

LICENSING, REGULATION AND ALCOHOL STRATEGY

Greyhound Racing Euthanasia Policy

The Northern Territory Racing Commission which is responsible for the control and regulation of greyhound racing in the Northern Territory is committed to ensure the welfare of registered greyhounds and to protect the image and profile of greyhound racing.

Therefore the Commission has adopted the following Euthanasia Policy which shall become effective immediately for all Northern Territory Greyhound race meetings:

Where a greyhound is seriously injured on race night and requires to be euthanised, the on-course Veterinarian or licensed poison controller may euthanise the greyhound upon obtaining a "euthanasia permission form" signed by the owner, trainer or handler.

Euthanasia will be totally at the discretion of the officiating veterinary surgeon, or Chief Steward if no vet is present, and will only be performed on-course under the following circumstances:

- 1) Fractures to long bones, including the spine, humerus, radius and ulna, femur and tibia;
- 2) Fractures to joints, but only when severe displacement occurs or if the fracture compounds (includes wrist and hock joints);
- 3) Head injuries that are severe or where the greyhound is unconscious and unlikely to survive;
- 4) Severe haemorrhage or trauma;

If the greyhound has sustained serious injuries and is recommended to be euthanased, the greyhound should be carried into the private kennelling area for this procedure unless movement of the greyhound would cause additional distress. If euthanasia is to be performed in a public area, the club must provide screens so that the public are not able to observe this procedure. The Club should also provide coverings for the body if it has to be carried through a public area.

Euthanasia on-course will not be carried out on any greyhound that is not seriously injured or upon the request by an owner or trainer on the basis that the dog is to be retired from racing.

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