



GRADING SCHEDULE

27 May 2021



Tasmanian
Government

Department of Primary Industries, Park,
Water & Environment

Office of Racing Integrity

operations@racingintegrity.tas.gov.au

Table of Contents

1.	DEFINITIONS	2
2.	NOMINATIONS	4
3.	NOMINATION COMMENTS.....	4
4.	FIRST STARTER NOMINATIONS.....	4
5.	EXTENDED NOMINATIONS	5
6.	DUAL ENGAGEMENTS	5
7.	EARLY RACE REQUEST POLICY	6
8.	GRADES: SHORT SPRINT / SPRINT / MID-DISTANCE AND DISTANCE RACES.....	7
9.	ORDER OF CHOICE.....	7
10.	ORDER OF CHOICE POLICIES	8
11.	FIELD SELECTION	9
12.	GUARDING.....	11
13.	RESERVES	12
14.	SERIES QUALIFICATION	12
15.	REDRAWS	12
16.	GRADING PENALTIES.....	13
17.	QUALIFYING TRIALS	14
18.	DISQUALIFICATION OF GREYHOUNDS	15

1. DEFINITIONS

Age	The age of a greyhound shall be reckoned from the last day of the month of its whelping
Ballot	A greyhound which has nominated for a race meeting but has not gained a start.
Compulsory Consolation	Is a race which greyhounds that do not qualify for the Final are required to contest.
Consolation	Is a race for greyhounds which contested Heats (in a Heats and Final Series) or Semi Finals of a Series, but which failed to qualify for the Final of such Series.
Distance Race	Is any race of 680 metres or more
Drop Down	Is a greyhound dropping in Grade (see Clause 16.8)
Free-To-All	Is a race open to all greyhounds, including maidens
Grader	Is a person or persons appointed by the Office of Racing Integrity to determine field selection and grading in greyhound races.
Guarding	The process to make every effort to separate greyhounds that are trained or owned by the same person, where there is more than 1 division of an event (see guarding section).
Invitation	Is a combination of grades 1, 2 and 3.
Maiden	Is a greyhound that has not won or been awarded first place in any race.
Maiden Race	Is a race restricted to greyhounds that are over the age of two (2) years and that have not won or been awarded first place in any race on any track at any distance, unless the conditions of the race specifically permit greyhounds under the age of 2 years that have not won or been awarded first place in any race on any track at any distance to participate (e.g. Hobart Maiden Thousand).
Masters Race	Is a race restricted to greyhounds over the age of 42 months.
Mid-Distance Race	Is any race of 570 metres or more but less than 680 metres.
Mixed	Is a combination of any 2 adjoining grades e.g. 1 and 2, 2 and 3, 3 and 4.
Non-Penalty Race	Is a race where the stake money to the winner is less than \$451. The winner of a non-penalty race will not incur a grading penalty with the exception of a greyhound's Maiden win, regardless of the amount of stakes earned by the winner.
Open Best	Is a race or series open to all greyhounds except maidens
ORI	The Office of Racing Integrity.
Penalty Bearing Race	Is a race where the stake money to the winner is \$451 or more.
Qualifying Trials	Are races conducted to determine the eligibility of the greyhounds to compete in a Final. The winner of a Qualifying Trial will not incur a grading penalty.
Reverse Order of Choice	Is where a race is selected by complete reversal of Order of Choice & selection based on Section 10.8 of this document (i.e. Order of Choice 12 upwards to Order of Choice 1)
Reverse Order of Grade	Is where a race is selected from the lowest grade to the highest grade (i.e. Grade 5, then Grade 4 etc.)
Restricted Best	Is a race or series open to all greyhounds eligible under the restrictions of the race or series, in which maidens are also eligible to compete.
Short Sprint	Is any race of less than 400 metres.
Special Event	Is a Feature Race or Series approved by the Controlling Body and published in the Greyhound Calendar.
Sprint Race	Is any race of 400 metres or more but less than 570 metres.

Step-Grading	Means a greyhound can win on a track over a distance and such win does not affect the greyhound's grade on any other track or the grade at the other distances on that track.
Tasmanian Bred	Is a greyhound whelped in Tasmania.

