

GRNZ RACING AND GRADING GUIDELINES

DATE 31 JANUARY 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 FEBRUARY 2023

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the GRNZ Racing and Grading Guidelines is to supplement the GRNZ Rules of Racing with regards to racing and grading of greyhounds.

The Guidelines:

- (a) Create a fair, equitable and transparent system where greyhounds with the most appropriate form secure starts and are grouped with greyhounds of similar ability; and
- (b) Ensure the viability of the industry by promoting the highest standard of racing possible that maximises the racing career of greyhounds in New Zealand.

These Guidelines are applicable to all racing Greyhounds in New Zealand, all Clubs and all Registered Persons.

The Guidelines must be read in conjunction with the Rules, including where a definition which isn't provided in the Guidelines but is provided in the Rules.

DEFINITIONS

Appointed Scratching Time – means the time determined by GRNZ to be the time by which an application to Scratch a Greyhound from an Event must be made.

Approved Registration Authority - means the same as the meaning given to that term in the Constitution.

Artificial Insemination – means insemination by any method other than a natural method.

Box Draw – means an allocation process used to determine the respective starting boxes that Greyhounds are to be placed in for an Event.

Boxed Runner(s) – means a Greyhound that is in Field and is not a Reserve.

Breeder – means a Registered Person who owns a Breeding Female or who has authorised another person to use the Breeding Female for breeding purposes.

Breeding Female – means a female Greyhound registered with GRNZ for breeding purposes.

Calendar Restricted Age Race – means a Race for Greyhounds which are whelped between 1 January and 31 December (inclusive) in the year prior to the year preceding the Race. Penalty free except for C0/C0d.

Class of Meeting – there are three classes of race meetings; Low Grade, Mixed Grade and Premier. The Class of Meeting will determine the Prize Money distribution.

Classic Restricted Age Race – during a racing season beginning on 1 August, this means a Race for Greyhounds which are whelped on or before 30 June in the year preceding the start of the season, and on or after 1 July two years preceding the start of the season, and is penalty free except for C0/C0d.

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Club – means a Greyhound Racing Club which is a member of GRNZ, and includes a non-voting affiliated body, a Greyhound Racing Club which is registered or licensed by GRNZ, or which GRNZ approves to conduct Greyhound Racing.

Club Selection Criteria – means a Club's selection criteria which is used for determining the Order of Entry into an Event.

Consolation Race – means a Race for Greyhounds which have raced in a qualifying Race but have failed to gain a start in the Final for which such qualifying Races were held.

Constitution – means the Constitution of the New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association Incorporated, as amended from time to time.

Dead-Heat – means where two (2) or more Greyhounds pass the finishing line at the same time in a Race.

Distance Category – there are three main distance categories of Races: Sprint (200m to 456m), Middle Distance (457m to 599m) and Distance (600m and over).

Distance Race – means a Race 600m and over.

Event – means the competitive pursuit by one or more Greyhounds of a Lure at a Racecourse, and includes a Race, a Series, and a Qualifying Trial. An Event does not include a Satisfactory Trial; it does not include any kind of trial other than a Qualifying Trial.

Feature Race – means a Race of regional significance which attracts the better performed Greyhounds in that region, designated as a Feature Race by GRNZ in accordance with Clause 4.2 of these Guidelines.

Field – means the Greyhounds in a Race, including Reserves.

Final – means a Race held under conditions prescribed by GRNZ for which eligibility may or may not have been determined in Heats and/or Semi-Finals.

Generic Early Racing Trait – means the directional trait assigned to a Greyhound in its most basic level. The three available Generic Early Racing Traits are:

1. Railer (includes specific Determined Railer and Railer)
2. Straight (includes Specific Straight Railer, Straight and Straight Wide)
3. Wide (includes Specific Wide and Extra Wide)

Greyhound – means a canine of the greyhound breed which:

- (a) is registered pursuant to the Rules of GRNZ;
- (b) is retired but under the care of a Registered Person;
- (c) includes the offspring conceived from the result of a service between a Breeding Female and a Sire.

Greyhound Racing – means everything and anyone who participates, at any level, at any time, with any activity associated with the racing of Greyhounds and includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) the keeping of greyhounds which are in the care or custody of Registered Persons;
- (b) the registration and breeding of Greyhounds;
- (c) the owning, handling, breeding, whelping, rearing, keeping, education, pre-training, training, trialling or racing of Greyhounds.

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GRNZ – means the New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association Incorporated, operating under the name Greyhound Racing New Zealand.

Group Race – means a Race of national importance which consistently attracts the best eligible Greyhounds from all parts of New Zealand, designated as a Group Race by the GRNZ in accordance with Clause 4.1 of these Guidelines.

Guidelines – means the GRNZ Racing and Grading Guidelines.

Handler – means a Person registered by GRNZ to physically be in charge of a Greyhound whilst the Greyhound is on the Racecourse for an Event or trial, and includes:

- (a) the Trainer of a Greyhound;
- (b) any Person that is authorised by the Stewards to be in charge of a Greyhound pursuant to Rule 82(4) of the Rules.

Heat – means the competitive pursuit of a Lure by two (2) or more Greyhounds in a Race held under conditions prescribed by GRNZ and by which the eligibility of Greyhounds to be Nominated for a Final is determined.

Invitation Race – means a Race approved by GRNZ as being an Invitation Race to which a Club may invite any Greyhound graded at C1 and above to compete, and is governed by Clause 7.4.

Judge – means the Official approved by GRNZ to determine the finishing placings in an Event.

Licensed Person – means a Person licensed or registered by GRNZ, and means the same as Registered Person.

