

GRV Animal Welfare Initiatives: Racing

GRV has as many welfare initiatives on the track as off-the track, ensuring that the greyhounds that race are put at a minimum risk. GRV leads the country in regards to facilities and the provision of veterinary supervision at all racing and coursing meetings across the state.

GRV provides:

- On Track Veterinarians at **ALL** meetings – with Greyhounds checked twice before racing, and again after racing if required.
- Air Conditioned Kennels at all tracks.
- Extreme Weather Policy allowing Trainers to scratch without penalty if the weather is predicted to be above 32 degrees, and cancelling race meetings where the temperature is predicted to be 40 degrees or more – removing the need for trainers to transport their greyhounds in a hot weather rather than having a set 'on-track temperature' that sees races postponed or called-off after arrival (and hence transporting) of greyhounds.
- Altered/reduced parade requirements in warm/hot weather
- Warm weather coats provided for greyhounds at all tracks during the colder weather
- Pre- and post-race drug testing – over 5000 samples taken in 2014/15
- On track vehicle and associated equipment to assist with injured greyhounds
- On Track Veterinarians at Victorian Coursing meetings.
- Ongoing research into track design and surface preparation.
- Standardisation of track maintenance routines with the introduction of a Trackman's Manual and regular trackman's forums aimed at educating and sharing knowledge of good track surface preparation
- Automated watering systems installed at all tracks for more consistent surface preparation
- Trialling of various initiatives aimed at increasing greyhound safety – such as lure and arm design, catching pen design and starting box design and safety.