2. NOMINATIONS

2.1 A nomination may be refused by ORI if the information provided is incorrect or incomplete.

- i) Nominations must be lodged either through the online nominations portal or via fax on the Greyhound Nomination form to ORI by providing the following information:
- ii) Name of greyhound
- iii) The greyhound's ear brand
- iv) The trainer's name and licence number
- v) Club and date of meeting
- vi) Grade and distance of the race preferred
- vii) Second choices or 'No Higher' / 'No Reserve' comments in accordance with Clause 3 below.

2.2 A greyhound cannot contest a race for a grade above or below that greyhound's grade unless in a Best Event, Mixed Grade, Invitation, Free-to-All, Masters Races, Consolation or Compulsory Consolation.

3. NOMINATION COMMENTS

When nominating greyhounds, the only comments that will be accepted by ORI are the comments 'NO HIGHER' for maiden greyhounds only or 'NO RESERVE'.

4. FIRST STARTER NOMINATIONS

4.1 A First Starter Nomination form must be lodge under the following circumstances:

- i) A greyhound's first start.
- ii) If a greyhound's last race start was not in Tasmania.

4.2 If the greyhound is having its first start, a First Starter Nomination form must be received prior to 10 am on the day nominations close.

4.3 If a greyhound's last start was not in Tasmania, a First Starter Nomination form must be received by ORI prior to 10 am on the last working day, prior to the close of nominations.

4.4 ORI shall refuse any nomination form not received by the times stipulated in Clauses 4.2 and 4.3.

4.5 A trainer, at the time of nominating a first starter in Tasmania, shall stipulate in writing which track a greyhound will be classified the higher grade/s (if applicable). Should the trainer fail to provide such advice at the time of nomination, ORI shall apply the highest grades to the track/s furthestmost from the trainer's normal place of residence.

4.6 The allocation of grades in accordance with Clause 4.5 shall not be amended for any reason whatsoever once nominated by the Trainer or defined by ORI at the time of nomination, unless to correct an error in the original calculation of the grade of the greyhound (not the application of the grades to the various tracks).

5. EXTENDED NOMINATIONS

- 5.1** If required, nominations will be extended until 11.30 am (unless otherwise specified by ORI) on the day scheduled for the closing of nominations. Trainers can nominate online or by phoning ORI prior to the closing of the extension.
- 5.2** Nominations for Special Events or for heats in Feature Events will be extended until 11.00 am (unless otherwise specified by ORI) on the day scheduled for the closing of nominations when there are insufficient nominations to conduct the minimum number of heats as defined in the Feature Events policy. Trainers can nominate by phoning ORI prior to the closing of the extension.

6. DUAL ENGAGEMENTS

- 6.1** A greyhound shall not be eligible to compete in more than one event on two consecutive days.
- 6.2** A greyhound which has been drawn as a reserve for a meeting may be nominated for a meeting on the same or the following day/night. However, the greyhound must fulfil its engagement at the first meeting conducted if it is drawn into a race, excluding Clauses 6.6 and 6.7.
- 6.3** In the case of a nomination on consecutive days, after having been drawn to compete at the first meeting the greyhound shall be withdrawn from the second meeting.
- 6.4** Should a greyhound qualify for a Semi Final of a Series or a Final as a starter or a reserve (other than a Qualifying Final) after having been drawn into a meeting to be held within 3 days prior to or following the Semi Final or Final, then the greyhound may be scratched without penalty and take its place in the Semi Final, providing application is made by scratching time for the meeting.
- 6.5** Should a greyhound be drawn as a starter for a Semi Final or a Final to be conducted on the same day as any other race for which the greyhound has already been drawn into, then the greyhound shall be withdrawn from such other race.
- 6.6** Should a greyhound be drawn as a starter for a Semi-Final or a Final (other than a Qualifying Final) which is to be conducted on the day following any other race for which the greyhound has already been drawn into, then the greyhound shall be withdrawn from such other race. The exception to this is if the other race is another Semi-Final or Final.
- 6.7** Should a greyhound be drawn as a starter for two Finals (other than a Qualifying Final) or two Semi Finals or a combination of both to be held on consecutive days then the greyhound shall be required to contest the Final or Semi Final for which it first qualified.