Lure – means any item, natural or man-made, that is used in any way, by any Person, with the intention or effect of encouraging or inciting a Greyhound to pursue, encourage or excite it by responding to such stimuli.

Lure Driver – means a person approved by GRNZ to carry out the duties of a Lure Driver.

Maximum Disruption Redraw – means a Redraw where a completely new Box Draw is conducted which may result in all Greyhounds having a significantly different box to the previous Box Draw.

Meeting – means any occasion at which Greyhound Racing Events are scheduled to be conducted pursuant to the Rules and these Guidelines. Unless otherwise specified, this is a Meeting where a Totalisator is in operation.

Middle Distance Race – means a Race from 457m to 599m.

Minimum Disruption Redraw – means a Redraw where the impact on the original Field's Box Draw is minimised by conducting a draw for the Greyhound added to the Field as a correction and adjusting the original Field for this correction, ideally requiring no Greyhound from the original Field to move more than one box.

Minimum Stake Schedule – means the schedule which sets out what the minimum stakes a class of race shall be worth.

Nomination – means the submission of an entry of a Greyhound for an Event. Nominate, Nominating, and Nominated for have similar meanings.

Official – means a person appointed or authorised to officiate at or perform official tasks at or in relation to

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an Event, Meeting or trial. An Official can include a secretary, Steward, Judge, assistant Judge, photo finish operator, kennel, track, weighing or general, starter, assistant starter, Lure Driver, officiating veterinarian, clerk or person in any other official capacity connected with an Event, Meeting or trials.

Order of Entry – the order in which Greyhounds will be drawn into an Event.

Owner – means any person who has a legal or equitable interest in a Greyhound, including a lessee with an interest recorded with GRNZ.

Owner Trainer – means an Owner who trains a Greyhound of which he/she is an Owner or part-Owner. Where an Owner Trainer is only a part-Owner, he/she can only train for a maximum of five different partnerships.

PBD – Preferred Box Draw.

Person – means any person or body corporate whether or not registered by GRNZ, who by their position or conduct is connected in some way to Greyhound Racing.

Preferred Box Draw Race – means a Race where Greyhounds are drawn into their starting boxes according to their Early Racing Traits.

Prize Money – means any money, rewards, trophies or consideration awarded in relation to a Greyhound competing in an Event.

Qualifying Trial – means an Event held pursuant to conditions prescribed by GRNZ by which the eligibility of Greyhounds to compete in another Event is determined.

Race – means an Event between up to eight Greyhounds which is authorised by GRNZ and may be part of a Series. Unless otherwise specified, this is a Race where a Totalisator is in operation.

Racecourse – means land and surrounds approved by GRNZ and used for the purposes of Greyhound Racing Meetings and includes the land inside a 100-metre boundary extending outwards from the perimeter of the race track.

Recognised Race – means a Group Race or Feature Race pursuant to Clause 4, and does not include a local Club feature Race.

Redraw – means where a second or subsequent Box Draw is conducted for a Field.

Registered Person – means a Person registered or licensed by GRNZ, and means the same as “Licensed Person”. A Registered Person may be issued with a licence.

Reserve – means the Greyhound(s) who is ninth or tenth in the Field.

Rules – means the GRNZ Rules of Racing and includes all Local Rules.

Running Out Nominations – means a Greyhound has either; been nominated for a Series and has contested more than one Event in that Series; or been nominated for an Event, and prior to racing in that first Event has been nominated for a subsequent Event. The first Event and or the subsequent Event may also form part of a Series.

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Satisfactory Trial – means a Greyhound trial required to be performed to the satisfaction of the Stewards or another authorised person pursuant to LR132A of the Rules. It can include a Satisfactory Weight Trial under Rule 102 of the Rules.

Scratching – means the act of a Greyhound being withdrawn from an Event by a Trainer or with the permission of the Stewards. Note: Scratching has the equivalent meaning to “withdrawn”. When a Greyhound is withdrawn from an Event, it can be referred to as having been “scratched”.

Semi-Final – means the competitive pursuit of a Lure by two (2) or more Greyhounds by which the eligibility of Greyhounds to start in a Final is determined.

Series – means an Event comprising legs that ultimately results in a Final being held. A competing Greyhound may qualify to participate further in an Event depending on its placing in a leg of an Event.

Sire – means a male Greyhound which is registered for breeding purposes.

Special Condition Age Race – means a Race for Greyhounds in which eligibility is restricted by age parameters and open to Greyhounds from more than one grade with special conditions permissible relating to wins, Prize Money earned and other factors. Penalty free except for C0/C0d.

Specific Early Racing Trait (ERT) – means the directional trait assigned to a greyhound, which will be used to determine its starting box allocation in a PBD Race. The seven available Specific Early Racing Traits are:

1. Determined Railer (DR)
2. Railer (R)
3. Straight Railer (SR)
4. Straight (ST)
5. Straight Wide (SW)
6. Wide (W)
7. Extra Wide (XW)

Sprint Race – means a Race from 200m to 456m.

Steward – means a person appointed by the Racing Integrity Board and approved by GRNZ, or appointed or approved by a Controlling Body in Australia (or federal, state or territory government or government body in Australia), to carry out functions or duties in relation to Greyhound Racing. It includes a Chief Steward, Deputy Chief Steward, Senior Steward, Steward, and Cadet Steward.

Studmaster – means a Registered Person who has the care, control, or custody of a Sire.

Totalisator Meeting – means a Meeting at which a Totalisator is in operation. Totalisator Race shall have a corresponding meaning.

Trainer – means a person registered by GRNZ to train a greyhound and includes an Owner Trainer.

