise authorised pursuant to *the Rules* as being in charge of a *breeding female*, must notify the result of a *service* to the *Controlling Body*:

- (a) within 14 *days* of whelping; or
- (b) within 14 *days* of the due whelping date, calculated as 63 *days* after the date of *service*.

(2) The notification referred to in subrule (1) of this rule is to be made by lodging with the relevant *Controlling Body* the prescribed form, together with a prescribed *fee*.

(3) Notice of whelping pursuant to subrule (2) of this rule must include an address at which the *greyhounds* are located and at which the *greyhounds* may be inspected.



(4) Except with the prior consent of a *Controlling Body*, a litter of *greyhounds* must not be divided or relocated from the address of whelping until they have been microchipped, and vaccinated in accordance with *the Rules*, and also until a period of 14 *days* has elapsed from the date of the last minimum vaccination requirement pursuant to subrule 25(3)(b).

Date of effect: TBA

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DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 72 (9) (b) (i) DNA fingerprint analysis

Summary:

In late 2022, Greyhound Racing New Zealand announced the introduction of Local Rules which removed the requirement for the mandatory ear tattoo (brand) in all NZ-registered greyhounds. Concurrently, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board designated a working group to review all current methods of greyhound identification and assess their suitability, effectiveness, and associated risks.

Following the review by the working group and consultation between Control Bodies, the GA Board has determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rules have been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rule amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule GAR 72 DNA fingerprint analysis

(1) A *DNA fingerprint analysis* provided pursuant to *the Rules* must be carried out by an *approved DNA* laboratory.

(2) *Greyhounds Australasia* is entitled to the results of all *DNA fingerprint analyses* performed pursuant to *the Rules* and retains any intellectual property in them.

(3) A *Controlling Body*:

(a) may in its absolute discretion disclose or publish to any person, the result of any *DNA fingerprint analysis* conducted pursuant to *the Rules*; and

(b) is not liable to any person in law or otherwise for the disclosure or publication of any result.

(4) *The Controlling Body* may direct that a *DNA fingerprint analysis* be performed on a *greyhound* which is registered, or in respect of which an application for registration has been made, either for the purpose of determining the parentage of the *greyhound*, or otherwise.



(5) Within seven days of a direction by a *Controlling Body* pursuant to subrule (4) being given to the *owner* of a *greyhound*, the *owner* must lodge with *Greyhounds Australasia* the prescribed *DNA fingerprint analysis* fee.

(6) The *owner* of a *greyhound* may request that a *DNA fingerprint analysis* is performed on the *greyhound* by providing a completed prescribed form to *Greyhounds Australasia* together with a prescribed *fee*. On receipt of the result of analysis pursuant to this rule, *Greyhounds Australasia* must as soon as practicable provide the result to the *owner*.

(7) Unless otherwise directed by *Greyhounds Australasia* or a *Controlling Body*, an *approved DNA laboratory* must only disclose or provide the result of any analysis done pursuant to this rule to *Greyhounds Australasia* or a *Controlling Body*.

(8) The type of biological sample to be taken for *DNA fingerprint analysis* is to be determined by *Greyhounds Australasia* or a *Controlling Body*.

(9) If a *DNA fingerprint analysis* takes place pursuant this *rule*, the *owner* of or *person* responsible for the *greyhound* (and if applicable, the *veterinarian*) must:

(a) arrange for the collection of a *sample* from the *greyhound* by a *veterinarian* or other person approved by the *Controlling Body* for the purpose of *sample* collection;

(b) ensure that a sample is contained/packaged in the prescribed manner and clearly labelled to show:

(i) the breeding, *microchip* number, colour and sex of the *greyhound* and name if applicable.

(ii) the date and time of collection of the *sample*;

(iii) the name of the *veterinarian* or other approved person who collected the *sample*; and

(c) ensure that the *veterinarian* or other approved person collecting the *sample* provides the *sample* to an *approved DNA laboratory* within a reasonable period of time of the *sample* being collected.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 89 Examination in relation to the Identity of a Greyhound

Summary:

In November 2023, the Greyhound Australasia (GA) Board determined that by 1 July 2024, the requirement for ear tattooing of registered greyhounds will cease.

In preparation for the ending of the ear tattoo (branding) of greyhounds and thereby removal of the ear tattoo (brand) as a source of identification within the GA Rules (GARs), the following proposed rules have been amended to remove all references to ear branding or ear tattoos.

Following substantial discussion at the GA Rules Forum and input of GA Committees, the proposed amendments to GAR 89 seek to maintain the primary consideration for the integrity of any event.