7. EARLY RACE REQUEST POLICY

7.1 Strict criteria are to be applied to those greyhounds for which an early race has been requested. This can only be requested when a greyhound is engaged in an event later than race six on the programme. **Once all the following criteria are met, the Steward-in-Charge shall grant an 'Early Race' request:**

- i) The Official Track Veterinarian (OTV) to have confirmed profuse salivation covering the floor of the kennel occupied by the greyhound in question when engaged in a race later than Race Six on the programme; AND
- ii) The OTV to have confirmed clinical dehydration (using the customary 'skin pinch test' along the dorsum of the trunk) in the greyhound when taken from the kennel later than Race Six on the programme. This may, if requested be further confirmed by the greyhound being reweighed; AND
- iii) The OTV to have confirmed hyperthermia in the greyhound when removed from their kennel, revealing a body temperature at or above 39.5°C; AND
- iv) A clinical assessment of the greyhound by the OTV confirms a state of distress and agitation in the greyhound; AND
- v) These examinations are to be witnessed by the Steward-in-Charge of the meeting; AND
- vi) Appropriate certification is supplied in writing signed by the OTV, Steward-in-Charge and the trainer of the greyhound.

7.2 Should a greyhound that has been flagged as an 'Early Race' greyhound be drawn into a Final or Feature Event (where the winner's stakes are more than \$5000) that is programmed later than Race Six then the following will apply.

- i) The trainer/owner may, with permission of the Chairman of Stewards, either withdraw the greyhound from the event prior to the official scratching time (receiving a 10-day penalty); or
- ii) Proceed with nomination into that event. In this situation, the Steward-in-Charge of the meeting accompanied by the OTV will conduct an examination of the greyhound prior to competing in the event using the above criteria.

7.3 Providing the greyhound is passed fit to compete, the greyhound will then no longer be flagged as an 'Early Race' greyhound. If the greyhound is passed unfit to run and becomes a late scratching this greyhound will be unable to nominate for heats of Feature Events (where the winner's stakes are more than \$5000) where the Final will be conducted after Race Six for a period of six months. Following this six month period, the Trainer with the permission of the Chairman of Stewards may apply in writing to have his/her greyhound re-assessed.

8. GRADES: SHORT SPRINT / SPRINT / MID-DISTANCE AND DISTANCE RACES

- Grade Six (6)** Restricted to greyhounds under two (2) years of age at the time of the race for which it is nominated, that have not won or been awarded first place in a penalty bearing race at the distance on that track.
- Grade Five (5)** For winners of Grade Six (6) races over the distance on that track, winners of Maiden events or greyhounds over the age of two (2) years that have not won or been awarded first place in a penalty bearing race over the distance at that track (excluding a Maiden win) and greyhounds dropping from Grade Four (4).
- Grade Four (4)** For winners of Grade Five (5) races over the distance at that track and greyhounds dropping from Grade Three (3)
- Grade Three (3)** For winners of Grade Four (4) races over the distance at that track and greyhounds dropping from Grade Two (2)
- Grade Two (2)** For winners of Grade Three (3) races over the distance at that track and greyhounds dropping from Grade One (1)
- Grade One (1)** For winners of Grade Two (2) races over the distance at that track.

9. ORDER OF CHOICE

- Choice 1** Last start winner at this distance or any greyhound dropping down in grade to Grade 2 or lower.
- Choice 2** Placed, last start at this distance on the track of nomination.
- Choice 3** Placed, last start at this distance on any other track.
- Choice 4** Won, last start at another distance on any track (excluding non-penalty races).
- Choice 5** The greyhound's first race start or first start on a track if it has had less than 3 race starts. Last start winner of a 'Non-Penalty' race at this distance in Tasmania.
- Choice 6** Placed, at its second last start at distance on the track of nomination.
- Choice 7** Placed, at its second last start at this distance on any other track.
- Choice 8** Placed, at its third last start at this distance on the track of nomination.
- Choice 9** Placed, at its third last start at this distance on any other track.
- Choice 10** First start, this track and distance.
- Choice 11** Drawn as Reserve at previous nomination at this distance on track of nomination.
- Choice 12** Any greyhound that does not meet the criteria listed above.

