

GREYHOUND PUBLIC TRAINING TRACK OPERATING GUIDELINE



1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Under the Local Rules, all Public Training Tracks must be registered with Racing Queensland (**RQ**) and operated by a Training Track Operator in accordance with registration requirements.

RQ's Greyhound Public Training Track Registration Procedure (**Procedure**) sets out the conditions that apply to the registration of a Public Training Track by RQ, including that the Public Training Track must comply with the Operating Guideline (as it applies to a relevant category of Public Training Track).

By applying to register a Public Training Track, the Applicant agrees to ensure that the Public Track (and any Training Track Operator approved by RQ to operate the Public Training Track) complies with the Operating Guideline.

The purpose of this document is to set out the minimum standards that apply to the operation and maintenance of Public Training Tracks registered by RQ under the Procedure.

2. INSPECTIONS AND REVIEW

Under the Procedure, RQ may inspect a Public Training Track to determine whether it:

- is being used in a manner that is consistent with the application made to RQ under the Procedure;
- complies with the Operating Guideline; and/or
- is otherwise suitable to be registered under the Procedure.

Following any such inspection, RQ may issue the Applicant with a written notice stating any non-compliance with the Operating Guideline, or the conditions of registration of the Public Training Track, and the Applicant must remedy the relevant non-compliance/s within the timeframe stated in such notice (**Inspection Notice**).

Further, RQ may conduct a review of the registration of a Public Training Track at any time to consider whether it continues to be suitable to be registered under the Procedure and may, as a result of that review, decide to take action in relation to the relevant registration (which may include, without limitation, suspension or cancellation of the registration).

Following a review, RQ may take action where any one (1) or more non-compliances identified in an Inspection Notice issued to the Applicant have not been remedied within the timeframe stated in the notice.

3. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The following table sets out the operational requirements which apply to each category of Public Training Track registered by RQ:

REQUIREMENT	CATEGORY 1 TRAINING TRACK	CATEGORY 2 TRAINING TRACK	CATEGORY 3 TRAINING TRACK
Supervision	All Training Activities must be conducted in the presence of a Training Track Operator approved by RQ.		<p>All Training Activities must be conducted in the presence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a Training Track Operator approved by RQ, (b) or a Licensed Trainer whose details have been provided to RQ in accordance with this requirement. <p>For the purposes of this requirement, the Applicant for a Category 3 Training Track must provide RQ with the details of all Licensed Trainer/s who have been authorised to use the facility throughout the Registration Period.</p> <p>Further, the Applicant must notify RQ of any additional Licensed Trainer/s who are authorised to use the facility throughout the Registration Period within 7 days of such authorisation being granted.</p>
Hours of Use	Training Activities may be conducted at any time.		Training Activities may only be conducted at the times approved by RQ and set out in the Registration Certificate.

Number of Licensed Trainers	No limit on the number of Licensed Trainers that may use the facility throughout the Registration Period.	A maximum of three (3) non-resident Licensed Trainers may use the facility throughout the Registration Period. For the purposes of this requirement, the Applicant must provide RQ with the names of the non-resident Licensed Trainer/s proposed to use the facility at the time of application, and must seek permission from RQ to make changes to the approved non-resident Licensed Trainers.	No limit on the number of Licensed Trainers that may use the facility throughout the Registration Period. However, each Licensed Trainer who uses the facility must have been notified to RQ in accordance with the 'Supervision' requirements above.
Number of Greyhounds	No more than four (4) greyhounds may participate in any trial conducted at the facility.	No more than two (2) greyhounds may participate in any trial conducted at the facility.	
Lure Type/s	A cable, bramich, battery or drag lure may be used at the facility.	Only a drag lure (where approved by RQ) may be used at the facility.	

Please note, the above table is not an exhaustive list and does not set out all conditions that may apply to the registration of a Public Training Track. To understand all the conditions that may apply to a particular Public Training Track, an Applicant and/or Training Track Operator should refer to the Procedure and the Registration Certificate issued by RQ in respect of the relevant registration.

4. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The following table sets out the facilities and/or equipment that must be provided at each category of Public Training Track, including the relevant standard that must be complied with for each item.

ITEM	CATEGORY 1 AND CATEGORY 2 TRAINING TRACKS	CATEGORY 3 TRAINING TRACK
Track Surface	Sand or grass track surface that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 1 , or another suitable surface approved by RQ is required.	A track surface that has been approved by RQ and that meets the minimum standards set out at 4B, ITEM 1 is required.
Irrigation	An irrigation system that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 2 is required.	An irrigation or watering system that meets the minimum standards set out at 4B, ITEM 2 is required.
Outside/Boundary Fence	An outside or boundary fence that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 3 or ITEM 4 is required.	An outside or boundary fence that meets the minimum standards set out at 4B, ITEM 3 or ITEM 4 is required.
Machinery and Equipment	Machinery and equipment that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 5 is required.	Machinery and equipment that meets the minimum standards set out at 4B, ITEM 5 is required.
Inside Running Rail	An inside running rail that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 6 is required.	Not required. However, if installed, the inside running rail must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 6 .
Lure System	A lure system that meets the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 7 is required.	Not required. Please refer to the operational requirements which apply to the use of lures at a Category 3 Training Track (section 3).
Starting Boxes	Not required. However, if installed, the starting boxes must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 8 .	Not required. However, if installed, the starting boxes must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 8 .
Bullring	Not required. However, if installed, the bullring must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 9 .	Not required. However, if installed, the bullring must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 9 .
Catching Pen	Not required. However, if installed, the catching pen must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 10 .	Not required. However, if installed, the catching pen must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 10 .

Trial Kennels	Not required. However, if installed, the trial kennels must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 11.	Not required. However, if installed, the trial kennels must meet the minimum standards set out at 4A, ITEM 11.
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4A. MINIMUM STANDARDS: CATEGORY 1 AND 2 TRAINING TRACKS

ITEM 1. Track Surface

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD																				
Track Sand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track sand must meet industry standards when assessing particle size, bulk density, total porosity and infiltration rates (as determined by RQ in its sole discretion). Supplier specifications must be submitted to RQ for approval. Track Sand must be within the reasonable range (%) of RQ's Track Sand Particle Size Distribution (PSD) grading specification. Any variations from the nominated PSD range must be approved by RQ. <p style="text-align: center;">Track Sand Particle Size Distribution (% retained)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="577 786 1547 1230"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fraction</th> <th>Size (mm)</th> <th>Recommended Range (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fine Gravel</td> <td>2.00</td> <td rowspan="3">} <30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Very Coarse Sand</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coarse Sand</td> <td>0.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium Sand</td> <td>0.25</td> <td rowspan="2">} 30% - 40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fine Sand</td> <td>0.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Very Fine Sand</td> <td>0.05</td> <td rowspan="2">} 35% - 55%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Silt / Clay</td> <td><0.05</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The base course is to be a uniform compacted base without soft spots, loose material or pavement failure. The surface course must be comparative to industry benchmarks at a depth of 100 - 150mm, with material properties that restrict access to the base course and present a smooth and uniform surface. 	Fraction	Size (mm)	Recommended Range (%)	Fine Gravel	2.00	} <30%	Very Coarse Sand	1.00	Coarse Sand	0.50	Medium Sand	0.25	} 30% - 40%	Fine Sand	0.15	Very Fine Sand	0.05	} 35% - 55%	Silt / Clay	<0.05
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Track Grass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kikuyu, Couch or Tall Fescue are acceptable turf varieties. • Buffalo grass is also acceptable although is not preferred due to its low wear characteristic. • Soils with a high clay content (as determined by RQ) may not be used.
Track Surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The track surface must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ safe and consistent for greyhounds at all times, free of depressions or major undulations; ○ presented in a smooth, consistent and even condition free of any debris, stones or rocks; and ○ free of objects and encroachments (e.g. irrigation sprinkler heads, pop-up sprinklers and drainage swales, etc). Any such items should be located outside the fenced course surface. • For <u>grass tracks</u>, the selected turf variety must provide uniform coverage across the entire track to present a safe and consistent surface at all times.
Track Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate water must be applied consistently and evenly to the track surface prior to and during trial sessions (if required). • For <u>sand tracks</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the track surface must be dragged or broomed prior to each trial session, with additional dragging or brooming during each trial session as required (and no less than once every 12 trials); and ○ the track depth is to be monitored regularly to ensure consistency and maximise safety, and harrowed when necessary. • For <u>grass tracks</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ light consolidation must be utilised in order to maintain the track surface in a consistent and safe condition where required, however, the track is not to be rolled to the point of producing a hard surface (due to compaction); and ○ divots must be monitored and filled as required and no less than after every trial session. Any patching material must be compatible with the existing soil profile.
Track Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A renovation of the track surface and profile must be undertaken annually as a minimum, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ for <u>sand tracks</u>:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ cultivation, topdressing and regrading of the surface; and ▪ the sand selected for this renovation must be identical or at least compatible with the existing track sand. ○ for <u>grass tracks</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ deep aeration, dethatching or scarification and topdressing; ▪ aeration at varying depths to provide an ideal surface reducing concussion or compacted profiles; and ▪ the topsoil selected for this renovation must be identical or at least compatible with the existing track soil.
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ITEM 2. Irrigation System

