

GBGB Rule Amendments - 01 January 2026

(All changes to take immediate effect)

Rule 2A – Persons subject to Rules

Reason for amendment

- i) To include the “Calendar” as a document that is required to be read by Persons subject to Rules.
- ii) To amend the contact details required by persons subject to the GBGB Rules of Racing to include address, telephone number and email address.

Amendments

First paragraph add: “and the Calendar” after “shall be deemed to have read the GBGB Rules of Racing, including the GRB Guidelines, Process and Penalties (Appendix VI)”.

Remove the fourth paragraph:

“Every person subject to the GBGB Rules of Racing shall notify the GBGB in writing of any change of address for that person within 28 Days of any such change in address.”

And replace with:

“Every person subject to the GBGB Rules of Racing shall notify the GBGB in writing of any change of address, change of telephone number and email address for that person within 28 Days of any such change.”

Add a fifth paragraph:

“Licensed individuals must have a telephone number and an email address that GBGB can contact them on.”

Amended Rule 2A

Each Director, occupier, or Authorised Representative of a Racecourse Executive (see Rule 5), and every person who is an Owner, Authorised Agent, Licence holder or the holder of a temporary appointment under Rule 104, or who is a subject of Rule 83(v), or is a registered Sales Agent shall be deemed to have read the GBGB Rules of Racing, including the GRB Guidelines, Process and Penalties (Appendix VI) and the Calendar and then and thereafter whether or not he/she subsequently ceases to fall within one of the above categories to submit himself/herself to such Rules howsoever amended and to the jurisdiction of the GBGB, and to authorise and consent to the publication to the British Greyhound Stud Book (National Coursing Club), the British Horseracing Authority, the Irish Coursing Club, Greyhound Racing Ireland (Rásaíocht Con Éireann), the Kennel Club, the Press and the public, and the publication in the Press and in the GBGB Calendar and otherwise, of details of any step taken, decision given or order made under these Rules.

When the GBGB, the Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Disciplinary Committee have power under these Rules to make any Inquiry or to make or to give any decision or order relating to

any person who at any time has been within any category mentioned above, or have authority under these Rules to publish any decision or order given or made by them relating to such person, they shall have such power and authority notwithstanding that at the time of such Inquiry, decision order or publication such person is no longer within such category.

In exercising its powers the Disciplinary Authority shall have regard to the GRB Guidelines, Process and Penalties (Appendix VI).

Every person subject to the GBGB Rules of Racing shall notify the GBGB in writing of any change of address, change of telephone number and email address for that person within 28 Days of any such change.

Licensed individuals must have a telephone number and an email address that GBGB can contact them on.

Any person subject to Rules of Racing will continue to be bound by and required to comply with these Rules unless and until they are deemed by GBGB to have retired from the sport (see Rule 2B). GBGB shall continue to have jurisdiction by virtue of these Rules over a licensee after they have retired, in respect of matters taking place prior to their retirement.

Rule 4A – GBGB powers and absolution from liability

Reason for amendment

- i) To include a reference to Appendix V - the Criteria for GBGB Licensed Persons.

Amendments

Add the following to the second paragraph in sub-section i) b. “in the Criteria for GBGB Licensed Persons” after “...the Director of Regulation acting under its authority”.

Amended Rule 4A

(See also Rule 160(vi) and Rule 174)

- i) The GBGB, acting as appropriate through the Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Disciplinary Committee shall have power;
 - a) in accordance with advice from the Greyhound Regulatory Board to repeal, amend, suspend or add to the Rules of Racing and shall advertise every such permanent alteration in the GBGB Calendar with the date of its adoption with the proviso that where the number of repeals, amendments, suspensions or additions to the Rules of Racing are such that the GBGB consider that the publication of each of them in the Calendar would be impracticable, they place a half page advertisement in the Calendar giving notice of changes, the date of their adoption,

and making a copy of the amended Rules of Racing available at the GBGB's registered office.

b) to grant Licences with or without conditions, to make general directions to Licence holders as they may think appropriate, to grant registrations, and to make directions to Local Stewards regarding persons who may not be temporarily appointed to fill vacancies pursuant to Rule 104 without the prior approval of the Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Director of Regulation acting under its authority.