10. ORDER OF CHOICE POLICIES

- 10.1** The form of a greyhound over any other distance category does not count in assessing the Order of Choice. Only form over the distance of the race being graded will count in assessing the Order of Choice (except with the provision provided for in Choice 4).
- 10.2** (i) A greyhound which finishes unplaced in any Final (other than a Qualifying Final) shall have that start disregarded for the purpose of both Order of Choice and drop down.
(ii) A greyhound that finishes second or third in any Final (other than a Qualifying Final) shall have that start disregarded if the greyhound's last start over the same distance prior to that Final was a win. ***(This refers to Order of Choice Only)***.
- 10.3** For the purpose of both 'Order of Choice' and 'Drop Down', a race in which the greyhound has fallen will be disregarded.
- 10.4** Any greyhound which is penalized in the Order of Choice by way of interference from another greyhound which is suspended for such interference shall have that start disregarded for the purpose of both Order of Choice and Drop Down.
- 10.5** Unplaced runs in non-penalty races will not count towards Drop Down.
- 10.6** The **Order of Choice 1** for greyhounds dropping in grade only applies to the greyhound's next start on that track and distance, but does not apply and is forfeited if the greyhound's next start on the track after dropping in grade is in an Invitation Race, Best Event, Free-to-All (except ROC), Mixed 1/2, Mixed 2/3, a Semi Final or a Final.
- 10.7** In selecting a field, where two or more greyhound are on the same Order of Choice the following order of preference will prevail:
- (1) For Choice 1 greyhounds, selection will be made on previous performances.
 - (2) For Choice 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 and 9, the finishing position of the performance which made the greyhound this Order of Choice. Preference will be given to winners as opposed to placegetters.
 - (3) For Order of Choice 5 and 10, preferences will be given to greyhounds that have never had a start at the distance.
 - (4) For Grade 6 Races (except in Best Races), the month of whelping, with greyhounds closest to turning 2 years of age given preference.
 - (5) After applying clauses 10.8 (1), (2) and (4) and for Order of Choice 11 and 12 greyhounds, the following order of selection will apply:
 - (a) Highest placing at the last start at track and distance.
 - (b) If equal, the greyhound that has had only one start at the track and distance, followed by the greyhound that has had two starts at the track and distance, noting that if equal and if necessary, a random ballot will be conducted.

- (c) If the last start placing at track and distance is the same and the greyhounds have had at least three starts at the track and distance, add the finishing placing in the last three events at the track and distance with the lowest total gaining the start. For example, a greyhound finishing 6th, 8th and 4th will have a total of 18, whilst a greyhound finishing 6th, 5th and 8th will have a total of 19. In this case the greyhound with 18 points will be selected.
- (d) If totals are the same, a random manual ballot is applied.

11.FIELD SELECTION

11.1 The Grader will consider a nomination for second and subsequent preferences **ONLY IF** the greyhound cannot obtain a start in the fields using the first preference.

11.2 Races to be drawn for a meeting will be determined by the programming, the nominations received, Policies for Minimum Nominations – Normal Graded Events and Feature Race Conditions.

11.3 ORI shall adopt an Order of Choice upon which the selection of greyhounds for all graded races (except Invitations, Best Races and Free-to-All races) shall be made.

11.4 The selection of greyhounds to contest an event may be made by reverse Order of Choice and/or grade, by age and/or a combination of conditions as defined in the programme.

11.5 A greyhound will not be included in any Best Race/Series or Free-to-All race/series unless specifically nominated for such race (Grade 1 and 2 greyhounds excepted).

11.6 Maiden greyhounds (two (2) years and older) nominated for a Maiden race and not selected in a Maiden race will be considered for selection in a Grade Five (5) race unless the comment 'NO HIGHER' has been stipulated at the time of nomination.

11.7 In Invitation races the greyhounds shall be selected first on their grade and then on their Order of Choice.

11.8 The selection of greyhounds for Free-to-All races shall be as follows:

- (i) Maidens shall be first excluded.
- (ii) Greyhounds shall be selected first on their Grade and then on their Order of Choice.
- (iii) If Maidens are to be included in the field, then this shall be done on the Order of Choice.
- (iv) Order of Choice '5' shall not apply to any greyhound.

