






## GRNZ ABANDONMENT GUIDELINES / PROCEDURES

### **POSSIBLE SAFETY CONCERNS IN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING**

In cases where there are potential concerns around track conditions (e.g. forecast poor weather) within 72 hours of a race meeting commencing the following should take place:

1. Stipendiary Steward should contact club management and/or track curator to determine the current state of the track and to establish if there is a likelihood of it deteriorating within the next 72 hours to possible alleviate any external factors and advise GRNZ Racing Management accordingly, and
2. Over the subsequent 48 hours there needs to be an agreed level of communication between the Stipendiary Steward and the Club updating the situation.

Other potential concerns (not including track conditions) could be:

-  Snow / Ice
-  Kennel block issues
-  Running rail / lure issues
-  Travel issue ( e.g. road closures )
-  Fog

In the event that further issues are likely to arise in the 24 hours immediately prior to the race meeting then Scenario One – “Safety Concerns Raised by the Club Prior to Race / Trial Day” – should then be actioned.

The Abandonment Policy is available in the Rule Book and on the website which outlines compensation.

**Scenario One**

**SAFETY CONCERNS RAISED BY THE CLUB PRIOR TO RACE/TRIAL DAY AND/OR RACE/TRIAL DAY MORNING**

Once the Stipendiary Steward/s has been notified by the Club of any safety concerns for the conduct of the meeting they shall, as soon as practicable, attend the track and inspect the area/s of concern with “Club Representatives” comprising of the following:

- ✚ Track Curator
- ✚ Racing Club Manager
- ✚ Delegated Members of the Club Track Committee

1. If the track surface is, in the opinion of the Stipendiary Steward and the ‘Club Representatives’, deemed to be unsafe the Stipendiary Steward should determine, in consultation with ‘Club Representatives’ whether remedial action can be carried out to ensure a safe racing surface.
2. If it is deemed that remedial action will not alleviate the issue then the Stipendiary Steward is to make a decision as to the abandonment of the meeting as per Rule 38.3 (s).
3. If the meeting is not going to proceed then the Stipendiary Steward must notify all relevant parties as soon as possible, i.e. Club Management, RIU Management, TAB, GRNZ and Licensed Persons.
4. If the meeting is to be postponed and/or transferred to another day/venue then the club must seek permission from GRNZ and the NZRB before any final decision (transfer) related to postponement is made.
5. If the race/trial meeting is to proceed, the Stipendiary Steward along with “Club Representatives” must inspect the track again as soon as practical on race morning (if the safety concern had been raised prior to race day) or within 2 hours prior to the first race/trial to ensure no new issues have developed since the previous inspection. The Stipendiary Steward must continue to monitor the situation throughout the day if the meeting is to go ahead.

**Notes:**

Any “inspection” should be carried out on foot with the entire circumference of the track walked. Particular attention should be paid to areas of concern, which have been identified.

If the meeting is abandoned and greyhounds have been weighed during the kennelling process all weights recorded are deemed null and void.

If the meeting is abandoned any trainers of greyhounds withdrawn as a result of injury or illness must still supply the stewards with a certificate of incapacitation (as per Rule 81- Greyhounds Suffering an Injury Due to Illness).