This focus is evident within GAR 89(1) which clearly states that no greyhound shall be permitted to race unless the identification of the said greyhound is established to the satisfaction of stewards.

The proposed rule GAR 89(1) is also contingent on the accompanying inclusion, of a newly defined term within the GAR's. The term, "*Alternate Method of Identification*", has been concurrently presented for consultation and reads as drafted:

Alternate Method of Identification - A method of identification, other than microchip, as determined by the controlling body.

The definition is constructed to provide flexibility to individual jurisdictions, dependent upon their capabilities. It also provides jurisdictions with the ability to add methods of identification as new technologies become available, without having to singly amend the associated GA rule.

GAR 89(2) provides Stewards with the ability to withdraw a greyhound from an event if post kennelling there is any doubt in the continued verification of the greyhound's identity.

This stance is confirmed within GAR 89(4) which affirms the Stewards have absolute discretion to not permit a greyhound to start in an event if they are not satisfied with the greyhound's identity.



The draft rule GAR 89 (3) also provides measures in the event of a failure to locate/verify a microchip. The Stewards can direct that before the greyhound is removed from the racecourse, an additional microchip be implanted in the greyhound, and a sample be taken. The greyhound's sample will provide for the verification of identity via DNA analysis.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rule amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule:

GAR 89 Examination in relation to the identity of a greyhound

(1) A greyhound must be examined by the Stewards, or such person approved by the Stewards at kennelling to establish the identity of the greyhound and that it is the correct greyhound by examining its microchip or any other Alternate Method of Identification.

(2) A greyhound shall not be permitted to compete in an Event if at the time of kennelling or any time thereafter the greyhound's microchip cannot be located, examined, or verified, unless the identity of the greyhound can be established to the satisfaction of the Stewards, by reference to any Alternate Method of Identification.

(3) If a greyhound's microchip cannot be located, examined, or verified then the Stewards may direct the officiating veterinarian to implant a microchip and take a sample from the greyhound for the purposes of DNA fingerprint analysis prior to it being removed from the racecourse.

(4) The Stewards have at all times absolute discretion to not allow a greyhound to start in an Event, if in the opinion of Stewards, they are not satisfied of the greyhound's identity.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 45(4) Other Rules in Relation to Export

Summary:

In August 2023, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board approved an update to the policy for the approval of Greyhound Passport for export and the execution of GA Rule 44 and Rule 45.

The updated policy provided clarification on destination country requirements (excluding New Zealand) for GA Greyhound Passport approval where greyhounds are being exported, for:

- Racing and/or
- Breeding.

The policy further stated that from August 1, 2023, the GA-recognised Racing & Breeding Authorities are limited to:

- Great Britain – Greyhound Board of Great Britain
- Ireland – Greyhound Racing Ireland
- Ireland – Irish Coursing Club
- United States of America – National Greyhound Association

Where the intended destination for the export of a greyhound is a country or jurisdiction where GA has no formal association with a recognised racing or breeding regulatory authority, a GA Passport will not be granted.

Additional consideration has been given where a greyhound has been exported against *the Rules*, (without a GA Passport) and that greyhound is, or has been, utilised for commercial breeding purposes.

For example, Draft Rule GAR 45 (4) provides Controlling Bodies with the capacity to deal with the export of a sire to another country without a valid GA passport, which continues to be commercially advertised at stud in Australia or New Zealand. In this case, restrictions or penalties may be applied on the commercial transaction of breeding units of semen associated with that greyhound.

It is not the intent of the draft rule to prohibit the private use of breeding units purchased in good faith by participants, prior to the export of the greyhound.

The GA Board has approved the proposed amendment to the rules for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.



Draft Rule:

GAR 45 Other rules in relation to export

- (1) For the purposes of subrule 44(1) or for the purpose of any proceedings or charges laid pursuant to *the Rules*, where a *greyhound* has been exported from Australia without a valid *greyhound passport* and *certified pedigree* having been issued by *Greyhounds Australasia*, the *Controlling Body* records indicating that a person was the *registered owner* of the *greyhound* at the time of the export shall be prima facie evidence that the *registered owner* intended to export the *greyhound*.
- (2) Subject to subrule (3) of this rule, an offence is committed if a *person* sells or otherwise transfers ownership or custody of a *greyhound* to another *person* in circumstances where they are aware, or should reasonably be aware, that the *greyhound* will be, or is likely to be exported.
- (3) A *person* will not be in breach of subrule (2) if the *person* has, prior to selling or transferring ownership or custody of the *greyhound*, taken adequate steps to ensure that the provisions of subrule 44(1) have been, or will be, complied with by the intended recipient of the *greyhound*, by obtaining from the intended recipient:
 - (a) a copy of the written request from the intended recipient to *Greyhounds Australasia* for a *greyhound passport* and *certified pedigree* in respect of the relevant *greyhound*; and
 - (b) a written response from *Greyhounds Australasia* confirming that such a *greyhound passport* and *certified pedigree* has been, or will be issued.
- (4) Where a *greyhound* has been exported from Australia without a valid *greyhound passport* and *certified pedigree* having been issued by *Greyhounds Australasia*, in addition to any *penalty* imposed on a *person*, the *Controlling Body* or its *Stewards* may:
 - (a) cancel or *suspend* the *registration* of any *greyhound*, including its registration as a *sire* or *breeding female*;
 - (b) cancel or *suspend* the *registration* of any *breeding unit of semen*;
 - (c) prohibit the use of, or sale or *transfer* of, any *breeding unit of semen*;
 - (d) refuse the *registration* of a *litter*;
 - (e) refuse the naming of any *greyhound*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 56 Registration of Sires and Breeding Females

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time jurisdictions have instituted additional measures concerning the regulation of breeding. These measures have been adopted through several governing mechanisms such as codes of practice and the local rules of greyhound racing.

In the course of reviewing such measures, the GA Rules Forum considered additional advice from GA Committees concerning the registration of sires and breeding females, in particular their ongoing suitability for breeding.

The draft amendment GAR 56(4) outlines new requirements for ongoing registration of a sire, in the form of an annual veterinary certificate of health and fitness and annual fertility testing.

Similarly, for breeding females GAR 56(4) requires annual veterinary certification of health and fitness for ongoing registration, noting that this can be performed concurrently with annual vaccination requirements (as prescribed in existing GAR 56(9) and GAR 25).

The GA Board has approved the proposed amendment to the rules for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Rule:

GAR 56 – Registration of *sires* and *breeding females*

- (1) A male *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with the *Controlling Body* as a *sire*.
- (2) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *sire* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *sire* is domiciled.
- (3) Application for registration as a *sire* may be made by the *owner* of a *greyhound* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;



- (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other authorised person and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) a fertility test which is acceptable to the relevant *Controlling Body* and is carried out no less than 30 days prior to the application for registration as a *sire*.
- (4) The granting of registration of a *sire* is conditional on the *owner* or other person authorised by the *owner* providing the *Controlling Body* with:
- (a) an annual fertility test conducted by a *veterinarian* to the relevant *Controlling Body* or *Greyhounds Australasia*; and
 - (b) an annual veterinary certification of health and fitness which confirms any presence of disease (including possible heritable disease), and that it is appropriate for him to be used as a *sire*.
- (5) If an application for registration of a *sire* is accepted, a unique identification number will be issued in relation to the *sire* and provided to the *owner* for use by the *sire's studmaster*.
- (6) A female *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with a *Controlling Body* as a *breeding female*.
- (7) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *breeding female* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *breeding female* is domiciled.
- (8) Application for registration as a *breeding female* may be made by the *owner* of a *breeding female* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
- (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other *authorised person* and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.
- (9) The period of registration for a *breeding female* is to be one year from the current vaccination date pursuant to subrule (8)(c) of this rule.
- (10) The granting of registration of a *breeding female* is conditional on the *owner* or other person authorised by the *owner* providing the *Controlling Body* with:
- (a) an annual veterinary certification of health and fitness which confirms any presence of disease (including possible heritable disease), and that it is appropriate for her to be used as a *breeding female*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 57 Limit on the age at which a Breeding Female can be Serviced

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time jurisdictions have instituted additional measures concerning the regulation of breeding. These measures have been adopted through several governing mechanisms such as codes of practice and the local rules of greyhound racing.

Limitation on the age at which a breeding female may be serviced (under 10 years of age) is prescribed within the NSW (GWIC) local rule LR 58A (1) and limits apply in various Codes of Practice or are applied by some jurisdictions.

The following proposed amendment to the GAR 57 seeks to capture these prescribed provisions to ensure an aligned and consistent approach across all GA jurisdictions.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft Rule:

GAR 57 Limit on the age at which a *breeding female* can be serviced.

