



Restrictions on the possession on course of prohibited substances and certain items to be introduced into the Greyhounds Australasia Rules

An essential principle of greyhound racing is that greyhounds are to compete free of prohibited substances.

On 1 July 2015, Greyhounds Australasia introduced restrictions on the possession on course of prohibited substances and certain items within GAR 83B as follows:

“(1) No person, unless he or she has obtained the permission of the Stewards, shall have in his or her possession, either on a racecourse or in any motor vehicle or trailer being used for the purpose of travelling to or from a racecourse, any prohibited substance or a syringe, needle or other instrument which could be used to administer a prohibited substance to a greyhound.

(2) The Stewards may impose terms and conditions when giving permission under sub rule (1).

(3) A person who fails to comply with sub rule (1) or with a term or condition imposed under sub rule (2) is guilty of an offence.

(4) For the purpose of sub rule (1) possession includes control of and right of access to the prohibited substance or syringe, needle or other instrument.”

The officiating Veterinary Surgeon has the permission of Stewards to possess these items on the racecourse as required in conducting their official duties.

Stewards give permission where the items are clearly for personal use e.g. for prescribed medication and their administration.

Syringes that are clearly for oral use (i.e. an oral applicator syringe that cannot have a needle attached) may be possessed but should only be used after an Event.

For further information please contact your state controlling body.

Note – It is suggested by VAC that states have the above template and then those states that need to, tailor it to their requirements.

For example, states that allow on-course sales may consider: “Where any of these items are purchased on-track they must remain unopened in their packaging until leaving the racecourse. On-track salespersons must have permission from Stewards and the Club prior to supplying these items.”

Whereas those states that do not allow on-course sales would not include this section and may wish to emphasise that they prohibit the supplying of medication from vets or other salespersons.

The Stewards may wish to add clarification around other common queries they have received.