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1. Nominations

- 1.1 Nominations of Greyhounds for an Event or Satisfactory Trial must comply with the Rules, including the requirement that Greyhounds must be at least 16 months of age in order to be Nominated for an Event or Satisfactory Trial.

2. Meeting Schedules

- 2.1 Meeting schedules must comply with LR75A of the Rules.
- 2.2 All Meeting schedules submitted shall include:
 - (a) Day and date of meeting;
 - (b) Venue;
 - (c) First Race start time (if known);
 - (d) Closing date for Nominations;
 - (e) Time of draw;
 - (f) Contact details for draw;
 - (g) Distances available;
 - (h) Level of Prize Money payable (if applicable);
 - (i) Level of Nomination fees payable (if applicable);
 - (j) List of Feature Races (if applicable) including any Consolation Race, with Race conditions specified in detail;
 - (k) Any special conditions (if applicable);
 - (l) Name of Club secretary and contact details.

3. Minimum Stake Schedule

- 3.1 Every Meeting schedule submitted under Clause 2 for publication in the official publication of GRNZ shall stipulate the amount of Prize Money payable in respect of class Races and other Feature Races scheduled. The amount of Prize Money advertised must comply with the Minimum Stake Schedule and winning percentages as published from time to time by GRNZ.
- 3.2 The Minimum Stake Schedule and Premier Meeting Stakes Schedule shall be published on the GRNZ website and updated regularly.

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4. Recognised Races

- 4.1 The allocation of Group Races shall be reviewed annually by GRNZ. An intended schedule of Group Races must be notified to Clubs by 31 July each year. Additions or amendments to this schedule should be notified to Clubs at least 28 days prior to any amendments or additions taking place.
- 4.2 The allocation of Feature Races shall be reviewed annually by GRNZ. Scheduled Feature Races must be finalised for the season ahead by GRNZ and distributed (as part of the Group Race Schedule) to Clubs by 31 July each year. A local Club feature Race that is not shown on the annual schedule produced by GRNZ does not constitute a Feature Race under the Rules or these Guidelines.
- 4.3 Any Club wishing to run an Oaks and/or Derby must gain approval from GRNZ prior to publishing the schedule that includes the Oaks or Derby Race. Oaks Races shall be contested only by Classic Restricted Age female Greyhounds, and Derby Races by Classic Restricted Age male Greyhounds as defined in Clause 7.3.

5. Deductions for Group Races and Feature Races

- 5.1 Where a Club conducts a Group Race or Feature Race, the Club shall deduct an amount of 5% of the Prize Money up to a maximum deduction of \$1,000 and render that amount to the Breeder of the first eligible Greyhound past the post (Breeder's Bonus). To be eligible:
 - (a) the Greyhound must have been whelped in New Zealand; and
 - (b) the litter must have been registered by GRNZ.
- 5.2 If no eligible Greyhounds are entered, no Breeder's Bonus shall be deducted.
- 5.3 For the avoidance of doubt, all Races with Prize Money equal to or greater than \$10,000 will be subject to a Breeder's Bonus outlined in Clause 5.1.
- 5.4 Notwithstanding Clause 5.1, where a Club conducts the NZ Sires' Produce Stakes, the Club shall deduct an amount of 5% of the Prize Money up to a maximum of \$1,000 and render that amount to the Studmaster of the winner at the time of service. To be eligible, the Sire of the winner must have been New Zealand-based at the time of service or when the semen was collected in the case of Artificial Insemination. For the avoidance of doubt, a Studmaster may receive both the bonus outlined in this Clause 5.4 and Clause 5.1 if they are also the Breeder.

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6. Grading

- 6.1 Each Greyhound shall have two classes categorised by Race distance and Race type:
- (a) Sprint (200m – 456m)/Middle Distance class (457m – 599m); and
 - (b) Distance class (600m or more).

6.2 Classes:

Sprint/Middle Distance	Distance
Class 0 (C0)	Maiden distance (C0d)
Class 1 (C1)	Class 1 distance (C1d)
Class 2 (C2)	Class 2 distance (C2d)
Class 3 (C3)	
Class 4 (C4)	
Class 5 (C5)	

- 6.3 A Greyhound's grading shall be its classification at the time stipulated for the closing of Nominations.

7. Race Types

7.1 Sprint/Middle Distances Races:

- (a) Class 5 (Open) – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes 1-5 provided that the highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- (b) Class 4 – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes 1-4 provided that the highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- (c) Class 3 – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes 1-3 provided that the highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- (d) Class 2 – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes 1-2 provided that C2 Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- (e) Class 1 – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Class 1 only.
- (f) Class 0 (Maiden) – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Class 0 only.

7.2 Distance Races

- (a) Class 2 Distance – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes C0d, C1d and C2d, provided that the highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.

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- (b) Class 1 Distance – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at Classes C0d and C1d, provided that C1d Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- (c) Class 0 Distance – This is a Race for Greyhounds graded at C0d only.