11.9 In selecting fields for a meeting, the fields for those races called for and programmed shall be first selected and thereafter, subject to and in accordance with any other policy, single grade races shall be selected first as nominations permit, then mixed grade races from the highest grade down.

11.10 In the case of a single grade race and mixed grade race, greyhounds shall be selected for each race as determined by the provisions of the field selection criteria and their Order of Choice. In selecting a combination of a single grade race and a mixed grade race, reserves are not selected until starters for both races have been selected.

11.11 Except for the Hobart Thousand, Launceston Cup and Devonport Cup, the selection of greyhounds for all Best Races shall be in accordance with the following order:

- (a) **Restricted Best Races**, where the race/series is restricted by Grade as one of the conditions:
1. Maidens shall be first excluded.
 2. Order of Choice '5' shall not apply to any greyhound.
 3. The selection of other greyhounds shall be made on the Order of Choice, irrespective of Grade.
 4. Should it be necessary to include maidens in the field then this shall be done on the Order of Choice.
- (b) **Restricted Best Races**, where the race/series is not restricted by Grade as one of the conditions, the order of selection shall be:
1. Order of Choice '5' shall not apply to any greyhound.
 2. Grade 1 to Grade 4 greyhounds selected on their Grade and then on their Order of Choice.
 3. Grade 5 and Grade 6 (Non-Maiden) greyhounds selected on their Order of Choice only.
 4. Maiden Grade 5 and Grade 6 greyhounds selected on Order of Choice only.
- (c) **Open Best Races**
1. Maidens are not eligible to contest.
 2. Order of Choice '5' shall not apply to any greyhound.
 3. The field for any Open Best Race/Series shall be selected in accordance with the following order:
 - (i) Grade 1 greyhounds.
 - (ii) Grade 2 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 1 & 9 (inclusive).
 - (iii) Grade 3 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 1 & 9 (inclusive).
 - (iv) Grade 2 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 10 & 12 (inclusive).
 - (v) Grade 3 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 10 & 12 (inclusive).
 - (vi) Other greyhounds on the Order of Choice, irrespective of Grade.
- (d) **Major Feature Races** – The selection of greyhounds for the heats of the Major Feature Races being the Hobart Thousand, Launceston Cup and Devonport Cup shall be as follows:
1. Maidens are not eligible
 2. Greyhounds winning the final of the last conducted races listed below shall be first included:
 - (i) Hobart Thousand
 - (ii) Maiden Thousand
 - (iii) Tasmania Gold Cup
 - (iv) Hobart Breeders Classic
 - (v) Devonport Breeders Classic
 - (vi) Devonport Cup
 - (vii) Tasmanian Oaks
 - (viii) Tasmanian Derby
 - (ix) Gold Collar
 - (x) Launceston Cup
 - (xi) Illingworth Classic
 - (xii) Launceston Breeders Classic

- (xiii) State National Sprint Championship
- (xiv) State National Distance Championship

The remaining field for Major Feature races shall be selected in accordance with the following order:

- (i) Grade 1 greyhounds
 - (ii) Grade 2 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 1 & 9 (inclusive).
 - (iii) Grade 3 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 1 & 9 (inclusive).
 - (iv) Grade 2 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 10 & 12 (inclusive).
 - (v) Grade 3 greyhounds with an Order of Choice between 10 & 12 (inclusive).
 - (vi) All other greyhounds shall be included on their Order of Choice, irrespective of Grade except that Choice '5' on the Order of Choice shall not apply to any greyhound.
3. A Grading Panel, comprising the Director of Racing, Chairman of Stewards and the person appointed to do the grading by ORI will select the top four seeds from the nominations received for the heats. In determining the seeds the panel may consult with the club representative and interstate controlling bodies. The seeds will be published and guarded in the heats. The allocation of the remainder of the greyhounds for the heats will be a blind draw, subject to guarding provisions.
4. The selection process for Feature Races will include 'Grading Panel Discretion'. The panel will only utilize such discretion in the following circumstances and will be required to provide written reasons for its decision to include a greyhound using this clause if requested.
- (i) A greyhound that has been placed in a Group Race in the preceding three (3) months prior to the close of nominations.
 - (ii) A greyhound with superior form.

