

Plumpton Coursing Rules

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Table of Contents

No table of contents entries found.

1 Definitions

1.1 Unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter:

Accidental Bye means a bye caused by the other greyhound scheduled to compete in the course being scratched or declared a non-starter.

Bye means a course in which only one greyhound is the sole competitor in the course, by reason of a natural bye or an accidental bye.

BBR refers to the Betting and Book Maker Rules.

Draw means the process that determines the greyhounds which compete in each course in a stake and their collar.

Marshalling Area means a fully or partially enclosed area, also known as the observation yard, set aside at a coursing meeting for the purpose of assembling greyhounds for examination by a veterinarian or inspection by a Steward prior to the greyhounds being sent to the Slipper at the starting area of the course.

Mechanical Quarry means either a drag lure (a lure being dragged by a cable on the ground) or a trolley lure (a lure attached to a rail) as approved by the National Coursing Association and Controlling Body.

National Coursing Association means the National Coursing Association of Victoria Inc A0004175V.

Natural Bye means a bye caused solely as a result of the draw.

Slips means the lead used by the Slipper to secure the greyhounds prior to and for the commencement of each course.

Slipper means a person appointed by the National Coursing Association and approved by the Stewards to have the physical control of the greyhounds immediately prior to and for the commencement of each course.

Slip Steward means a person appointed by the Stewards to carry out certain duties including:

- (a) confirming the identity of each greyhound competing at a coursing meeting;
- (b) ensuring that each greyhound is brought to the Slips in its proper turn, wearing its proper collar, and put on its correct side; and
- (c) reporting to the Stewards without delay, any greyhound that does not come to the slips in time.

Stake means a coursing Event that includes a number of rounds of courses, that take place at a coursing meeting over one or two days.

2 Interpretation

2.1 A coursing meeting must, except as otherwise provided for in the Local Rules, be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Local Rules and any permit issued by the responsible Minister under section 52A of the *Racing Act 1958* (Vic).

3 Nominations

3.1 The National Coursing Association, with the approval of the Controlling Body may determine the conditions of any *Event* conducted including the nomination closing time, payment of nomination fees, and eligibility for *Events*.

- 3.2 Where a greyhound has been nominated for a particular *Stake*, the *Controlling Body* may at its own discretion, include the greyhound in any other *Stake* for which it is eligible at the coursing meeting and if so included, the greyhound will be deemed to have been nominated for such other *Stake*.
- 3.3 The *trainer* or at least one *owner* of any *greyhound* which is nominated for a *Stake* must be a financial member of the club that is conducting the coursing meeting (unless the stake is an open nomination stake) and may be liable for payment of a nomination fee. A *greyhound* whose nomination fee has not been paid is prohibited from participating and declared to be a non-starter.

4 The Draw

- 4.1 Upon application from the National Coursing Association, the *Controlling Body* may grant approval for a draw to be conducted by an alternative method to a *Box Draw* provided that the method approved is under the full supervision of the *Stewards* or an authorised person.
- 4.2 Greyhounds selected to participate in a *Stake* will be selected at random and paired, with the odd number in order of selection wearing the red collar.

5 Reserves

- 5.1 A *greyhound* listed as a reserve following the *Draw* will be used as a replacement for a *greyhound* scratched or otherwise declared by the *Stewards* to be a non-starter.
- 5.2 Where more than one *greyhound* in a stake is scratched or declared to be a non-starter, the reserve *greyhounds* which will participate in the particular course will be determined by ballot.
- 5.3 For coursing events conducted over a period of two days and where more than eight *greyhounds* are drawn, the number of courses conducted each day must be:

Greyhounds	Total courses	Course day 1	Course day 2
33-64	6	3	3
17-32	5	2	2
9-16	4	2	2

6 Collars

- 6.1 Each *greyhound* must wear a collar in the form approved by the *Controlling Body* of not less than five centimetres in width and provided by the *greyhound's Trainer*.
- 6.2 The colour of the collar must be red for the left side and white for the right side of the *Slips*, as viewed from behind.
- 6.3 After each course of a *Stake*, the defeated greyhounds in each round shall be disregarded. The odd numbered remaining *greyhounds* (as calculated from the top of the card) must wear the red collar in each subsequent course (round).
- 6.4 If for any reason the greyhounds competed in wrong collars, the course shall be awarded to the *greyhound* which, in the *Stewards'* sole discretion, wore the collar corresponding in colour of the flag hoisted by the judge.