- (1) *The owner of a breeding female, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any breeding female to be serviced if she is 10 years of age or older.*
- (2) *The owner of a breeding female, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any breeding female to be serviced if she is over eight years of age, except if prior to each service:*
 - (a) *veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the breeding female which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further service); and*
 - (b) *the written approval of a Controlling Body is obtained.*
- (3) *If any approval is granted by a Controlling Body under subrule (2) of this rule, one further service will only be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that service.*

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 58 Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a breeding female.

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time jurisdictions have instituted additional measures concerning the regulation of breeding. These measures have been adopted through several governing mechanisms such as codes of practice and the local rules of greyhound racing.

Limitation on the number of litters a breeding female may whelp (5 litters) is prescribed within the GRV Code of Practice, the NSW (GWIC) local rule LR 58A (1) or are otherwise applied by some jurisdictions.

The following proposed amendment to the GAR 58 seeks to capture the provisions prescribed within the codes of practice and local rules to ensure an aligned and consistent approach across all GA jurisdictions.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft Rule:

GAR 58 Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a *breeding female*.

- (1) *The owner of a breeding female, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any breeding female to whelp more than five litters.*
- (2) *The owner of a breeding female, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any breeding female to whelp more than three litters, except if, prior to each service:*
 - (a) *veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the breeding female which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further service); and*
 - (b) *the written approval of a Controlling Body is obtained.*
- (3) *If any approval is granted by a Controlling Body under subrule (2) of this rule, one further service only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that service.*

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

New Rule GAR 59A Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by caesarean section of a Breeding Female.

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time jurisdictions have instituted additional measures concerning the regulation of breeding. These measures have been adopted through several governing mechanisms such as codes of practice and the local rules of greyhound racing.

In addition to the GA Rules, conditions on the servicing of breeding females have been prescribed within the GRV Code of Practice, the NSW (GWIC) local rules, or are otherwise applied by some jurisdictions.

In the course of reviewing such conditions, the GA Rules Forum considered additional advice from GA Committees in relation to the whelping of pups by caesarean section.

Caesarean sections are important veterinary procedures that may be undertaken in emergencies or electively and carry inherent benefits and risks. Recognised risks include an increased anaesthetic risk due to the maternal physiological changes in pregnancy and the extended duration of the surgery, and damage to the uterus secondary to surgery. The proposed rule considers the welfare risks of repeated caesareans and introduces a limit of two caesareans per breeding female, with the opportunity for one further following veterinary certification and Controlling Body approval.

The draft rule, 59A is consistent with current rule GAR 58, except for 59A considering the number of litters whelped via caesarean section.

The GA Board has approved the proposed rule for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft New Rule:

GAR 59A Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by caesarean section of a breeding female.

- (1) The owner of a breeding female, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any breeding female to be serviced after having two caesarean sections, except if, prior to the next service:***



- (a) veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the *breeding female* which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further *service*); and
 - (b) the written approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained.
- (2) If any approval is granted by a *Controlling Body* under subrule (1) of this rule, one further *service* only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that *service*.

Date of effect: TBA

DRAFT



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 67 Breeding Unit of Semen Collection and Registration

Summary:

In August 2023, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board approved an update to the policy for the approval of Greyhound Passport for export and the execution of GA Rule 44 and Rule 45.

The updated policy provided clarification on destination country requirements (excluding New Zealand) for GA Passport approval where greyhounds are being exported, for racing and/or breeding.

The policy stated that from August 1, 2023, the GA-recognised Racing & Breeding Authorities were limited to:

- Great Britain – Greyhound Board of Great Britain
- Ireland – Greyhound Racing Ireland
- Ireland – Irish Coursing Club
- United States of America – National Greyhound Association

These jurisdictions are also acknowledged as member countries of the International Alliance of Greyhound Registries.

Following the GA Passport policy update, the GA Rules Forum and Committees have considered a process for additional scrutiny for the oversight of breeding units designated for export semen, currently captured under GA Rule 67.

The export of semen vials internationally was considered by GA Committees, and a consensus was reached that greyhound genetic material should have commensurate welfare considerations to the live export of greyhounds. Through prevention of the export of genetic material from Australasia to countries, where the offspring would be subject to similar welfare risks.

Draft GAR 67(4) would restrict the export of genetic material from Australasia to member countries that are members of the International Alliance of Greyhound Registries, without the prior permission of GA.

The GA Board has approved the proposed amendment to the rules for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.