12. GUARDING

12.1 Where guarding of greyhounds (e.g. same grade and distance at a meeting, heats etc.) is to be undertaken, the following order will apply:

- (i) Greyhounds with the same trainer AND same exact owners
- (ii) Greyhounds with the same trainer
- (iii) Greyhounds with same exact owners
- (iv) In Breeders Classic races, greyhounds with the same Breeder.

12.2 It should be noted that Guarding will occur when it is reasonable to do so. A failure to guard greyhounds will not result in a redraw or any approval to withdraw greyhounds.

13.RESERVES

- 13.1** Greyhounds named as reserves in the second round of heats of a Series, Semi-Finals, Finals (including Qualifying Finals), Consolations or Compulsory Consolations are eligible to be graded into another race on the same programme. However, in such circumstances a greyhound will be required to contest such Heat, Semi-Final, Final, Consolation or Compulsory Consolation should the greyhound obtain a start in that Heat, Semi-Final, Final, Consolation or Compulsory Consolation and shall be withdrawn from the other race.
- 13.2** Except as provided in Clause 13.1, under no circumstances shall a reserve be eligible to be graded into another race in the same programme except as a reserve.
- 13.3** Seeded Reserves will apply for all Finals and Consolations.

14.SERIES QUALIFICATION

- 14.1** The qualification of any greyhound to further contest or be named as a reserve for a Series i.e. Semi-Final after heats; Final after Semi-Finals; Final after Heats – shall be determined by the placing of the greyhounds in each heat/semi-final.
- 14.2** Should it be necessary to reduce the number of greyhounds to further contest a series or be named as a reserve for a Series, then the greyhounds with the lowest placing shall be first excluded.
- 14.3** Should it be necessary to exclude/include greyhounds with the same placing, then the greyhound with the slowest time for that placing shall be first excluded. Should there be two (2) or more greyhounds on the same placing and time, a random ballot will be conducted.
- 14.4** This shall be repeated until the required number of greyhounds to further contest the Series have been selected (including reserves).
- 14.5** The time for each greyhound shall be calculated by the photo finish equipment, however in the case of a breakdown or failure, the times shall be taken from any other means of electronic timing. If that is not available or fails, then the race shall be hand timed and the time for each greyhound manually calculated using the beaten margins of each placing declared by the Judge utilizing the Time Conversion Chart adopted by ORI.

15.REDRAWWS

If at any time after publication of a selected race field, it is found that a greyhound has been omitted in error from the field, the Controlling Body (ORI) will be solely responsible for determining if it is practicable to conduct a redraw to allow that greyhound to be included in the field.

16. GRADING PENALTIES

16.1 Unless otherwise stipulated a greyhound will be penalized one grade for each penalty bearing win on each track at the respective distance (short sprint, sprint, mid distance and distance).

16.2 A Maiden may win one race on any track before being assessed as Grade 5 on all tracks.

16.3 A Maiden may contest any Maiden or Grade 5 race unless the conditions of the race otherwise exclude the greyhound.

16.4 One grading penalty only will be imposed for one or more wins in a Series – e.g.

HEAT	SEMI-FINAL	FINAL OR COMPULSORY CONSOLATION	PENALTY
1 st	3 rd	5 th	1 Penalty
1 st	1 st	1 st	1 Penalty
1 st	4 th	1 st	1 Penalty

16.5 Wins in 'Non-Penalty' races run in Tasmania will not incur a grading penalty, excluding Maidens.

16.6 Wins on interstate tracks with first prize money of \$450 or less will be treated as 'Non-Penalty' and will not be included when assessing the grade of a greyhound in Tasmania, excluding a greyhound's Maiden win.