7.3 Age Races

- (a) Classic Restricted Age – This is a Race for Greyhounds which are whelped between 1 July and 30 June (inclusive) in the year preceding the Race. Penalty free except for C0.
 - (b) Calendar Restricted Age – This is a Race for Greyhounds which are whelped between 1 January and 31 December (inclusive) in the year prior to the year preceding the Race. Penalty free except for C0.
 - (c) Special Condition Age Race – This is a Race for Greyhounds in which eligibility is restricted by age parameters and open to Greyhounds from more than one grade with special conditions permissible relating to wins, Prize Money earned and other factors. Penalty free except for C0.
- 7.4 Invitation Race: This is a Race approved by GRNZ as being an Invitation Race to which a Club may invite any Greyhound graded at C1 and above to compete. All classes have equal rights for inclusion. Invitation Races are penalty free.
- 7.5 New Zealand Breeders' Incentive Scheme Races: These are Races for the New Zealand Bred Greyhounds graded at C0/C0d and above. The highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection. Penalty free except for C0.
- 7.6 Consolation Race: This is a Race where a Greyhound must have competed in a Heat in order to be eligible. Greyhounds must be expressly Nominated for a Consolation Race in order to be selected for a Consolation Race. Greyhounds shall be selected for Consolation Races based on the order of placings in the Heats and/or Semi-Finals, regardless of anything elsewhere in these Guidelines or the Rules or in Club Selection Criteria.
- 7.7 A Club may schedule a grade Race restricted by sex, or divide a grade by sex, if stipulated as a special condition in the meeting schedules published by GRNZ per Clause 2.

8. Grading Penalties

- 8.1 Subject to the provisions of Clauses 8 to 13, a Greyhound shall be re-graded to the next classification upon winning one Totalisator Race in any grade except for C1 where a Greyhound must win two Totalisator Races before being re-graded to C2.
- 8.2 Subject to the provisions of Clause 11, a Greyhound competing in and winning any Race higher than its grade at a Totalisator Meeting shall be re-graded from its assessed class at time of Nomination to the next highest class.
- 8.3 Subject to the provisions of Clause 11, the winner of a combined class Race at a Totalisator Meeting shall be re-graded from its assessed class at time of Nomination to the next highest class.

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- 8.4 Any Greyhound winning a Sprint Race at a Totalisator Meeting shall also be re-graded over the Middle Distance class. Similarly, any Greyhound winning a Middle Distance Race at a Totalisator Meeting shall also be re-graded over the Sprint Distance class.
- 8.5 Any Greyhound winning a Distance Race at a Totalisator Meeting shall not be re-graded over Sprint or Middle Distance categories. Note a C0 Greyhound winning a Distance race will remain C0, but will become C1d or C2d as appropriate.
- 8.6 Any C1 Greyhound having downgraded from C2 shall be re-graded up to C2 upon winning one Totalisator Race.

9. Grading Penalties specific to Age Races

- 9.1 Should any Greyhound with a classification of C0 subsequently win a Classic Restricted Age, Calendar Restricted Age or Special Condition Age Race at a Totalisator Meeting, such Greyhound shall be re-graded to C1.
- 9.2 Should any Greyhound with a classification of C1, C2, C3, or C4 subsequently win a Classic Restricted Age Race or a Calendar Restricted Age Race or Special Condition Age Race at a Totalisator Meeting, such Greyhound shall not be re-graded and the win will be penalty free.
- 9.3 Should any Greyhound with a classification of C2, C3, C4 or C5 finish outside the first three in a Classic Restricted Age Race or a Calendar Restricted Age Race or Special Condition Age Race at a Totalisator Meeting, such Greyhound will not gain any benefit toward a downgrade.

10. Downgrading

- 10.1 Any Greyhound graded C2 and above which has competed three consecutive times in Sprint/Middle Distance grade Races without receiving Prize Money for running first, second or third on one of these three occasions shall be downgraded one class.
- 10.2 Any Greyhound graded C2d which has competed three consecutive times in Distance grade Races without receiving Prize Money for running first, second or third on one of these three occasions shall be downgraded one class to C1d.

11. Grading Penalties specific to Running Out Nominations

- 11.1 Any Greyhound can only be re-graded up one grade whilst Running Out Nominations. This re-grading will take effect from the Greyhound's first win after the time of Nomination. Subsequent wins whilst Running Out Nominations will not be subject to re-grading.
- 11.2 Likewise any Greyhound can downgrade whilst Running Out Nominations and this downgrade will take effect from the race where it first occurs. However any subsequent placings outside the top three whilst Running Out Nominations will not contribute to a subsequent downgrade.
- 11.3 A Greyhound that satisfies 11.1 and is re-graded up one grade whilst Running Out Nominations, will have any subsequent placings outside the top three, whilst Running Out these Nominations, contribute to a subsequent downgrade.

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- 11.4 A Greyhound that satisfies 11.2 and is downgraded whilst Running Out Nominations, will be re-graded up from that downgraded class for any subsequent win, whilst still Running Out these Nominations.

12. Grading of Greyhounds from Overseas

- 12.1 Owners of all imported Greyhounds must provide GRNZ with an official race record and meet all other conditions as prescribed from time to time by GRNZ in respect of a Greyhound which has raced overseas prior to Nominating the said Greyhound for any Event or Satisfactory Trial.
- 12.2 The grading of all imported Greyhounds shall be determined by GRNZ, and shall be subject to these Guidelines and the Rules for calculating such grading.

13. Dead-Heat

- 13.1 Any Greyhound Dead-Heating for first place at a Totalisator Meeting shall be deemed not to have won a Race and shall be regarded as a non-winner for the purpose of re-grading.
- 13.2 If two or more Greyhounds Dead-Heat for first place or another placing in an Event comprising a leg of a Series, the right of a Greyhound concerned to further participate in the Event shall, where necessary, be decided by a ballot.
- 13.3 Where the connections of Greyhounds which run a Dead-Heat cannot agree which of them is to receive any available prize which is not money and is unable to be physically divided the Stewards will:
- (a) decide who receives the prize by ballot;
 - (b) determine what (if any) sum of money is to be paid by the connections who receive the indivisible prize to the connections who do not take it; and
 - (c) where the Prize Money is like a trophy or award that must be returned at some point to the Club or some other person, decide what information should be officially recorded on, or in respect of, that trophy or other award.
- 13.4 If two or more Greyhounds Dead-Heat in an Event the Prize Money to be awarded for the relevant placings must be aggregated and equal shares awarded to the relevant connections.
- 13.5 If a Dead-Heat is declared for second place and the winner of an Event is disqualified, the greyhounds which ran the Dead-Heat for second place will be deemed to have run a Dead-Heat for first place, and the other finishing placings are to be amended accordingly. The same principle applies by analogy for a Dead-Heat for any other finishing placing.

