

CONSULTATION NOTICE - RULES OF RACING

Code of Racing	Greyhound
Rule	Existing Local Rules 12, 22 and 26, and proposed new Local Rules 26A, 26B & 39
Description	Permitted Limited Use Barking Muzzle (LR 12); Postponed/abandoned meeting (LR 22); Lodgement of nomination (LR 26); 350m Starting Boxes at 'The Q Straight' (LR 26A); 10 Dog Events at 'The Q Straight' (LR 26B); Prohibition on suspended persons entering greyhound racing or training premises (LR 39).
Authorised for Consultation	January 24, 2025
Consultation Closes	February 21, 2025
Submissions to	policies@racingqueensland.com.au

Racing Queensland (**RQ**), in conjunction with the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (**QRIC**), is proposing several changes to the *Queensland Local Rules of Racing - Greyhound*.

Full details of the proposed changes are provided in the annexure at the end of this document, with the rationale for each change outlined below:

1. Local Rule 12 (Permitted Limited Use Barking Muzzle)

In October 2024, the QRIC advised the industry that the use of barking muzzles would no longer be permitted due to potential animal welfare issues associated with the use of such muzzles on greyhounds. Accordingly, Local Rule 12, which provides for the QRIC to permit the limited use of barking muzzles under specific circumstances, is proposed to be deleted.

2. Local Rule 22 (Postponed/abandoned meeting)

RQ's *Procedure - Abandoned Race Meeting Compensation (Greyhound)*, which outlines the compensation payments to be made by RQ when a greyhound race meeting is abandoned, is scheduled to take effect from February 1, 2025. To support this new procedure, changes to Local Rule 22 are proposed to provide greater clarity regarding the compensation payments applicable in respect of an abandoned Event.

3. Local Rule 26 (Lodgement of nomination)

Changes are proposed to Local Rule 26 regarding the withdrawal of a greyhound that has been nominated for an Event. In particular, RQ considers that the withdrawal of a greyhound's nomination for an Event following the closure of nominations but prior to box draw can be detrimental to field sizes and, in some cases, may be for improper purposes. A stand down period, commencing at the time of the withdrawal and continuing for 10 days from the date of the Event, seeks to eliminate occurrences of a greyhound's nomination being withdrawn in this period (unless the withdrawal is made due to the greyhound being ineligible).

4. Local Rule 26A (350m Starting Boxes at 'The Q Straight')

RQ is proposing to introduce a new Local Rule 26A to facilitate the use of the new ten starting box structure for 350m Events at 'The Q Straight'. For all such Events in which eight or less greyhounds are eligible to compete at the time when the box draw is to be carried out (including programmed 10 Dog Events), two of the boxes will be left unused and the remaining boxes will be numbered in accordance with the following table:

BOX NUMBER	NUMERAL	RUG COLOUR
1	1	Red
2	2	Black and white stripes
3	3	White
UNUSED		
4	4	Blue
5	5	Yellow
6	6	Green
UNUSED		
7	7	Black
8	8	Pink
Reserve	9	Green and white stripes
Reserve	10	Red, white and blue

The proposed rule also outlines the numerals and rug colours to be worn by the greyhounds eligible to compete in such an Event (including reserves), and the starting box or boxes to be left vacant where less than eight eligible greyhounds at the time of box draw.

5. Local Rule 26B (10 Dog Events at 'The Q Straight')

Proposed Local Rule 26B is intended to facilitate the programming of '10 Dog Events' from the 350m starting boxes at 'The Q Straight'. For 10 Dog Events in which more than eight greyhounds are eligible to compete at the time when the box draw is to be carried out, all boxes will be used and numbered in accordance with the following table:

BOX NUMBER	NUMERAL	RUG COLOUR
1	1	Red
2	2	Black and white stripes
3	3	White
4	4	Blue
5	5	Yellow
6	6	Green
7	7	Black
8	8	Pink
9	9	Green and white stripes
10	10	Red, white and blue

The proposed rule also outlines the numerals and rug colours to be worn by the greyhounds eligible to compete in such an Event, and the starting box to be left vacant where there are only nine eligible greyhounds at the time at the time of box draw.