Draft Rule:

GAR 67 Breeding unit of semen collection and registration

- (1) *Breeding units of semen* may only be collected from *sires* as defined by *the Rules*.
- (2) Collection of an ejaculate for the purposes of *artificial insemination* must:
 - (a) at all times be conducted by an *Artificial Insemination Technician*; and
 - (b) unless registered as a *breeding unit of semen* in accordance with this rule, the complete ejaculate must be used in the service of the *breeding female*.
- (3) Prior to the collection and freezing of semen from a *sire*, the *Artificial Insemination Technician* must:
 - (a) obtain from *Greyhounds Australasia* the relevant *breeding unit of semen* identification number;
 - (b) identify each *breeding unit of semen*, including inscribing the name of the *sire* on each *breeding unit of semen*; and
 - (c) register with *Greyhounds Australasia* the storage location of each *breeding unit of semen*.
- (4) Within 14 days of the collection of semen from a *sire*, an *Artificial Insemination Technician* must lodge with *Greyhounds Australasia*, a prescribed form notifying *Greyhounds Australasia* of the collection, including the assessment and allocation of *breeding units of semen* from that collection for:
 - (a) use in Australia or New Zealand;
 - (b) for storage; or
 - (c) for export to another country that is a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries*.
- (5) Within 14 days of the collection of semen a *studmaster*, *sire owner* or a *person* approved by *Greyhounds Australasia* or the relevant *Controlling Body* must lodge with *Greyhounds Australasia* the prescribed form and fee notifying of the registered person that owns each *breeding unit of semen* referred to in subrule (4), which may be the *studmaster* or *sire owner*.
- (6) Within five days of acquiring a registered *breeding unit of semen* a *person* must apply to *Greyhounds Australasia* for the *breeding unit of semen* to be transferred into their name in a manner prescribed by *Greyhounds Australasia*.
- (7) The use of a *breeding unit of semen* for any purpose pursuant to *the Rules* is prohibited unless:
 - (a) the *Artificial Insemination Technician* is approved by *Greyhounds Australasia* in the jurisdiction where the *artificial insemination* takes place;
 - (b) the *breeding unit of semen* was collected pursuant to *the Rules* in the jurisdiction where the *sire* is domiciled;
 - (c) the *breeding unit of semen* was stored at an *approved facility* pursuant to *the Rules* in the jurisdiction where stored;
 - (d) the *breeding unit of semen* was identified prior to use; and
 - (e) prior to the use of the *breeding unit of semen* the *Artificial Insemination Technician* or a *person* approved by *Greyhounds Australasia* or the *Controlling Body* has confirmed the ownership and/or transfer of the *breeding unit of semen*, and the *owner* of the *breeding unit of semen* has lodged with *Greyhounds Australasia* the prescribed form and *fee* notifying any change in ownership of the *breeding unit of semen* pursuant to subrule (6).



(f) it occurs in a country that is a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries* unless the prior permission of *Greyhounds Australasia* has been received.

Date of effect: TBA

DRAFT



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 70 Import and export regulations in relation to breeding units of semen

Summary:

In August 2023, the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Board approved an update to the policy for the approval of Greyhound Passport for export and the execution of GA Rule 44 and Rule 45.

The updated policy provided clarification on destination country requirements (excluding New Zealand) for GA Passport approval where greyhounds are being exported, for racing and/or breeding.

The policy stated that from August 1, 2023, the GA-recognised Racing & Breeding Authorities were limited to:

- Great Britain – Greyhound Board of Great Britain
- Ireland – Greyhound Racing Ireland
- Ireland – Irish Coursing Club
- United States of America – National Greyhound Association

These jurisdictions are also acknowledged as member countries of the International Alliance of Greyhound Registries.

Following the GA Passport policy update, the GA Rules Forum and Committees have considered a process for additional scrutiny for the oversight of exported semen and registration of imported semen, currently captured under GA Rule 70.

GA Rule 70 at present does not detail a restriction on the number of vials that can be imported from international Sires. The draft amendment to GAR 70(3)(b) seeks to ensure consistency with the quotas imposed with GAR 62 Restrictions and quotas on *services*.

The export of semen vials internationally was considered by GA Committees, and a consensus was reached that greyhound genetic material should have commensurate welfare considerations to the live export of greyhounds. Through prevention of the export of genetic material from Australasia to countries, where the offspring would be subject to similar welfare risks.

Draft GAR 70(4) would restrict the export of genetic material from Australasia to member countries that are members of the International Alliance of Greyhound Registries, without the prior permission of GA. Additionally draft GAR 70(5), GAR 70(6) and GAR 70(7) mirror the measures prescribed in GAR 45 Other rules in relation to export.