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14. Disqualification from a Race

- 14.1 Where after running in a Race a Greyhound placed by the Judge is disqualified pursuant to the Rules, it shall be regarded as having not competed and the placings altered accordingly.
- 14.2 Where an information is filed or objection is laid which may affect the placing of any Greyhound in any Race, the Greyhound against which a breach of the Rules is alleged and the Greyhound claiming to be entitled to the placing, shall be liable to the grading Rules and these Guidelines which would have applied to the placings of the Race if no such information was filed or objection was laid.

15. Trainers

- 15.1 At least 48 hours prior to Nomination of a Greyhound for a Race or Qualifying Trial every Trainer who has taken over or commenced the training of such Greyhound shall notify GRNZ. Notwithstanding the provisions of this clause the provisions of Clause 15.2 shall apply to any change of Trainer between the time of Nomination for and the start of any Race. Such notification shall advise the following information:
- (a) Greyhound's name;
 - (b) Owners' names;
 - (c) Trainer's name
- 15.2 Any change of Trainer of a Greyhound between the time of its being Nominated for and the start of any Race shall forthwith be notified to GRNZ. Provided that where any such change takes place during the currency of any Meeting, or within the period of 24 hours immediately preceding the commencement of such Meeting, such notice must be given to a Steward for transmission to GRNZ and where so given shall operate as notice to GRNZ.
- 15.3 Any Greyhound domiciled in kennels other than those of its Registered Owner/Trainer and or Registered Trainer in excess of 14 days shall not be entitled to compete or participate in any Event or Satisfactory Trial conducted by a Club, unless permission is first obtained from GRNZ.
- 15.4 Any Person being the holder of a Trainer's licence (public or otherwise) issued by an Approved Registration Authority shall, upon establishing to the satisfaction of GRNZ that he/she is the holder of such licence and that the licence is current and valid, be entitled to train a Greyhound in New Zealand for a period not exceeding three (3) months. Thereafter, such person must register as a Trainer with GRNZ.
- 15.5 The Trainer of a Greyhound is at all times responsible for the welfare and proper care of a Greyhound and shall at all times comply with the GRNZ Health & Welfare Standards. This responsibility cannot be delegated to any other person at any time.
- 15.6 The Trainer of a Greyhound shall be responsible for, and shall make provision for, the proper care and handling of each Greyhound from the time the Greyhound arrives at a Racecourse for an Event, Satisfactory Trial or other trial until the time the Greyhound leaves the Racecourse.
- 15.7 The Trainer shall have the sole power of Nomination, entry or Scratching of a Greyhound.

16. Handlers

- 16.1 No person shall be Registered as a Handler by GRNZ until they have obtained the age of 13 years and have been granted a Handler's licence by GRNZ.
- 16.2 Prior to the granting of a Handler's licence by GRNZ, all applicants are required to be interviewed and to demonstrate that they can handle a Greyhound and understand the basic legal requirements under the Rules.
- 16.3 Between kennelling at the Racecourse and completion of all the post-Event activities, a Handler shall be in physical control of no more than one (1) Greyhound at any one time.
- 16.4 Handlers must comply with such other directions as GRNZ or Stewards may issue from time to time concerning the handling of Greyhounds at tracks.
- 16.5 For the avoidance of doubt, in Clause 16.3:
 - (a) a person shall be considered to be in "physical control" of a Greyhound where that person is controlling or supervising that Greyhound during pre-Event preparations, Events and post-Event activities; and
 - (b) a Greyhound which is kennelled does not require a person to be in "physical control" of it.

17. Field Selection

17.1 Field Selection must comply with Rule 75G of the Rules, which states:

- (1) GRNZ may specify the procedures GRNZ or a Club may use to select the field to compete in an Event from nominations received, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) the officials or committees who make field selection decisions;
 - (b) the selection of fields on form;
 - (c) the selection of more than one field for races of the same class and distance;
 - (d) the selection of greyhounds (and reserve greyhounds) drawn to compete in each Event;
 - (e) the use of heats to decide starters and reserves for the final of a race;
 - (f) the allocation of nominations into divisions for any race;
 - (g) the combining of races of different classes where insufficient nominations are received;
 - (h) the performance criteria for including greyhounds in the box draw;
 - (i) the cancellation of races if insufficient nominations are received;
 - (j) any other matters GRNZ thinks fit.
- (2) The selection criteria that apply to a nomination are the selection criteria specified by GRNZ under subrule (1) and published on GRNZ's website at the time of the nomination.