6. Local Rule 39 (Prohibition on suspended persons entering greyhound racing or training premises)

Through the introduction of a new Local Rule 39, RQ and the QRIC are proposing to implement additional prohibitions to GAR178(2), to restrict suspended persons from entering greyhound racing or training premises for the protection of the image and integrity of greyhound racing in Queensland.

Stakeholders and interested parties are invited to provide feedback on the proposed rule changes as per the details at the top of this document. The proposed changes are intended to take effect from March 1, 2025.



Annexure: Proposed Amendments



LR12 ~~Permitted Limited Use Barking Muzzle~~ **NOT USED**

~~In accordance with GAR30(2)(a), a barking muzzle may be approved by the Controlling Body for limited use provided that:-~~

- ~~(1) It does not completely close the greyhound's mouth and allows for reasonable jaw movement;-~~
- ~~(2) Is appropriately sized and fitted by a licensed person so as not to cause pain, injury or distress; and~~
- ~~(3) Is utilised strictly under the conditions outlined in Schedule 1 of these Local Rules.~~

LR22 **Postponed/abandoned meeting**

- (1) A greyhound eligible to compete at the time of the postponement may be withdrawn from the event without penalty.
- (2) ~~In line with~~ Subject to GAR 111(3), the prize money ~~allocated to~~ or other amounts payable in respect of an abandoned *Event* shall be distributed in such a manner as the Controlling Body shall determine.
- (3) If owing to adverse weather conditions or other circumstances where the Controlling Body in consultation with the club considers it impossible or impracticable to conduct a meeting for which the box draw had been conducted, it shall forthwith advertise the postponement or the abandoning of the meeting.
- (4) A club having had a meeting postponed or abandoned may make application to the Controlling Body for the granting of a date of a meeting in substitution.

LR26 **Lodgement of nomination**

- (1) The place at which a nomination may be submitted and the time by which a nomination is to be submitted shall be advertised.
- (2) Except with the approval of the Controlling Body, a nomination shall not be received after the advertised closing time. If no time be fixed for the closing of nominations, the closing time shall be 9am on the advertised day.
- (3) The Stewards shall not permit a greyhound to start at a TAB meeting unless a nomination in an approved form has been submitted to the Controlling Body prior to the time fixed for the box draw.
- (4) Where insufficient nominations are received, the Controlling Body may extend the closing time for the receipt of nominations for the meeting.
- (5) The submission of the original nomination for an Event to be conducted as a series of heats and a final shall suffice for the series.
- (6) A nomination shall be subject to the approval of the Controlling Body club or Stewards who may decline to receive, or at any time after receiving a nomination, reject the nomination. Should a nomination be rejected, any fee paid in respect thereof may be refunded.
- (7) In the event of the death of the owner, the nomination may remain valid, upon approval of the Stewards and the completion of incoming ownership requirements.
- (8) The Controlling Body may permit a person who nominated a greyhound to withdraw the nomination prior to the ~~box draw upon being satisfied that it is appropriate in all of the circumstances~~ closure of nominations.
- (9) A greyhound which has its nomination for an Event withdrawn after closure of nominations

but prior to box draw is given a stand-down period commencing at the time of the withdrawal and continuing for 10 days from the date of the Event, unless the withdrawal was due to the greyhound being ineligible.