In determining whether to exercise any of their powers contained within these Rules to grant or renew Licences or registrations, the Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Director of Regulation acting under its authority shall have regard to the criteria stipulated by the Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Director of Regulation acting under its authority in the Criteria for GBGB Licensed Persons or such other criteria as the - Greyhound Regulatory Board or the Director of Regulation acting under its authority may stipulate and publish from time to time.

whether the relevant person

is a fit and proper person to hold a Licence

has sufficient experience

is a person of integrity

has adequate facilities

has obtained adequate references

or

has a criminal record

has been the subject of GRB disciplinary action

has been a supporter of any non-GBGB Racecourse in England Scotland
or Wales

is ignorant of the Rules of Racing

has interests which would or might conflict with their duties as a Licence
holder.

c) to make Inquiry into and deal with any matters relating to Greyhound
racing.

d) to appoint Stipendiary Stewards to act under their orders and under
these Rules.

e) without prejudice to the Disciplinary Committee's rights under Rule 154(ii) to appoint a person being Counsel or a solicitor to sit with the Disciplinary Committee at any Inquiries held under Rule 160 to Rule 163. The person so appointed shall for the purpose of an Inquiry have the same powers as are conferred on the members of the Disciplinary Committee save that such person shall not be entitled to vote.

ii) The GRB or the Director of Regulation or the Senior Stipendiary Steward, shall have the power to grant exemption from or temporarily to suspend any of the Rules of Racing or to take any other emergency action in order that:

a) a Greyhound can race in a case where there is doubt concerning its bona fide ownership, or

b) a Trial or a Race Meeting or any matters connected therewith can proceed.

iii) In the event of any doubt or dispute as to the meaning or interpretation of any of these Rules or any particular or term or condition of any Race, the Greyhound Regulatory Board shall rule thereon and such ruling shall be binding and conclusive. In the event that any relevant matter shall appear not to be covered by these Rules, the Greyhound Regulatory Board may rule thereon and such ruling (which shall as soon as reasonably possible be published in the GBGB Calendar) shall be binding and conclusive.

iv) Subject always to sub-Rule (vi) of this Rule, neither the GBGB nor any officer, servant or agent thereof shall be liable to any person for any act done or omission made in the bona fide discharge or purported discharge of any duties on the part of any such officer, servant or agent under or pursuant to these Rules unless the act or omission is grossly negligent. Every officer, servant and agent of the GBGB acting bona fide within, or purportedly within, their authority shall be indemnified out of the funds of the GBGB against all liabilities incurred by him/her as such officer, servant and agent.

v) Subject to the sub-Rule (vi) of this Rule, neither the GBGB nor any officer, servant or agent thereof shall be liable for the consequences of any error or omission either in or about the issue of any document or in respect of particulars stated therein.

vi) Nothing herein shall exclude liability for death or personal injury resulting from negligence.

Rule 6 – Licensing requirements- facilities, premises

Reason for amendment

- ii) To add a new sub-section (iii) to reference the requirement for a Racecourse to have a Homing Policy for Retired Greyhounds.
- iii) To add a new sub-section (iv) to reference the requirement for a Racecourse to have an Injury Retirement Policy.

Amendments

Add the following sub-sections (iii) and (iv) after the last paragraph:

(iii) Homing Policy for Retired Greyhounds

Each GBGB Licensed Racecourse shall maintain a clear and unambiguous homing policy to assist owners/carers of GBGB-registered greyhounds in securing suitable retirement homes. The policy shall ensure that greyhounds retiring from racing at the track are offered homing opportunities and shall include:

- a) Where practicable, partnerships with approved greyhound homing organisations experienced in rehoming greyhounds.
- b) Submission of a fully completed GBGB Green Retirement Form to the GBGB Retirement Registrar in a timely manner, including all required retirement information, with a copy retained by the Racecourse for record-keeping.
- c) Compliance with any additional conditions imposed by the Director of Regulation or the Disciplinary Committee regarding the homing of greyhounds by individual owners/carers.

(iv) Injury Retirement Policy

Each GBGB Licensed Racecourse shall establish, implement, and maintain an effective injury retirement policy, ensuring that all GBGB-registered greyhounds receive appropriate veterinary treatment. This policy shall guarantee that greyhounds with a veterinary prognosis of a potentially career-ending injury receive timely and adequate care, either on-site and/or at an approved veterinary practice offering specialist surgical treatment.

- a) The policy shall outline the financial assistance available to owners/carers beyond the GBGB's veterinary grant.
- b) The Racecourse shall implement a suitable transport policy to ensure injured greyhounds can be safely transported from the trackside to a specialist veterinary facility when required.
- c) Track-Side Euthanasia Policy

Where euthanasia is considered, the Racecourse shall ensure a transparent decision-making process in accordance with GBGB policy guidance, including assessment of all viable alternatives (as outlined in the GBGB Green Form options). Euthanasia shall only be carried out following all other available options having been considered and following veterinary consultation with the individual or individuals who have full knowledge of the animal concerned.