17.2 Clause 17 shall be read in conjunction with Clause 18.

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- 17.3 For the purpose of the administration of Clause 17.1, a Club may by resolution of a majority of its members in general meeting prescribe a Club Selection Criteria by which Nominated Greyhounds in each Race in the ensuing year are to be assessed for inclusion in the Box Draw provided that any such Club Selection Criteria established by a Club shall not supersede the Rules or these Guidelines. A notice setting out the Club Selection Criteria adopted by the Club to select Greyhounds for inclusion in draws shall be displayed in the Club's kennel block and the Club secretary's office.
- 17.4 All Club selection panel proceedings shall be held in closed committee.
- 17.5 If insufficient Nominations are received for a scheduled single class Race (i.e. 8 nominations), Clubs shall be permitted to combine any two consecutive classes, excepting C0 sprint/middle distance, and the highest graded Greyhounds shall have selection preference over the lower graded Greyhounds. The Prize Money payable for a combined Race shall not be less than that prescribed for the highest eligible class.
- 17.6 Where Nominations allow a Club to select more than one Field of the same class and distance (including any Heats to determine semi-finalists or finalists), the Club shall ensure that any Greyhounds registered in the same ownership and/or Trainer shall not be selected in the same Race, unless the number of Greyhounds registered in the same ownership and/or Trainer is such that separation as provided by this Rule is not practicable. Races with combined classes do not apply under this Rule.
- 17.7 C0/C0d Races shall not be combined with any other classes, although C0d Greyhounds may Nominate for C1d and C2d Races.
- 17.8 Where Heats are run for Totalisator Meetings, Clubs may select Reserves for the Final based on placings in the Heats or times registered in the Heats. Each Reserve Greyhound may be drawn by the Club as a starter in one other Race at the Meeting, but the said Greyhound shall not be permitted to compete in both Races, and the Final shall take preference over other Races.
- 17.9 In Invitation Races, all classes have equal rights for inclusion.
- 17.10 In all Age Races (see Clause 7.3), the highest graded Greyhounds shall have preference in selection.
- 17.11 Where a Greyhound is Nominated for a Race which is greater than its current classification, the said Greyhound will be considered for selection only after Greyhounds of higher classification have been selected.
- 17.12 Qualifying Trials shall be classed as Races for field selection purposes and may be used as a guide to selecting C0 Races.
- 17.13 Any Greyhound included in a Field which does not obtain a Race start shall be entitled to run a trial during the course of the Meeting or at the conclusion of the Meeting, subject to the approval of a Steward.
- 17.14 Where in relation to any Race where a Club has installed a photo finish electronic timer and any number of Heats may be run provided that finalists are decided by placings in qualifying order from each Heat (e.g. seven heats, seven winners plus the fastest second placed Greyhounds), the maximum number of starters (8) must be allowed to qualify for a quarter-final, Semi-Final or Final. If during one or more of the Heats or Semi-Finals, either:
- (a) two or more Greyhounds have identical times; or

(b) the timing system fails to function;

a ballot shall be conducted by the Stewards to determine which of the Greyhounds so affected shall be included in the Semi-Final or Final (as the case may be). Persons in control of all of the Greyhounds involved will be allowed to view the ballot.

18. Application of Nomination Preferences during Field Selection for Premier Meetings

- 18.1 All Races at a Premier Race Meeting shall be ranked in descending order of prize money (solely based on money) and the Field selection process should progress through Races in this order. Where prize money is equal, Group Race status shall take precedence. A Final shall take precedence over another graded Race of equal prize money.
- 18.2 Where a Race receives eight or more Greyhounds with A preference Nominations, the eight highest-ranked Greyhounds according to the Club Selection Criteria shall be selected as Boxed Runners. This shall be completed for all Races where eight or more A preference Nominations are received.
- 18.3 Any Greyhound who is selected as a Boxed Runner under 18.2 has its other preferences deleted.
- 18.4 The Greyhounds who do not make Fields for their A preference Nominations under 18.2 will then have their B Preferences become their A Preferences. The process under 18.2 is then repeated as necessary for any Races that did not have at least eight A preferences in the previous iteration, with C Preferences becoming B preferences etc. Therefore, the highest-ranking Greyhounds get the maximum chance to gain a start in their Race of choice.
- 18.5 After all of the Boxed Runners have been selected, Reserves are added to complete the Fields. If a Race is a Recognised Event (Clause 4) or a Final, the Rules and these Guidelines allow these Reserves to be a Boxed Runner of another Race. Otherwise, the Reserves must not be a Boxed Runner of another Race.

19. Box Draw, Rug Colours, Reserve Starters

- 19.1 Rule 85 of the Rules shall govern Box Draws, rug colours and Reserves, except in the case of Preferred Box Draw Races which is set out in Clauses 21-26 below.
- 19.2 Where GRNZ cancels any Box Draw that is conducted and orders a new Box Draw to take place, the Redraw shall be conducted as a Maximum Disruption Redraw for Random Box Draw Races, and as a Minimum Disruption Redraw for Preferred Box Draw Races.

20. Scratchings

- 20.1 Scratchings of Greyhounds shall be governed by Rules 76, 76A, 76B, 77 and 78 of the Rules, except in the case of Preferred Box Draw Races which is set out in Clause 26 below.
- 20.2 Where a Greyhound is stood down due to suffering an injury and the Owner or Trainer of the Greyhound has not produced a Veterinarian's Certificate to the Club to the satisfaction of the Steward by midday on the day preceding any Meeting for which the Greyhound is registered, the Greyhound will be Scratched from any Race at that Meeting that it is entered in.

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21. Preferred Box Draw Races Nominations and Early Racing Traits

- 21.1 GRNZ will appoint a minimum of three members to an ERT Panel.
- 21.2 When a Greyhound is being Nominated for a PBD Race for the first time, the Trainer shall submit the Greyhound's Generic Early Racing Trait to GRNZ at the time of Nomination. The ERT Panel reserves the right to amend any submitted Early Racing Trait with the Trainer where it deems appropriate.
- 21.3 After a Greyhound's first PBD Race, the ERT Panel will designate the Greyhound a Specific Early Racing Trait.
- 21.4 Where a Trainer would like their Greyhound's Specific Early Racing Trait to be reviewed, the Trainer shall make an application to the ERT Panel via the GRNZ Racing Manager, who will notify the Trainer of the outcome of the review.
- 21.5 After every PBD Race, at least two members of the ERT Panel will review the Specific Early Racing Traits of Greyhounds and will notify the Trainer where any change to a Specific Early Racing Trait is made.
- 21.6 GRNZ will maintain and publish a Schedule of Current Specific Early Racing Trait Designations of Greyhounds on its website.