The GA Board has approved the proposed amendment to the rules for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft Rule:

GAR 70 Import and export regulations in relation to *breeding units of semen*.

- (1) Prior to being registered for use in Australia or New Zealand, a *breeding unit of semen* imported from a country other than New Zealand must be accompanied by a record of satisfactory *DNA fingerprint analysis* of the *sire*.
- (2)
 - (a) Subject to subrule 56(3)(b), a *greyhound* registered for *artificial insemination* purposes by a member country of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries* is deemed to be registered in Australia and New Zealand in relation to any matter relating to *artificial insemination* with imported semen.
 - (b) Prior to the importation of a *breeding unit of semen* from a country other than New Zealand, the importer must lodge, in a manner prescribed by *Greyhounds Australasia*, a prescribed form notifying *Greyhounds Australasia* of the number, assessment and allocation of the *breeding units of semen* being imported, together with any prescribed *fee*.
- (3) Any *breeding units of semen* subject to *artificial insemination* processes and imported into Australia or New Zealand:
 - (a) are subject to and must comply with applicable export and import requirements; and
 - (b) must comply with *the Rules*, and for the avoidance of doubt, restrictions and quotas on services listed in Rule 62 equally apply to imported *breeding units of semen*.
- (4) Export of a *breeding unit of semen* to a country that is not a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries* is prohibited without the prior permission of *Greyhounds Australasia*.
- (5) For the purposes of any proceedings or charges laid pursuant to *the Rules*, where a *breeding unit of semen* has been exported to a country that is not a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries* without the prior permission of *Greyhounds Australasia*, and:
 - (a) the *Greyhounds Australasia* records indicate that a person was the *registered owner* of the *breeding unit of semen* at the time of the export; or
 - (b) the *Controlling Body* records indicating that a person was the *registered owner* or *Studmaster* of the *sire* at the time of the export;

shall be prima facie evidence that the *owner* of the *breeding unit of semen*, *owner* of the *sire*, or *Studmaster* of the *sire*, intended to export the *breeding unit of semen* to a country that is not a member of the *International Greyhound Alliance Registries*.



- (6) Subject to subrule (5), an offence is committed if a *person* sells or otherwise transfers ownership or custody of a *breeding unit of semen* to another *person* in circumstances where they are aware, or should reasonably have been aware, that the *breeding unit of semen* will be, or is likely to be exported to a country that is not a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries*.
- (7) A *person* will not be in breach of subrule (5), if the person has, prior to selling or transferring ownership or custody of the *breeding unit of semen*, taken adequate steps to ensure that the prior permission of *Greyhounds Australasia* has been, or will be, sought by the intended recipient of the *breeding unit of semen*, by obtaining from the intended recipient:
- (a) a copy of the written request from the intended recipient to *Greyhounds Australasia* for permission to export a *breeding unit of semen* to a country that is not a member of the *International Alliance of Greyhound Registries*; and
 - (b) a written response from *Greyhounds Australasia* confirming that such permission has been or will be issued.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

GAR 138(a) Meaning of *exempted substance*

Summary:

Since 2008, exempted substances have been provided within the GARs to effectively prevent oestrus in racing female greyhounds, without compromising integrity and welfare. Veterinary advice is that multiple options should be available to reflect different effects on individuals and to protect against supply disruptions.

The introduction of changes to exempted substances can only be proposed for introduction into the GA rules, once an extensive process has been undertaken that requires consultation with specialist groups, targeted research, and study, followed by an extensive risk analysis to ensure that both the welfare of greyhounds and the integrity of the sport are maintained.

Following administration studies of two different TGA registered oral contraceptive products, Brevinor (norethisterone / ethinylestradiol) and Levlen ED (levonorgestrel / ethinylestradiol), and subsequent analysis and review of results, consideration at multiple Veterinary and Analyst Committee (VAC) meetings occurred. Subsequently, the amendment of GAR 138 with addition of ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel to the exempted substances in GAR 139(a) was recommended to the GA Rules Forum.

The GA Board has approved the following draft rule for consultation by the Controlling Bodies:

Draft Rule:

138 Meaning of *exempted substance*

An *exempted substance* includes the following substances:

- (a) ethyloestrenol, norethisterone, **ethinylestradiol or levonorgestrel** when *administered* orally to a female *greyhound* and where it has been prescribed by a *veterinarian* for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in a female *greyhound*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

GAR 139 (y) Permanently banned prohibited substances, and certain offences in relation to them

Summary:

Changes to the list of permanently banned prohibited substances are proposed for introduction into the GA rules once an extensive process has been undertaken that requires consultation with specialist groups, targeted research, and study, followed by an extensive risk analysis to ensure that both the welfare of greyhounds and the integrity of the sport are maintained.