Amended Rule 6

i) the Greyhound Regulatory Board shall have power to require that:

- a) all premises the subject of a Licence are situated, constructed, serviced, equipped and maintained to their satisfaction.
- b) all Licence holders are provided with such facilities as will satisfy the Greyhound Regulatory Board that such Licence holders can properly carry out their duties.
- c) all reasonable steps are taken to ensure that Greyhounds kept in Licensed Kennels are maintained in good and healthy condition and are kept secure and that facilities and services necessary to those ends are provided in accordance with the directions of the Greyhound Regulatory Board.

ii) The Greyhound Regulatory Board may of their own motion take any steps which they deem necessary and proportionate to satisfy themselves that the foregoing requirements are being complied with and in particular may appoint persons to inspect and report to them and may make such order as they deem fit and reasonable and may require that the fees and expenses of such examination and report are borne in whole or in part by the Racecourse Executive and/or Trainer.

(iii) Homing Policy for Retired Greyhounds

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- a) Where practicable, partnerships with approved greyhound homing organisations experienced in rehoming greyhounds.
- b) Submission of a fully completed GBGB Green Retirement Form to the GBGB Retirement Registrar in a timely manner, including all required retirement information, with a copy retained by the Racecourse for record-keeping.

c) Compliance with any additional conditions imposed by the Director of Regulation or the Disciplinary Committee regarding the homing of greyhounds by individual owners/carers.

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Rule 18 - Responsibility of Owner

Reason for amendment

- i) To clarify the meaning of non-GBGB racing as referenced in sub-section i) d.

Amendments

Remove the following in sub-section i) d: "the Greyhound be transferred to a new owner as a pet, for breeding or for non-GBGB licensed racing, or"

Replace with: "the Greyhound be transferred to a new owner as a pet, for breeding or for suitably regulated racing, or"

Amended Rule 18

- i) The Greyhound Regulatory Board shall hold the last registered Owner to be responsible for the welfare of a Greyhound and also for making acceptable arrangements for his/her retired Greyhound as follows :-

- a. The Greyhound be placed with a GBGB approved Greyhound Retirement Scheme kennel, or
- b. the Greyhound be retained as a pet, or
- c. the Greyhound be boarded at a Licensed Kennel, or at a Kennel licensed by the local authority, or
- d. the Greyhound be transferred to a new owner as a pet, for breeding or for suitably regulated racing, or
- e. the Greyhound be placed in a home or with a charity independent of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme, subject to the Responsible Homing Policy, or
- f. if it is necessary for the Greyhound to be euthanised on humane grounds, the Owner ensuring, subject to Rule 58, that such euthanasia is carried out by a registered Veterinary Surgeon in accordance with the Euthanasia Policy.

ii) A registered Owner shall inform the GBGB if there is any change in ownership of a registered Greyhound, and whether or not it is intended to enter it in any Trial or Race again (see Rule 20).

A registered Owner shall also report, or arrange for a licensed Trainer to report on his/her behalf, the retirement of a Greyhound which it is not intended to enter in any Trial or Race again, or any subsequent “Comeback” from a previously reported retirement, to the Racing Manager of any GBGB Licensed Racecourse and shall be given and retain a receipt in the form of a copy of a Greyhound Detail Report prepared under Rule 195(ii) and Rule 194(vii).

iii) Failure to give notification under Rule 18(ii) within 28 Days of the Change of Ownership shall result in a penalty being levied and may result in the Greyhound Regulatory Board, Director of Regulation or if the matter is referred to it, the Disciplinary Committee prohibiting an Owner from registering Greyhounds unless the Owner is able to satisfy the Greyhound Regulatory Board, Director of Regulation or if the matter is referred to it, the Disciplinary Committee that any future retirement of a Greyhound in his/her charge will be strictly in accordance with Rule 18.

Rule 69A Withdrawals – causes of

Reason for amendments

To include a requirement that the Local Stewards shall provide and publish a reason for all withdrawals under Rule 69A (i) and (ii).

Amendments

Remove c) Rule 148 applies

Add c) The reason for a withdrawal shall be recorded on the Racing Office System and made publicly available.

Add d) Rule 148 applies

Amended Rule

A Withdrawal shall be decided as such by the Local Stewards either:

- i) where required or authorised elsewhere in these Rules, or
- ii) where made necessary by circumstances, or if
 - a) a Veterinary Surgeon's certificate is produced stating that the Greyhound is unfit to run, giving precise details of the indisposition, the time and place of examination and colour, sex and earmarking of the Greyhound.
 - b) in the event of an Owner or Authorised Agent wishing to withdraw a Greyhound from any Race, except a Match or Private Sweepstakes, for any reason other than one which would normally lead to its Withdrawal in any case under these Rules, he/she shall not be allowed to do so unless he/she has:
 - i) handed a statement in writing of reason(s) for the Withdrawal to the Racing Manager not later than 8 hours prior to the time of the first Race, and
 - ii) given a deposit of £50 to the Racing Manager by such time, and
 - iii) obtained the Racing Manager's consent to such Withdrawal, who shall report the Withdrawal to the Director of Regulation who may make such order as he thinks fit.
 - c) The reason for such withdrawal shall be recorded on the Racing Office System and published in the results for that race meeting.
- d) [Rule 148](#) applies.