22. Preferred Box Draw Races Box Draw Method

- 22.1 As required by the Rules and these Guidelines, Nominated Greyhounds will be prioritised into Fields according to Club Selection Criteria.
- 22.2 Greyhounds shall be allocated their starting boxes in line with the Rules and these Guidelines and in accordance with their Specific Early Racing Traits in PBD Races as set out in Clause 22.3 below.
- 22.3 Any Greyhounds designated DR will be drawn into the inside boxes, next outside of those will be those designated R, then SR, then ST, then SW, then W, with the outside boxes going to those designated XW.

23. Preferred Box Draw Races Redraws

- 23.1 Where a Redraw is ordered for a PBD Race, this should be completed using a Minimum Disruption Redraw wherever possible.

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24. Preferred Box Draw Races Reserves for a single Race of Grade and Distance

- 24.1 Where there are nine nominations for a PBD Race, Club Selection Criteria will be used to select the Greyhounds to be drawn into starting boxes 1 through 8. The remaining Greyhound will become a Reserve.
- 24.2 Where there are 10 or more nominations for a PBD Race, Club Selection Criteria will be used to select the Greyhounds to be drawn into starting boxes 1 through 8. Similarly the next two highest ranked Greyhounds will become Reserves in the order prescribed by the Club Selection Criteria.

25. Preferred Box Draw Races Reserves for multiple Races of same Grade and Distance

- 25.1 Where a meeting schedule allows more than one PBD Race to be selected for a particular grade and distance, any Greyhounds not drawn into starting boxes 1 through 8 in a Race shall be called the Remainder.
- 25.2 Where the Remainder is only one or two Greyhounds, then such Greyhounds will be Reserves for all Races in the order prescribed by the Club Selection Criteria.
- 25.3 If the Race is a Heat or Semi-Final of a Series or a Recognised Race (Clause 4), then the two top ranked Greyhounds according to the Club Selection Criteria shall be the Reserves for all Heats or Semi-Finals.
- 25.4 Where the Remainder comprises three or more Greyhounds, then they will be ranked in the order prescribed by the Club Selection Criteria and the highest ranked Greyhound shall be Reserve Number 9 in all Races.
- 25.5 A different Reserve Number 10 shall be subsequently chosen for each Race, starting with the highest ranked Greyhound according to the Club Selection Criteria and selecting successively through the ranked Remainder, until all Races have two Reserves.
- 25.6 If all of the Remainder have been selected as a Reserve and there are still Races with only one Reserve selected, the sequence outlined in 25.5 shall be repeated to determine the Reserve Number 10 Greyhounds in the remaining Races.

26. Effect of Scratching(s) in PBD Races with Reserve(s)

- 26.1 In line with LR76B of the Rules, it shall be deemed a valid reason for the Scratching of a Greyhound after the Box Draw, if the Greyhound is drawn as a Reserve Greyhound and is usually kennelled at a place outside a radius of 100kms from where the Event is being held and is Scratched before the Greyhound is included in the draw pursuant to Rule 85(5) or 85(6) of the Rules. Rule LR76B must be fully complied with in these circumstances.
- 26.2 In all PBD Races with Reserves, the starting box for any Reserve gaining a start will not be confirmed until the Appointed Scratching Time for the Race.
- 26.3 A Scratching from starting boxes 1 through 8 in a PBD Race can only be replaced by a Reserve with the same Generic Early Racing Trait as the Scratching, or by a Reserve with the same Generic Early Racing Trait as a Greyhound in a starting box adjacent to the Scratching.

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26.4 Notwithstanding Clause 26.3, a Reserve may also replace a Scratching where:

- (a) the three Generic Early Racing Traits are not all covered in the starting boxes 1 through 8 in the Race; and
- (b) the Reserve replacing the Scratching will not affect the natural order of Generic Early Racing Traits in the Race, ie railer, then straight, then wide.

26.5 Where there are two Reserves that both satisfy the conditions of Clause 26.3 or 26.4, then Reserve Number 9 will replace the Scratching.

26.6 Where there are two Scratchings from starting boxes 1 through 8 and there are two Reserves that satisfy the conditions of Clause 26.3 or 26.4, then both Scratchings will be replaced.

26.7 Where there are more than two Scratchings from starting boxes 1 through 8, and there are Reserves in that Race, any Reserves that satisfy 26.3 or 26.4 for more than one Scratching shall replace the Scratching that best suits the Specific Early Racing Traits in the Race. If Specific Early Racing Traits are satisfied in more than one scenario, then the Reserve should replace the Scratching farthest from the rail that does not prevent all Reserves from gaining a start.

26.8 Where there is a Scratching, or more than one Scratching, from starting boxes 1 through 8 and there are no Reserves that satisfy 26.3 or 26.4 for any Scratching, then all remaining Reserves will be Scratched at the Appointed Scratching Time for the Race.

27. Weight Variations

27.1 Rule LR101A of the Rules must be complied with regards to weight variations, which states:

(1) Where the weight of a greyhound recorded at an Event varies by more than 4 percent from the weight recorded in an Event or satisfactory trial in which it last performed that greyhound shall be scratched from the race.

(2) For the purposes of calculating the 4 percent weight variation in subrule (1), the weight of a greyhound from its previous performance will be multiplied by 0.96 and rounded down to the nearest 100g to obtain its minimum allowed weight, and multiplied by 1.04 and rounded up to the nearest 100g to obtain its maximum allowed weight.