Following a notice to NSW participants warning of the use of Bisphosphonates, the addition of Bisphosphonates to GAR 139 permanently banned prohibited substances, was proposed by VAC and following consultative assessments, subsequently supported by the GA Rules Forum.

The proposed addition to GAR 139 would prohibit the use of Bisphosphonates in greyhounds. Bisphosphonates are not registered for use in dogs and are drugs that inhibit the normal biological mechanism for bone maintenance/repair. This can lead to increased bone fragility and significantly heighten the risk of catastrophic fracture. Bisphosphonates can also cause retention of calcified cartilage in skeletally immature animals, leading to developmental orthopedic disease. In addition, detection times are highly unpredictable, which may lead to positive swabs over a year after treatment, presenting a challenge to regulate their use in racing animals.

The GA Board has approved the following draft rules for consultation by the Controlling Bodies:

Draft Rule:

139 *Permanently banned prohibited substances, and certain offences in relation to them*

(1) The following *prohibited substances*, or any metabolite, isomer or artefact of any of them are deemed to be *permanently banned prohibited substances*:

...

(y) Bisphosphonates

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Amended Definition: Presentation or Presented

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022. Since that time there have been additional alterations to the local rules of greyhound racing in both Victoria and NSW, concerning the definition of presentation and presented.

The following proposed amendment to the GAR Definition seeks to capture these local rule alterations and ensures an aligned and consistent approach across all GA jurisdictions.

Draft Amended Definition:

presentation or ***presented*** means a *greyhound* is presented for an *Event* as from the time commencing at the *appointed scratching time* of the *Event* the *greyhound* is *nominated for*, and which continues until the time a *greyhound* is removed from the *racecourse* after the *Event* unless directed by the *Stewards* pursuant to rule 94(2).

Where a *greyhound* is presented for an *Event* and the *Controlling Body* requires a sample to be taken from the *greyhound*, presentation at the event is deemed to continue until the *sample* is taken notwithstanding the *scratching* of the *greyhound*.

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 42 (d) Restrictions on Greyhounds competing due to central or peripheral nervous system or vision condition

Summary:

Following discussion by the Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Veterinary and Analysts Committee and Integrity Committee, an amendment to GAR 42 was presented for consideration at the GA Rules Forum. The amendment looks to capture any veterinary episode, described within GAR 42, that occurs on a racecourse.

The proposed rule amendment, part (1)(d) of GAR42, provides clarity concerning the location and application of a sanction to a greyhound that suffers a prescribed veterinary episode including seizure or collapse. Confirming that it would apply to any such occasion on a racecourse, including as a result of an event or trial, whereby a veterinarian may offer their opinion of the prescribed condition being evidenced in the greyhound (including retrospectively, via a review of any vision made available). Subrule (5) is also added to require the trainer to report such incidents to Stewards, including at trials.

Following endorsement by the Rules Forum, the GA Board has approved the proposed rules amendments for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies

Draft Rule:

GAR 42 Restrictions on greyhounds competing due to central or peripheral nervous system or vision condition.

(1) A greyhound must be prohibited by the Stewards from competing in an Event if the greyhound is examined by a veterinarian on a racecourse and it is found that the greyhound is or was, or otherwise information comes to light which in the opinion of a veterinarian reveals that the greyhound is or was:

(a) suffering from an illness or condition which affects or may affect any part of its central or peripheral nervous system;

(b) suffering an illness or condition which in the opinion of the *veterinarian* may cause erratic behaviour or an unsatisfactory performance of the *greyhound* in, or otherwise affect the true running of, an *Event*; or



(c) in the opinion of the *veterinarian* or other *authorised person*, severely distressed, severely ataxic, collapsed (or would collapse if not supported by a handler), or has suffered a seizure.

(d) for the avoidance of doubt, subrule (1)(c) applies to any such occasion on a *racecourse*, including as a result of an *Event* or *trial*, and a *veterinarian* may offer their opinion retrospectively on any information or evidence made available to them.

(2) Where a *greyhound* is prohibited from competing in an *Event* pursuant to subrule (1), the *greyhound* must not compete in an *Event* until the *greyhound* has passed a veterinary examination and *satisfactory trial* in the presence of an officiating *veterinarian*. If the veterinary examination indicates that the *greyhound* is in good health and is suitable to compete in an *Event* and the *satisfactory trial* is passed, the *veterinarian* will issue a certificate to that effect, and a prohibition pursuant to subrule (1) of this rule will immediately cease to have effect.

