



Prohibited Substances Policy (previously known as Drug Control Policy)

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COMMENCEMENT DATE

This policy comes into effect on 04 May 2006.

PURPOSE

The *Racing Act 2002* authorises Greyhounds Queensland Limited (GQL) to make policies for the sound management of the greyhound racing industry.

The main purposes of the *Racing Act 2002* are-

- *to maintain public confidence in the racing of animals in Queensland for which betting is lawful; and*
- *to ensure the integrity of all persons involved with racing or betting under the Act; and*
- *to safeguard the welfare of all animals involved in racing under the Act.*

In accord with the purposes of the Act, “drug free racing”, the desired outcome to be achieved, is paramount in the interests of the integrity of greyhound racing and the welfare of the greyhound.

POLICY STATEMENT

GQL recognises and acknowledges that the principles of fairness, impartiality and transparency be followed in the sampling of greyhounds and to achieve this outcome GQL may specify circumstances under which samples are to be taken.

GQL also recognises and acknowledges that a process capable of detecting activities involving the inappropriate administration of drugs would demand that there be a process enabling the use of discretion and an environment of unpredictability.

It is the policy of GQL that it will enter into an agreement with an accredited facility, independent of GQL, for the provision of services relating to the use of drugs in greyhound racing. In short an “accredited facility” is an entity, accredited under the *Racing Act 2002*, with appropriate personnel and procedures for analysis, including its security systems relating to analysing things relating to licensed animals.

GQL, and the Racing Animals Welfare and Integrity Board require that there be procedures in place for the taking and testing of samples, the conduct of inquiries and the appropriate penalising of licensees found in breach of the drug free racing policy.



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Disciplinary action, as provided for in the Rules of Greyhound Racing, will be taken against any person contravening the purpose of this policy.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to:

- GQL
- Stewards
- Licensees

DEFINITIONS

This policy adopts the terminology used in the *Racing Act 2002*. Schedule 3 of the *Racing Act 2002* contains a dictionary of words used in the *Racing Act 2002* and may be accessed via the internet at www.legislation.qld.gov.au, under the tab “R”.

“**Registration**” wherever appearing in a policy or GQL rules of greyhound racing “registration” and its derivatives shall, with any necessary amendments, have the same meaning as “licence” and its derivatives in accordance with the *Racing Act 2002*.

Prohibited Substances are defined in the Rules of Greyhound Racing of GQL.

"Prohibited Substances" means:

a substance defined by the following criteria or which falls within any of the groups of substances declared herein unless it is an exempted substance.

(a) any substance capable of affecting a greyhound by its action on the central or peripheral nervous system or any part of that system such as the autonomic nervous system, cardiovascular system, respiratory system, alimentary digestive system, musculoskeletal system, genitourinary or endocrine system and includes without limitation analgesics, antihistamines, anti-inflammatory agents, blood coagulants, diuretics, hormones and their synthetic counterparts, stimulants, corticosteroids, anabolic steroids, local anaesthetics, muscle relaxants and tranquillisers;

(b) any substance administered to disguise or make undetectable, or attempt to disguise or make undetectable, the administration of any of the substance(s) referred to in paragraph (a);

(c) a metabolite, isomer or artefact of any of the substance(s) referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) irrespective of whether or not such metabolite, isomer or artefact has any pharmacological effect;



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(d) unusual or abnormal amounts of endogenous substance(s) including but not limited to cortisol and testosterone;

(e) any substance(s) specified in Schedules 1 to 9 inclusive of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (Commonwealth) as amended from time to time.

‘Exempted substance’ includes the following substance(s) that are exempted from being prohibited substances:

1. Ethyloestrenol when administered orally to a greyhound bitch and where it has been prescribed by a veterinary surgeon for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in that bitch.
2. Antimicrobials (antibiotics) and other anti-infective agents with the exception of procaine penicillin
3. Antiparasitics
4. Vaccines against infectious agents

PROCEDURES

Sampling

GQL may prescribe a method by which the details of sampling shall be notified to the Authority.

GQL shall specify circumstances under which sampling must occur.

Example-

- *Starter/s in races of a prescribed profile or prize money level.*
- *Greyhound setting a new track record.*
- *Greyhound acquired in a claiming race.*

GQL may specify circumstances under which sampling may occur.

Example-

- *At the discretion of Stewards taking into account their observations of performances, veterinary advice, actions of licensees, intelligence collection, or other reason deemed to be appropriate.*
- *Random selection and method of selection processes to be determined from time to time by GQL.*



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The collection of a sample may take place-

- away from the racecourse at any time after a greyhound has been nominated for an event;
- pre-race;
- post- race; or
- a combination of all or either of the above.

The common practice of swabbing utilised is urine sampling but other forms such as blood and mouth swabs may be used at the discretion of the stewards.

GQL will comply with the procedures established by the Racing Animal Welfare and Integrity Board and published in the document “The Collection Procedures”.

The document is available on the Queensland Racing Division website www.racing.qld.gov.au under the Integrity Board section of the site.

Although not enforceable by GQL, Section 318 of the *Racing Act 2002* sets out offences for persons having or administering prohibited things to racing animals. Prohibited things include drugs and items used in the administering of drugs.

Reporting of drugs

The GQL will report to the Racing Division and the Commissioner for Police for investigation any dangerous drugs (as set out in Schedules 1, 2 and 2A of the *Drugs Misuse Regulation 1987*) that are detected and reported to it by the Accredited Facility or which, in the course of the conduct of an inquiry, property inspection or other activity during the carrying out of the functions of its officers, are found or suspected to be in the possession of a licensed/registered person.

Review

This policy will be reviewed after two years’ operation.

This policy was reviewed by GQL Board on 26 November 2008, with the policy to be further reviewed within two (2) years of this date or earlier as determined by GQL Board.

Rules of racing

GQL rules of greyhound racing provide for the application of this policy.

The rules that have been made and/or adopted for this policy include:

Greyhound Australasia Rules -1, 79 – 84
 QGL (Qld) Rules - 18



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Accredited facility

GQL has entered into an agreement with the Racing Science Centre, which is an accredited facility under the Racing Act 2002 for the provision of services relating to drug control and animal welfare.

Authority and other information

This policy was issued by GQL on 04 May 2006 pursuant to the powers vested in the GQL by the *Racing Act 2002*.