LR26A350m Starting Boxes at ‘The Q Straight’

- (1) In accordance with GAR 104, the Controlling Body approves the use of starting boxes comprising ten individual boxes for the starting of Events conducted over a distance of 350 metres at ‘The Q Straight’.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of LR26B (which apply to 10 Dog Events), the following shall apply to all Events conducted from the 350m starting boxes at ‘The Q Straight’:
- (a) the starting boxes shall be numbered from one to eight in accordance with column one of the table which is part of subrule (e) of this Local Rule;
- (b) GAR 85(3), (4) and (5) shall be deleted and replaced with subrules (c), (d) and (e) of this Local Rule;
- (c) where there are less than eight greyhounds eligible to compete in the Event at the time when the box draw is to be carried out, the number of the box or boxes to be left vacant must be in accordance with the following table:

<u>NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE GREYHOUNDS</u>	<u>BOX OR BOXES TO BE LEFT VACANT</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>3 and 6</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>2, 5 and 8</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>2, 5, 7 and 8</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>2, 5, 6, 7 and 8</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8</u>

- (d) unless otherwise authorised by the Controlling Body for a special purpose, a greyhound other than a reserve greyhound drawn to start from a box number specified in column one of the table which is part of subrule (e) of this Local Rule shall wear the numeral and rug colour specified in column two and column three of that table; and
- (e) if a reserve greyhound becomes eligible to compete in the Event as a result of a scratching of a greyhound drawn to compete, it must wear the numeral and rug colour specified in columns two and three of the table below and must start from the box number which was drawn for the greyhound which it has replaced.

<u>BOX NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMERAL</u>	<u>RUG COLOUR</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Red</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Black and white stripes</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>White</u>
<u>UNUSED</u>		
<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Blue</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Yellow</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Green</u>
<u>UNUSED</u>		
<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>Black</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Pink</u>
<u>Reserve</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Green and white stripes</u>
<u>Reserve</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Red, white and blue</u>

LR26B10 Dog Events at 'The Q Straight'

- (1) The Controlling Body may authorise an Event between up to ten (10) greyhounds from the 350m starting boxes at 'The Q Straight' (10 Dog Event).
- (2) Where the Controlling Body authorises a 10 Dog Event and there are no more than eight greyhounds eligible to compete in the Event at the time when the box draw is to be carried out, LR26A(2) and all other provisions of the Rules shall apply to the Event as if it were a race (with the necessary changes).
- (3) The following shall apply to all other 10 Dog Events authorised by the Controlling Body:
- (a) the starting boxes shall be numbered from one to ten in accordance with column one of the table which is part of subrule (d) of this Local Rule;
- (b) GAR 85(3), (4) and (5) shall be deleted and replaced with subrules (c) and (d) of this Local Rule;
- (c) where there are nine (9) greyhounds eligible to compete in the Event at the time when the box draw is to be carried out, the number of the box to be left vacant must be in accordance with the following table:

NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE GREYHOUNDS	BOX OR BOXES TO BE LEFT VACANT
<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>

- (d) unless otherwise authorised by the Controlling Body for a special purpose, a greyhound drawn to start from a box number specified in column one of the table below shall wear the numeral and rug colour specified in column two and column three of that table:

BOX NUMBER	NUMERAL	RUG COLOUR
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Red</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Black and white stripes</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>White</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Blue</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Yellow</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Green</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>Black</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Pink</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Green and white stripes</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Red, white and blue</u>

- (e) all other provisions of the Rules shall apply to the Event as if it were a race (with the necessary changes).

LR39 Prohibition on suspended persons entering greyhound racing or training premises

Unless the Controlling Body or Stewards direct otherwise, in addition to the consequences set out in GAR 178(2), a person who is suspended must not, during the period of suspension:

- (a) enter any enclosure or other portion of a racecourse or any lands occupied or used in connection with a racecourse during any Event, whether acting as agent or otherwise;
- (b) enter the premises of a Club on a day when a meeting, qualifying trial, satisfactory trial, other trial, Event or greyhound training of any type is occurring or would reasonably be expected to occur regardless of whether the meeting, qualifying trial, satisfactory trial, other trial, Event or training is actually occurring at that time; and

(c) enter or go or remain on, at any time, any place where greyhounds are trained, kept or raced including training tracks (whether public or private) but excluding the property where the suspended person ordinarily resides.