(3) In addition to subrule (2), where a *greyhound* is prohibited from competing in an *Event* pursuant to subrule (1)(c), the *Stewards* must impose a period of *suspension* in respect of the *greyhound*, which is to be recorded by them as part of the *identification record*. The period of *suspension* imposed is to be:

- (a) in the case of a first occurrence, 28 days at all *tracks*; or
- (b) in the case of a second occurrence, three months at all *tracks*; or
- (c) in the case of a third or subsequent occurrence, 12 months at all *tracks*.

(4) Notwithstanding subrules (1), (2) and (3) of this rule, if a *greyhound* is examined by the officiating *veterinarian* and is found to have or suspected of having impaired vision in one or both eyes, the *Stewards* must order the *greyhound* be prohibited from competing in an *Event* until:

- (a) a *veterinarian* approved by a *Controlling Body* examines the *greyhound* and certifies that the *greyhound's* vision is adequate to allow the *greyhound* to see the *lure*; and
- (b) the *greyhound* has completed a *satisfactory trial*.

(5) If a *greyhound* collapses (or would collapse if not supported by a handler) or has suffered a seizure at any time, the trainer must report the condition or incident to the *Stewards* as soon as practicable, who may make such directions as outlined within subrule (2).

Date of effect: TBA



DRAFT AMENDMENT TO GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA RULES

Draft Amendment GAR 76 Scratching After Box Draw

Summary:

The contemporary Greyhounds Australasia (GA) Rules were formally adopted in May 2022.

GAR 76 relates to measures imposed in the event of a greyhound being scratched from an event after the drawing of boxes. Under the current provisions of GAR 76(2) and GAR 76(4), the stand-down measures imposed commence on the date of the event.

In the scenario whereby a greyhound is scratched in the days between the box draw and the event, a potential anomaly exists whereby a greyhound may compete in an alternate event as the stand-down does not commence until the day of the original event. i.e. scratch due to issue on Tuesday for Friday race, but race on the Wednesday, as penalty does not commence until Friday.

The draft amendments to GAR 76, seek to eradicate the anomaly by ensuring that the stand-down commences at the time of scratching and continues for the period from the day of the event.

The GA Board has approved the proposed amendment to the rules for external consultation by the Controlling Bodies.

Draft Rule:

GAR 76 Scratching's after box draw

- (1) The *trainer*, or in the *trainer's* absence the *owner* of a *greyhound*, or other person authorised by the *trainer* or the *owner*, must:
 - (a) prior to the *appointed scratching time* of an *Event* a *greyhound* is engaged to compete in, examine the *greyhound* to ensure that it is free of injury, illness and in the case of a female *greyhound*, not in season; and
 - (b) make application to withdraw the *greyhound* pursuant to subrule (2) if any injury, illness or seasonal condition that will prevent the *greyhound* from competing (or competing would be adverse to the greyhound's health or welfare) is apparent before the *appointed scratching time*.
- (2) In order to withdraw a *greyhound* from an *Event*, the *owner* or *trainer* or person authorised must apply to the *Controlling Body* or the *Stewards*. The *Controlling Body*



or the *Stewards* may, once satisfied the application is for an acceptable reason, authorise the *scratching* of the *greyhound* and apply an appropriate *stand-down period*.

- (3) The *Stewards* may require that a *greyhound* that is *scratched* from an *Event* be examined at a designated time and place.

[Note to subrule (3): *Stewards* may require that be done by a *veterinarian* and that a written report as to the health and welfare of the *greyhound* be provided to them prior to a *greyhound* next competing in an *Event*.

- (4) A *greyhound scratched* from an *Event* due to injury or illness is given a *stand-down period* commencing at the time of the *scratching* and continuing from 10 days from the date of the *Event*.

- (5) The *stand-down period* referred to in subrule (4) of this rule may be reduced by the *Stewards* to a minimum of seven days upon production of a certificate from a *veterinarian* to the satisfaction of the *Stewards*, stating that at the time of examination the *greyhound* is fit to start in another *Event*.

- (6) Further to subrule (5) of this rule, the stand-down period cannot be reduced if the *scratching* of the *greyhound* took place after the *appointed scratching time* for an *Event*.

- (7) An offence by an *owner* or *trainer* is committed if, in the opinion of the *Stewards*, a *greyhound* is *scratched* from an *Event* for an unacceptable reason.

Date of effect: TBA