16.7 Wins on interstate tracks with first prize money of \$451 or more shall be classified as a win and be penalized as if those wins were on Tasmanian tracks as per the following examples:

- (i) A greyhound that has won one race while under and is still under the age of two (2) years shall be assessed Grade 5 on one track and Grade 6 on the other two tracks.
- (ii) A greyhound that has won one race since turning two (2) years of age shall be assessed Grade 5 all tracks.
- (iii) A greyhound that has won two (2) races since turning two (2) years of age shall be assessed Grade 4 on one track and Grade 5 on the remaining two tracks.
- (iv) A greyhound that has won three (3) races since turning two (2) years of age shall be assessed Grade 4 on two tracks and Grade 5 on the remaining one track.

16.8 Any greyhound which is Grade 1, 2, 3 or 4 on any track will drop one grade for that distance on that track after three (3) consecutive unplaced runs at that distance on that track.

16.9 Where the Stewards and/or Judges declare a dead-heat for first place, all greyhounds dead-heating shall incur the normal grading penalty applicable to such race.

17.QUALIFYING TRIALS

- 17.1** Qualifying Trials shall be conducted only when programmed and will be over the distance and for the grade programmed.
- 17.2** Nominations close at 10.00 am on the same day as race nominations for the race meeting where Qualifying Trials are to be held.
- 17.3** If there are less than 10 nominations then the qualifying trails will be abandoned.
- 17.4** If there are 10 or 11 nominations then a Final will be conducted at the Club's next meeting.
- 17.5** If there are 12 or more nominations then heats shall be conducted with a Final at the Club's next meeting.
- 17.6** The maximum number of qualifying trials to be conducted shall be determined from time to time by the Controlling Body
- 17.7** The Final will carry normal graded stakes for the grade of the race.
- 17.8** Qualifying trials over the sprint distance are for greyhounds Choice 9 or worse on the Order of Choice or greyhounds balloted from the race meeting at which the trials are scheduled.
- 17.9** Qualifying trials over the short sprint distances are for greyhounds Choice 7 or worse on the Order of Choice or greyhounds balloted from the race meeting at which the trials are scheduled.
- 17.10** Balloted from the race meeting is defined as greyhounds balloted from races selected to be conducted at the meeting over the same distance as the qualifying trials, including reserves, apart from reserves for a Final.
- 17.11** Should it be necessary to reduce the number of greyhounds to participate in the trials (or Final if a Final only is conducted) then the selection of greyhounds to participate shall be made in accordance with the Order of Choice in the following order:
- (i) Greyhounds balloted from the race meeting
 - (ii) Greyhounds not balloted from the race meeting
- 17.12** Kennels will close one (1) hour prior to the first race when qualifying trials are scheduled.
- 17.13** Greyhounds participating in qualifying trials will not be kenneled and it is the responsibility of the trainer to be at the kennels and present their greyhound in qualifying race order.

18.DISQUALIFICATION OF GREYHOUNDS

18.1 A greyhound awarded first place in an event following the disqualification of the original winner will have its grade amended by one grade at the track and distance of the event and retain any unplaced runs from the lower grade.

Greyhounds **will not** have their grade amended in the following circumstances:

- When the win was the loss of Maiden status and the greyhound has broken its Maiden status in the meantime.
- When the greyhound's current grade is higher than it was in the event it is now being awarded.
- If the win does not incur a penalty (e.g. second win in a series)

18.2 If the greyhound has any unfulfilled commitments at the track and distance where the disqualification occurred at the time the disqualification and change of grade is to be processed, it will not be processed until after those commitments have been completed.

18.3 The disqualified winner of an event is manually dropped one Grade at the track and distance where the disqualification occurred if the win incurred a grade penalty at the time of the event.

18.4 Manual recalculation of the Grade history of the subsequent winner and disqualified greyhound once the amendment to the grade has been processed, **will not** occur. There will be a simple Grade change at the time the disqualification is processed.

18.5 The disqualification will not be processed for a period of 14 days from the date of the disqualification being imposed to allow for the lodgement of an appeal and if an appeal is lodged, not until the appeal has been determined.

Policy Revision History

Date	Version	Changes
1 September 2018	1	Original Document
1 February 2019	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update formatting and other general information• Order of Choice 1 not applicable to ROC in Free-to-All events• Exclusion of Maidens from incurring penalty for Wins in 'Non-Penalty' races
2 December 2020	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add Clause 18 – Disqualification of Greyhound
27 May 2021	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendments to wording of Clause 18 following request by Tasracing