Rule 102B – Sales Trials

Reason for amendments

To add a requirement that greyhounds transported to the Sales Meeting from the Republic or Northern Ireland are transported and accommodated in accordance with the GBGB General Arrangement for Sales Trial Meetings

Amendments

After: "The following provisions shall apply specifically to Sales Trials:"

Add new condition i) All greyhounds travelling to Sales Trials meetings from the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland shall be transported and accommodated in accordance with the GBGB General Arrangement for Sales Trials Meetings guidance issued to Sales Agents and Racecourses.

Remove condition vii) in its entirety – "Suitable transport for the conveyance of Greyhounds to/from a Sales Trials Meeting shall be to the satisfaction of the persons or organisation

conducting the sales and in accordance with any code of practice as may be determined by the Greyhound Regulatory Board.

Numbering is amended to reflect the changes, so the current number i) will become ii) and so on until number vii), whereby the numbering will remain the same as per the current rule.

Amended Rule

All persons or organisations who conduct Greyhound sales on premises licensed by the GBGB shall first be registered with the GBGB. The fees for registration shall be decided by the Greyhound Regulatory Board who shall have power to refuse the registration of any such person or organisation without assigning a reason. The right of appeal against such a decision exists within current Appeal Procedures.

A Sales Trial shall be a Trial run at a Trials Meeting composed entirely of Sales Trials, each run in connection with a subsequent offer for sale at the Meeting of any Greyhound contesting such a Trial.

Except where explicitly stated otherwise in this or any other Rule, a Greyhound Sales Trials Meeting shall be treated as a normal Trials Meeting under these Rules.

The following provisions shall apply specifically to Sales Trials:

i) All greyhounds travelling to Sales Trials meetings from the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland shall be transported and accommodated in accordance with the GBGB General Arrangement for Sales Trials Meetings guidance issued to Sales Agents and Racecourses.

ii) No dispensation from veterinary attendance at Kennelling under [Rule 113\(vi\)](#) shall be granted, nor any such existing dispensation apply, in respect of a Sales Trials Meeting.

iii) A Sales Trial shall not count as an Initial Trial under the provisions of [Rule 47](#) and [Rule 48](#).

iv) All Greyhounds to run in a Sales Trial shall have in-date inoculation records in accordance with those specified in [Rule 60](#). In respect of Greyhounds from Ireland, proof of inoculation shall be entered in the Irish Identity Card or the Pet Passport and the inoculation certificate shall also be produced. In the absence thereof, a greyhound shall not be permitted to trial.

v) A separate Kennel shall be provided for each Greyhound to run in a Sales Trial. Any Kennels other than Racing Kennels, which shall be in a secure area, may only be used subject to prior agreement with the area Stipendiary Steward but in each case only one Greyhound shall be accommodated in each Kennel. Greyhounds shall not be kept in any other form of accommodation such as cars, vans etc.

vi) Copies of the sales catalogues shall be sent, to arrive at least 7 Days prior to the date of the Sales Trials Meeting, to the GBGB and to the Area Stipendiary Steward. The following notice shall be incorporated in the condition of sales published in the sales catalogue:

“Intending purchasers are advised that the acceptance by the GBGB for registration of any Greyhound offered in this catalogue is subject to the Greyhound being eligible for registration under the Rules of Racing.”

vii) All agents or persons who supply Greyhounds to the persons or organisations conducting sales at a Sales Trials Meeting shall be registered with the GRB – registered sales organisation, which shall keep a register of such persons, which shall be open to inspection by the Area Stipendiary Steward and all such registered Agents shall be subject to the Rules of Racing.

viii) All other arrangements for the feeding, watering and exercising of Greyhounds brought to a Sales Trials Meeting shall be to the satisfaction of the Greyhound Regulatory Board.

ix) The Racecourse Executive in conjunction with the registered sales organisation may arrange to take random urine samples from Greyhounds at a Sales Trials Meeting and these may, by financial arrangement with the GBGB, be analysed by the GBGB – appointed analyst.

x) In respect of unsold Greyhounds, the persons or organisations responsible for the sales Trials shall make reasonable arrangements for the welfare of such Greyhounds until their eventual sale or transfer.

xi) Irish transfer forms for Greyhounds sold at a Sales Trials Meeting shall only be accepted by the GBGB for registration purposes if they are appropriately stamped by the sales organisation. The stamp shall show the name of the registered sales person or organisation, the GBGB Licensed Racecourse at which the sale was held, and the date.