

# **VIRGINIA GREYHOUND TRAINING FACILITY**

**PARK ROAD, VIRGINIA**

## **COVID-19 OPERATIONAL PLAN**

**MAY 2020**



*Greyhound*  
**RACING SA**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Virginia Greyhound Training Facility is situated in Park Road, Virginia, on government managed property and shares the facility with the following five shooting clubs:

- Torrens Valley Pistol club
- International Clay Target Association
- SA Hand gun Metallic silhouette Club
- Frontier Shooting club
- Cyclists Smallbore rifle club

The greyhound facilities comprise of a 300-metre grass training track with a drag lure system, a lure driving hut and a small clubroom for use during coursing race meetings.

Whilst the greyhound activity on site is managed by the Greyhound Owners, Breeders, Trainers Association (GOTBA), Greyhound Racing SA (GRSA) has the ultimate responsibility of industry oversight in SA.

The operations of the State Shooting Park and the greyhound training track do not interact, apart from the shared entrance off Park Road.

## **PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN**

The COVID-19 outbreak across the world has necessitated a change to our daily lives, to restrict and manage the potential for the rapid spread of the virus in the community.

The SA State Government has provided sporting clubs with a series of guiding principles to assist in the 'rebooting' of sport and recreation activities in this state.

This plan sets out GRSA's operational plan in relation to managing COVID-19 concerns at the Virginia Greyhound Training Facility, whilst adhering to the '*Get In, Train, Get Out*' principles set out by the SA State Government.

## **GET IN, TRAIN, GET OUT**

The following represents the principles of the *Get In, Train, Get Out* approach:

- Training only, no competition, respond to restrictions as they evolve
- Notify Department of Health of any positive cases, and ORSR
- Cleaning of common spaces – heightened cleaning schedule, frequently touched surfaces, access to communal spaces
- Promote general hygiene measures across the site – signage
- Promote social distancing across the site - signage
- Readiness to reverse plans should restrictions increase
- Readiness to advance to next level if restrictions ease
- Managing illness at the site
- Tenant/Lessee communications - Frequency/Updates/Compliance

## **PARTICIPANT HEALTH**

Participants that are experiencing flu-like symptoms should not attend SA greyhound racing and training facilities and should visit a doctor for assessment. Any positive cases of COVID-19 in participants or close contacts should immediately be notified to the relevant authorities as well as GRSA administration.

## **PARTICIPANT ACCESS**

GRSA fully understands that training activities undertaken by greyhound participants at Virginia are already a relatively isolated activity. However there still exists the potential for interaction with other participants that may be attending the facility.

On that basis, where possible the use of the Virginia facility should be limited to participants from the same household/property at any given time. If you arrive at the facility and another trainer is currently using the track, please wait in your vehicle until they have finished.

If participants do happen to come in contact with other people at the site, the rules of social distancing should be applied to these interactions, please stand 1.5 metres apart and make no physical contact (such as shaking hands).

Participants should introduce a level of efficiency in their attendance to the site, spending as little time as possible to undertake the training of their greyhounds.

## **USE OF COMMON AREAS**

The clubrooms and portable toilet will remain closed for the foreseeable future and participants are required to avoid these areas when attending the facility.

## **USE OF COMMON EQUIPMENT**

Participants are required to bring their own equipment when using the Virginia facility (such as drag lures, lure material and equipment to clean up after their greyhounds). Use of common equipment will not be possible during this time.

Those attending the facility should also be conscious of high contact areas, such as the track timing system, holding kennels and gates, and (a) avoid unnecessary contact with these places, and (b) clean these areas after use.

## **PERSONAL HYGIENE & CLEANING**

Participants are advised to adhere to the general principles of COVID-19 personal hygiene, which include:

- wash your hands often with soap and water.
- use alcohol-based hand sanitisers when you can't use soap and water

- avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- clean and disinfect surfaces you use often gates, latches and timing system
- clean and disinfect objects you use often such as mobile phones and keys

GRSA will place hand sanitiser at both ends of the training track and participants are encouraged to clean their hands when they both arrive and depart the facility.

## **FACILITY MAINTENANCE**

GRSA understands that general maintenance of the facility is already undertaken by a small group of volunteers, therefore the use of common equipment is limited. However extra precautions should be undertaken during this period to ensure that equipment that is used often is cleaned and disinfected often.

## **SIGNAGE**

GRSA will ensure that the appropriate COVID-19 related signage is placed around the facility, which will include advice on:

- Social distancing requirements
- Personal hygiene advice
- Rules for use of the facility

## **FORMAL COMPETITION**

GRSA has indefinitely suspended the 2020 Coursing season, therefore no formal competition will take place at the Virginia facility in the immediate future.

## **COMMUNICATION**

GRSA will continue to use the following key means of communicating with industry participants regarding COVID-19 regulations:

- GRSA website
- Kennel Capers (Monthly industry publication)
- GRSA Registered Participant Facebook Group
- Text messaging service
- Direct email service to registered participants
- Traditional mail

GRSA will also continue to liaise with the SA State Government, the Office of Sport and Recreation and the State Shooting Park management on updated regulations and how they may impact greyhound training activities at the Virginia facility.



**VIRGINIA GREYHOUND TRAINING FACILITY MAP**

