



# RIU Swabbing Official Guidelines for Blood Collection Greyhound

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## Introduction

This document provides the guidelines for the collection of samples from animals.

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## The collection of Blood Samples from Greyhounds.

### Important Information

- Any changes to information recorded on the Sample Identity Record must be initialled by both the Authorised person and the Trainer's Representative.
- An Authorised person is defined as either an RIU staff member or RIU contracted Veterinarian.
- Only the following personnel (RIU staff, RIU contracted Veterinarians, Trainers or Trainer's Representatives or Owners) are to be present in the area where the sample is being taken. The trainer or representative must be licensed.
- No eating, drinking or smoking is allowed in the sample area. Please ensure you wash your hands thoroughly after doing any of these.
- **ONLY A VETERINARIAN IS TO COLLECT SAMPLES OF BLOOD.**

**Equipment Required**

8 x 4.5ml Vacutainers  
1 x 19 gauge butterfly lure  
1 x 30 ml syringe  
Gloves  
Security bag  
RIU Sample Identity Record  
A sterile prep pad

**Labelling the Blood Tubes**

- a) Take 6 identically numbered stickers from the roll of stickers.
- b) Place one sticker on 4 tubes. Write the identical number that is on the sticker with a permanent marker on the remaining 4 tubes.

**Filling out the RIU Sample Identity Record form**

- a) Place the 2 remaining numbered stickers on each copy of the RIU Sample Identity Record form
- b) Complete the trainer and animal details including sex and brand using the data provided.

**Filling out the RIU Swabbing Record book**

- a) Complete the RIU Swabbing Record book with all relevant information.
- b) Once the sample has been taken the trainer's representative will need to sign this.
- c) At the end of the night the Chairman of Stewards will sign the bottom of each page used in this book for the meeting.

### **Collection of Blood**

The Veterinarian now must:

- a) Put on a clean pair of gloves.
- b) Tell the trainer or trainer's representative they must watch the collection of Blood.
- c) Clean the area on the greyhound where the blood is to be drawn. It is preferable for the greyhound to be lying down on a table and the blood to be drawn from the fore leg, however this is at the discretion of the Veterinarian and in some cases the Veterinarian may wish to use the jugular vein.
- d) Collect the Blood by using a 30 ml syringe attached to a 19-gauge butterfly lure. (The trainer or trainer's representative must watch this).
- e) Fill the entire 30 ml syringe with blood (this should allow for 32 ml of blood to be taken) from the greyhound then using the syringe put 4 ml into each of the 8 tubes.

### **Sealing the Samples & Finalising the Documentation**

#### **Putting the samples in the Industry Security Bag**

The Veterinarian will:

1. Show the trainer or trainer's representative the numbers on the 8 tubes and RIU Sample Identity Record form.
2. Ask the trainer or trainer's representative to confirm these numbers are identical.
3. Fill out the front sections of the Security Bag using a permanent marker. (Note: Using a ballpoint pen may damage the pouch).
4. Place the 8 tubes in the appropriate pouches. (2 x 2 x 2 x 2 configuration in the Security Bags.)
5. Remove trapped air from the Security Bag.
6. Peel off the tape to show the sticky strip on the Security Bag.
7. Working from the middle to the outer edges press down firmly on the sticky strip.

**Completing the RIU Sample Identity Record form**

1. Complete the sample details on the RIU Sample Identity Record form.
2. Show the trainer or trainer's representative the RIU Sample Identity Record form and Security bag containing 8 tubes of blood. Ask the trainer or trainer's representative to confirm that the number on the Security Bag matches the number written as the Security Bag No. on the RIU Sample Identity Record form.
3. Sign the RIU Sample Identity Record form and the RIU Swabbing Record book to confirm they are satisfied with the collection and packaging of the samples taken.
4. Give the trainer's representative their copy of the RIU Sample Identity Record form.
5. Place the Racing Industry Security Bag with the blood samples into the courier bag. The courier bag must be kept in a secure, preferably cool location at all times.
6. Record the Sample Identity Record form number on the Sample Dispatch Record form.