7 Byes

- 7.1 Any *greyhound* in a *Bye* must complete the course, unless at the commencement of any round in a *Stake* a *greyhound* in each course of that round has a *Bye*.
- 7.2 A *Natural Bye* must be run by the lowest *greyhound* in each round of a *Stake* when odd numbers occur and in every case the *Bye greyhound* must run wearing the red collar.
- 7.3 No *greyhound* must, in any *Stake*, be permitted to run two *Natural Byes* unless it becomes unavoidable.
- 7.4 The *greyhound* in an *Accidental Bye* must wear the collar colour which it would have been required to wear had the *Accidental Bye* not occurred.
- 7.5 The *Trainer* of a *greyhound* in a *Bye* may, with the permission of the *Stewards*, run an accompanying *greyhound* in that course.
- 7.6 *Byes* will count as courses won.
- 7.7 If a *greyhound* is entitled to a *Bye* and is then scratched or otherwise declared a non-starter at any stage after the first round of coursing of the *Stake*, prize money shall be paid as if the *Bye* had been completed.

8 Presentation for Coursing

- 8.1 A *Trainer* of a *greyhound* nominated to participate in a *Stake* must produce to the *Stewards* at the *Marshalling Area*, or such other area designated for the purpose of this rule by the *Stewards* no later than thirty minutes prior to the scheduled time of the first course of the day:
- 8.1.1 the *greyhound* identification card for the *greyhound*; or
- 8.1.2 another document (including an electronic record) establishing the registration and identity of the *greyhound* which the *Stewards* consider is satisfactory.
- 8.2 A *Trainer* must ensure that a *greyhound* is presented at the *Marshalling Area* for examination by an officiating veterinarian and confirmation of identity and collar colour by *Stewards*, not later than two minutes after the final call for each course has been made by *Stewards*.
- 8.3 A *greyhound* which is not appropriately presented without delay to the starting area when required by the *Steward* will be prohibited from participating and declared to be a non-starter.
- 8.4 If a *trainer* has concerns regarding the condition of their *greyhound* following its first or subsequent course in a *Stake*, the *greyhound* may be scratched from any further courses on that day without penalty. For the avoidance of doubt, the officiating veterinarian may apply a stand-down period to that *greyhound*.
- 8.5 Part 7: Division 4 of the GARs (weighing and weight procedures) do not apply to coursing meetings.

9 Slipping

- 9.1 Any *greyhound* found to be beyond control or mischievous in *Slips*, or which refuses to leave *Slips*, or pursue the *Mechanical Quarry*, may by order of the *Steward*, be taken out of *Slips* and declared to be a non-starter and prohibited from participating in the course.
- 9.2 Immediately prior to the commencement of a course the *Slip Stewards* must hoist/switch on, or cause to be hoisted/switched on, a coloured flag and/or lights in the following circumstances:
- 9.2.1 a red flag/light denoting that the *greyhound* wearing a red collar has a *Bye*;

- 9.2.2 a white flag/light denoting that the *greyhound* wearing a white collar has a *Bye*;
 - 9.2.3 a yellow flag/light denoting that an "undecided course" or "no course" is being recommenced; and
 - 9.2.4 a green flag/light denoting that a course is being commenced.
- 9.3 Prior to the commencement of each course the *Mechanical Quarry* must be placed not less than 10 metres or more than 15 metres in front of the *Slipper*.
- 9.4 The *Slipper* will have discretion as to the length of each *Slip*, but as far as possible the various *Slips* must be of uniform length.
- 9.5 If a greyhound gains release from the *Slips* prematurely:
- 9.5.1 the *Slipper* must not release the other greyhound (if any); and
 - 9.5.2 the *greyhounds* must not be replaced into the *Slips* for at least 15 minutes, unless the *Stewards* and *Trainers/Handler* of the two *greyhounds* otherwise agree.
- 9.6 *Greyhounds* must not be placed into *Slips* for a subsequent course in a *Stake* until at least 45 minutes after the conclusion of the previous round.
- 9.7 Except as set out in this *Rule* or authorised by the *Stewards*, each course must be conducted in the order of running as provided for in the *Draw*.

10 "No Course" and "Undecided Course"

- 10.1 A declaration of "no course" may be made by the *Stewards* if:
- 10.1.1 a *greyhound* gains premature release from *Slips*;
 - 10.1.2 the *greyhounds* are not released simultaneously from *Slips*;
 - 10.1.3 the *Mechanical Quarry* malfunctions; or
 - 10.1.4 any matter occurs which, in the opinion of the *Stewards*, justifies a declaration of "no course".
- 10.2 Where a declaration of "no course" or "undecided course" is made:
- 10.2.1 the course will be recommenced after a period of at least 15 minutes or such time as determined by the *Steward*, after consultation with the officiating veterinarian; and
 - 10.2.2 both *greyhounds* must be examined by the officiating veterinarian prior to the recommencement of the "no course" or "undecided course".
- 10.3 If after the declaration of an "undecided course", the *Stewards* permits the scratching of a *greyhound* and declares it to be a non-starter, the remaining *greyhound* is not required to run a *Bye*.
- 10.4 If, after the declaration of a "no course", the *Stewards* permits the scratching of a *greyhound* and declare it to be a non-starter, the remaining *greyhound* will be required to run a *Bye* unless the *Stewards*, in their discretion, are satisfied that the remaining *greyhound* did sufficient work during the "no course" to constitute the equivalent of a course.
- 10.5 The *Stewards* must publicly announce any declaration of "undecided course" or "no course".