**The final decision shall be made by the Stipendiary Stewards.**

Scenario Two

**SAFETY CONCERNS ARE RAISED AFTER THE STIPENDIARY STEWARD/S HAVE ARRIVED ON COURSE ON RACE/TRIAL DAY**

1. Where safety concerns are prevalent Stipendiary Steward must inspect the track with 'Club Representatives' at least 2 ½ and 3 hours prior to the first race/trial. The 'Club Representatives' must comprise of at least 2 representatives from the Club e.g. Management and a Board Committee Member.
2. If the Stipendiary Stewards and 'Club Representatives' determine there is a problem with the safety of the track they must resolve the practicalities of rectifying the track problem with the 'Club Representatives' in attendance.
3. If/when the problems are rectified, the Stipendiary Steward and 'Club Representatives' must again inspect the area of concern and be satisfied the problem has been fixed and that the track is safe for racing/trialling.
4. If the Stipendiary Steward/s and 'Club Representatives' believe the area concerned is safe for racing to continue, then no later than 45 minutes prior to the first race/trial situation must be explained to all parties.
5. Trainers or trainer's representatives, upon request, must be afforded the opportunity to inspect the track accompanied by a Stipendiary Steward and Club Representative. If the Stipendiary Steward deem the track is safe to compete on and trainers still wish to withdraw their greyhounds then the Steward must apply judgement under the auspices of Rule 64.
6. Where the race programme is going to be delayed while remedial measures are undertaken the Club must advise NZRB Raceday Control and agree on new start times for the balance of the programme.
7. The Stipendiary Stewards must continue to monitor the situation throughout the day.
8. If the meeting is not going to proceed then the Stipendiary Stewards must notify all relevant parties as soon as possible i.e. Club Management, RIU Management, TAB, GRNZ and Licensed Persons.
9. If the meeting is to be postponed and/or transferred to another day/venue then the club must seek permission from GRNZ and the NZRB before any final decision is made.

**Notes:**

If the meeting is abandoned and greyhounds have been weighed during the kennelling process all weights are deemed null and void.

If the meeting is abandoned any trainers of greyhounds withdrawn as a result of injury or illness must still supply the Stipendiary Stewards with a certificate of incapacitation (as per Rule 81- Greyhounds Suffering an Injury Due to Illness).

**The final decision shall be made by the Stipendiary Stewards.**

### Scenario Three

#### **SAFETY CONCERNS RAISED DURING THE COURSE OF A MEETING**

1. The Stipendiary Steward must assemble an “ Club Track Inspection Committee” comprising of the following:
  - ✚ Club Track Committee (or in the absence of a Club Tack Committee - Club Representative / Track Curator / Vet and two trainer representatives)
  - ✚ Track Curator
  - ✚ Vet
2. The trainer representatives (2) are to be selected by the Stipendiary Stewards and no other trainers/licensed persons are to be involved unless specifically requested to do so by the Stipendiary Stewards.
3. The “Club Track Inspection Committee” is required to inspect the area of concern.
4. If any work has to be carried out before the continuation of the meeting the “Club Track Inspection Committee” must inspect the section of the track after the work has been completed and agree that it is safe for racing.
5. The Stipendiary Stewards must continue to monitor the situation throughout the day.
6. Where the race programme is going to be delayed while remedial measures are undertaken the Club must advise NZRB Raceday Control and agree on new start times for the balance of the programme.
7. If the meeting is not going to proceed then the Stipendiary Steward must notify all relevant parties as soon as possible i.e. Club Management, RIU Management, TAB, GRNZ and Licensed Persons.
8. If the meeting is to be postponed and/or transferred to another venue then the club must seek permission from GRNZ and NZRB before any final decision is made.

#### **Notes:**

If the meeting is abandoned and greyhounds have been weighed during the kennelling process all weights are deemed null and void.

If the meeting is abandoned any trainers of greyhounds withdrawn as a result of injury or illness must still supply the Stipendiary Steward with a Certificate of Incapacitation (as per Rule 81- Greyhounds Suffering an Injury Due to Illness).

**The final decision shall be made by the Stipendiary Stewards.**

## **ABANDONDED RACE MEETING REPORTING**

In the event a race meeting is abandoned, or issues have arisen that could have caused abandonment, a full report should be furnished to GRNZ by both the RIU and the Club concerned within two working days.

Such a report should, at the very least, contain the following:

- ✚ Circumstances of the abandonment
- ✚ any remedial measures undertaken to prevent future occurrences
- ✚ Stipendiary Stewards opinion whether they feel GRNZ abandoned race/race meeting compensation policy should be paid