Example: A greyhound that weighed 27.0kg at its previous start will have a – • minimum allowed weight of $27.0 \times 0.96 = 25.92$ which rounds down to 25.9kg; • maximum allowed weight of $27.0 \times 1.04 = 28.08$ which rounds up to 28.1kg, and so the greyhound will be allowed to start if it weighs between 25.9kg and 28.1kg inclusive.

(3) Where the weight of a greyhound is recorded at an Event or satisfactory trial and the scales used to determine that weight are subsequently found to be in error or not working properly, the weight of the greyhound recorded at that Event or satisfactory trial shall be disregarded for the purposes of determining the greyhound's weight under subrule (1) and the greyhound shall not be scratched from the race under subrule (1).

(4) Where a greyhound competed at an Event or completed a satisfactory trial and subrule (3) applies, subrule (1) does not apply until the greyhound has competed in a subsequent Event or completed a satisfactory weight trial under rule 102(1) or 102(1A).

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27.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the following table prescribes maximum weight variations between Races which will not result in a Scratching:

Allowed		Previous Weight	Allowed	
SCR	Loss		Gain	SCR
23.9	24.0	25.0	26.0	26.1
24.8	24.9	26.0	27.1	27.2
25.8	25.9	27.0	28.1	28.2
26.7	26.8	28.0	29.2	29.3
27.7	27.8	29.0	30.2	30.3
28.7	28.8	30.0	31.2	31.3
29.6	29.7	31.0	32.3	32.4
30.6	30.7	32.0	33.3	33.4
31.5	31.6	33.0	34.4	34.5
32.5	32.6	34.0	35.4	35.5
33.5	33.6	35.0	36.4	36.5
34.4	34.5	36.0	37.5	37.6

28. Limits on frequency of racing

28.1 In accordance with Rules 39 and LR39A of the Rules, a Greyhound will only be permitted to start in:

- (a) one Event or satisfactory trial over any consecutive two day period
- (b) no more than a combined total of 2 Races, Satisfactory Trials or Event starts in any 7-day period; and
- (c) no more than a combined total of 7 Races, Satisfactory Trials or Event starts in any 28-day period.

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29. Operational Process for Limits on Frequency of Racing

- 29.1 Rules 39 and LR39A of the Rules places limits on the frequency that a Greyhound may start in an Event and or Satisfactory Trial. Any Nomination for an Event or Satisfactory Trial that would result in a Greyhound breaching these rules will be deemed to be an invalid Nomination and not considered for Field selection in an Event.
- 29.2 In assessing whether a Nomination in 29.1 is invalid, GRNZ will consider Greyhounds that are Boxed Runners in any future Events, between the time of the Nomination and the raceday, as starters and so contributing to the count of starts within consecutive days, seven days and/or 28 days as required by Rule LR39A.
- 29.3 In assessing whether a Nomination in 29.1 is invalid, GRNZ will not consider Greyhounds that are Reserves in any Events, between the time of the Nomination and the raceday, as starters and therefore not contributing to the count of starts within seven days and/or 28 days as required by Rule LR39A.
- 29.4 Should a Greyhound that is a Reserve in one or more future Events, or a Reserve and a Boxed runner in two future Events subsequently gain a start in the first of those future Events then it must be scratched from any following Event that would cause it to breach Rule 39 and/or Rule LR39A, with the time of this scratching being recorded as coincident with the time that it gained the start.
- 29.5 A Greyhound that qualifies for a Semi-Final or Final of a Series, including those for a Recognised Race, should not be Nominated for an Event on the day prior to that Semi-Final or Final. Opportunities to Nominate for another race at the same Meeting as the Semi-Final or Final, as prescribed in 17.8, should be taken instead.

30. Greyhound of the Year

- 30.1 GRNZ shall appoint a New Zealand Greyhound of the Year Panel at the end of every racing season, comprising at least seven industry experts.
- 30.2 The New Zealand Greyhound of the Year Panel shall select the New Zealand Greyhound of the Year, and a majority of the panel must agree on the winner.
- 30.3 The New Zealand Greyhound of the Year Panel shall also select the finalists and winners of the following award categories:
- (a) Sprinter of the Year;
 - (b) Middle Distance Greyhound of the Year;
 - (c) Stayer of the Year;
 - (d) New Zealand-Bred Greyhound of the Year;
 - (e) New Zealand Sire of the Year; and
 - (f) New Zealand Dam of the Year
- 30.4 The New Zealand Greyhound of the Year Panel may at its discretion select only one finalist for an award category where it considers there has been a standout performer throughout the season.
- 30.5 GRNZ may at its discretion ask the New Zealand Greyhound of the Year Panel to determine other special awards from time to time.

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- 30.6 The winner of the Trainer of the Year Award shall be the Trainer who trained the most winners during the season.
- 30.7 The winner of the Strike-Rate Trainer of the Year Award shall be the Trainer who had the highest UDR for the season of the Trainers whose Greyhounds cumulatively raced at least 50 times during the season.

31. Hall of Fame

- 31.1 GRNZ shall appoint a Hall of Fame Panel at the end of every season. This panel can include members of GRNZ staff and GRNZ Board members.
- 31.2 The Hall of Fame Panel shall meet, either in person or online or via email circulation, and discuss the worthiness of Hall of Fame contenders at the end of every season.
- 31.3 The Hall of Fame Panel shall determine who shall be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the GRNZ Annual Awards.
- 31.4 The Hall of Fame Panel is not obligated to select any person or Greyhound to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in any given year.