11 Judging

- 11.1 The *judge* must, on the completion of each course, deliver their determination as to the winner by exhibiting a flag corresponding in colour with the collar worn by the winning *greyhound*.
- 11.2 If the *judge* is of the opinion that any matter has occurred which may result in a declaration of "no course" or non-starter being made, they must:
- 11.2.1 immediately report the matter to the *Stewards*; and
 - 11.2.2 make their determination (if any) on the basis of any order made by the *Stewards* after investigation of the matter.
- 11.3 If the judge is unable to determine which *greyhound* has won the course, the *judge* must deliver the determination of "undecided course".
- 11.4 Notwithstanding anything in this *Rule*, the *Stewards* have the power to alter the *judge's* decision.

12 Greyhound Offences / Satisfactory Trials

- 12.1 For the avoidance of doubt, where a *greyhound* has breached a rule in Part 7 and the *Stewards* are satisfied that as a consequence of that breach a *greyhound* was advantaged or disadvantaged so as to affect the outcome of the *Event* the *Stewards* may declare the *greyhound* a non-starter.
- 12.2 Where, as a result of any course, an order is made by *Stewards* that a *greyhound* must undergo a satisfactory trial:
- 12.2.1 that *greyhound* must not participate in any subsequent course in that *Stake*;
 - 12.2.2 the *Stewards* may declare that *greyhound* a non-starter in that course to allow the defeated *greyhound* to progress to the subsequent course in that *stake*; and
 - 12.2.3 the *greyhound* must perform a satisfactory trial at any coursing track before being eligible to be nominated for or compete in any future coursing *Stake*.
- 12.3 Where as a result of any course an order is made by *Stewards* that a *greyhound* must undergo a *satisfactory trial* the provisions of GAR 132 apply, except that in order for a *greyhound* to obtain clearance to compete at all tracks the trial may be performed at any coursing track.
- 12.4 Where a *satisfactory trial* is performed at a coursing meeting, the *greyhound* must compete in the trial with at least one other *greyhound* and wear an approved collar.
- 12.5 If a *greyhound* is ordered to undergo a *satisfactory trial* in an *Event* that was not a coursing *Event*, and successfully completes that *satisfactory trial* on a coursing track, it will be cleared for coursing only.

13 Call of the Card betting

- 13.1 Call of the Card betting is permitted only at a coursing meeting.
- 13.2 Call of the Card betting must only take place between a bookmaker and the owner, or the owner's nominated representative, of the particular *greyhound* on which the bet is made.
- 13.3 Call of the Card betting must be made on the basis of "play" or "pay" and the provisions of betting and bookmaker rule 4.8 do not apply. The last bet laid by a bookmaker at the Call of the Card must be underlined on their betting sheets.

14 Other Betting

- 14.1 General betting must not commence until the conclusion of the betting on the Call of the Card.
- 14.2 Except as provided in sub rule 14.3, all bets on a *greyhound* to win the *Stake* must be made on the basis of “play” or “pay” provided that the *greyhound* participates in a course and notwithstanding that the *greyhound* is later disqualified or declared to be a non-starter.
- 14.3 If a *greyhound* is declared to be a non-starter prior to its first slipping and after betting on the *Stake* has commenced, all bets on the *greyhound* will be declared off and the backers of all winning bets in the *Stake* made prior to that declaration will be paid the full amount of the bet, less deduction, made at the rate declared by the *Stewards* pursuant to betting and bookmaker rule 4.2.
- 14.4 All bets on an undecided course under rule 14.3 will stand unless one of the *greyhounds* is declared a non-starter prior to the recommencement of the course in which case all bets will be declared off.
- 14.5 If a declaration is made pursuant to rules 7.3, 14.2 or 16, all bets on the particular course must be declared off.
- 14.6 All straight-out bets go with the *Stake*, the interest of bets being inseparable from the interest in the *Stakes*.
- 14.7 All bets must be paid on the settling day as nominated by the National Coursing Association.
- 14.8 If a coursing meeting is postponed for any reason after coursing has commenced, then all bets on the *Stakes* will stand.
- 14.9 If coursing has not commenced prior to postponement, then all bets on *Stakes* will be void.
- 14.10 If a postponement occurs after a bet has been laid on an individual course and before the course is run, then such bets must be declared off.
- 14.11 If a coursing meeting is abandoned prior to commencement, then all bets on the *Stakes* will be void.
- 14.12 If at least a full round of a *Stake* has been completed, then betting will stand as in division of *Stakes*.
- 14.13 Betting on individual courses will be treated in accordance with 14.8, 14.9 and 14.10.