

Greyhound Racing South Australia (GRSA) is committed to animal welfare. Like all animals, greyhounds can be affected by hot weather. The main form of cooling for canines is through panting. In an attempt to limit the effect of heat on greyhounds, GRSA has implemented this policy to ensure greyhounds are properly cared for during hot weather.

CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS:

GRSA will always attempt to move race meetings to a more suitable timeslot.

TABMEETINGS – Forecast 40° C or above

Morning meetings on days for which the predicted temperature is forecast to be 40°C or above at 8.00am will continue as scheduled but may still be called off, delayed, cancelled or abandoned at the discretion of the Stewards and in consultation with the on-course Veterinarian.

Day and Twilight meetings will be abandoned if the predicted temperature is forecast to be 40° C or above at 8:00am on the morning of the scheduled event. Day and Twilight meetings are race meetings scheduled to start after 11.00am (Day) and before 5:00pm (Twilight).

Night meetings on days for which the predicted temperature is forecast to be 40° C or above at 8:00am will continue as scheduled but may still be called off, delayed, cancelled or abandoned at the discretion of the Stewards and in consultation with the on-course Veterinarian.

If a Day or Twilight meeting proceeds in accordance with this policy, but the actual temperature reaches 40° C or above, a decision about the cancellation or abandonment of the meeting will be made at the discretion of the Stewards and in consultation with the on-course Veterinarian.

NON-TAB MEETINGS – Forecast 40° C or above

Where the predicted temperature is forecast to be 40° C or above at 5:00pm on the Friday preceding the affected event, it will automatically be cancelled at that time. On the basis of an extreme hot weather forecast, a decision may be made prior to that time to cancel at the absolute discretion of Stewards.

COURSING MEETINGS – Forecast 30° C or above

In noting that Coursing involves multiple runs on the same day, when the predicted temperature is forecast to be 30° C or above at 5:00pm on the Friday preceding the affected event, it will automatically be cancelled at that time. On the basis of an extreme hot weather forecast, a decision may be made prior to that time to cancel at the absolute discretion of the Stewards.

SCRATCHING WITHOUT PENALTY

Trainers who have greyhounds engaged for racing on projected hot weather days – especially if they do not have air-conditioned transport facilities – may apply to scratch their runners **without penalty**. The following conditions apply:

- The predicted temperature is forecast for the venue's regional centre must be 38° C or above at the official scratching time
- Applications to scratch greyhounds under this policy must be made prior to the official scratching time. If a greyhound is withdrawn after that time the normal ten (10) day penalty will apply.
- Trainers cannot scratch their greyhounds selectively – all runners for that trainer must be withdrawn
- The temperature will be sourced from Bureau of Meteorology – www.bom.gov.au – and will link venues to regional centres in accordance with the following:

GRSA Venue	Corresponding Regional Centre
Angle Park	Adelaide
Gawler	Roseworthy
Murray Bridge	Murray Bridge
Mount Gambier	Mount Gambier
Virginia	Elizabeth

NOTE: GRSA will maintain and monitor records of greyhounds which are scratched due to hot weather.

Selected greyhounds nominated by the one trainer to be scratched from meeting:

GRSA will maintain a Heat Stress Register which records greyhounds which are particularly vulnerable to heat stress. To be included on the register, the greyhound's Trainer must contact Stewards in advance of the close of nominations for a given meeting for it to be eligible for selective scratching from that or any subsequent meetings due to hot weather.

Any greyhound on the register which is nominated for a meeting in relation to which the predicted temperature is forecast to be 38 °C degrees or higher for the corresponding regional centre as at the official scratching time will automatically be scratched from the meeting by GRSA. Under such circumstances, no penalty will be applied to the greyhound as a result of that scratching.

This policy will be applied regardless of whether the meeting in question is a Day, Twilight or Night meeting. It will also be considered a breach of this policy for a greyhound listed on the register to trial when the forecasted temperature is 38°C degrees or higher for the corresponding regional centre on that day other than for morning trial sessions.

COMMUNICATION OF CANCELLATION OF RACE MEETING OR TRIAL SESSION

GRSA will make every endeavor to announce any rescheduling of a race meeting by 8:00am that morning via the industry text service and any other vehicles that it deems appropriate. Radio TAB will be advised of any relevant information.

Trials may be cancelled at any time up until 4 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the trial session. As with race meetings, the cancellation of a trial session will be notified by industry text and any other appropriate vehicles.

RACING OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES – HOT WEATHER

- 1) In hot weather conditions at twilight and night meetings when the predicted temperature is forecast to be 35 ° C or above at the time of kenneling, GRSA will ensure the kennel house is opened 30 minutes earlier at all venues. Early kenneling will not apply for morning meetings or those meetings moved to morning timeslots.
- 2) Greyhounds to spend minimum time outside kennels
- 3) Previews are to be conducted in a shaded area
- 4) Greyhounds to parade directly to starting boxes
- 5) Greyhounds to remain in kennel house for at least 30 minutes after their event. During the operation of the race meeting, where the temperature has dropped to 28 ° C or below at the corresponding regional centre, Stewards (in consultation with the On-Track Veterinarian) may permit greyhounds to leave the course before the 30 minutes has expired.

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- 6) Club to provide adequate drinking facilities for greyhounds
 - 7) Club to provide adequate cooling foot-baths
 - 8) Club to provide bottled water to participants when temperature is 32° C or above.
 - 9) Ice vests can be used during parading and after the event but must be removed prior to placing greyhounds into their allotted kennel
 - 10) GRSA Racing Department (where possible) to program distance events during the coolest part of the meeting (Day meetings – early races, Night Meetings – later races)
 - 11) In hot weather conditions when the predicted temperature is forecast to be 32° C or above, barking muzzles will not to be permitted to be used at any time at SA race tracks

GRSA reserves the right to alter this policy at any time.