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
System Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to apply adequate volumes of water at a consistent application rate onto the track leading into trials or exercise is mandatory. • If no fixed irrigation system is installed, a satisfactory watercart (minimum 2500L) is to be used but must be capable of applying water in a diffused spray (as opposed to a gravity feed application). • All water application must be even and consistent and must ensure the track surface and profile contains satisfactory water content.

ITEM 3. Outside Fence

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a boundary fence is not installed at the facility, a fence on the outside of the track is required to contain loose dogs within the facility and/or to prevent entry of unwanted animals including wildlife. • All components (posts, rails and fittings) must be kept in sound condition to ensure structural integrity. • No objects that may cause damage or injury may be protruding on the course (i.e. no fixing fence panels with fittings that protrude through the trackside of the fencing), other than an irrigation mechanism approved for use by RQ. • The top of the fence must be level and follow the ground lines of the track, free of any depressions and gaps. All

	<p>sharp edges must be padded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rails/fences must be straight where appropriate with smooth sweeping radii on the bends with no exposed pins or joint protrusions. Any overlays of metal must align in the same direction as the dogs run. <p><u>Note:</u> For the purpose of these Facility Minimum Standards, the term <i>sound condition</i> means “able to support reasonable and anticipated loading or weather conditions, with no major defect, deteriorations, structural problems, asset failure or environmental and health and safety issues”.</p>
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ITEM 4. Boundary Fence

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an outside fence is not installed at the facility, a fence around the entire perimeter of the training complex/venue (boundary fence) is required to contain loose dogs within the facility and/or to prevent entry of unwanted animals including wildlife. • The boundary fence must be a minimum height of 1200mm around the property boundary and must be constructed from colorbond, corrugated tin or similar material. • If exclusion fencing for feral animals is installed, the posts must be capped and fixed into the ground, the fence must be constructed with mesh (not plain wire strands). • Barbed wire is not permitted on the track or fencing in any animal precinct. • Fences must be placed and installed in accordance with manufacturers' and/or suppliers' specifications. • All components (posts, rails and fittings) must be kept in sound condition to ensure structural integrity. • No objects that may cause damage or injury may be protruding on the fence (i.e. no fixing fence panels with fittings that protrude through the trackside of the fencing).

ITEM 5. Machinery and Equipment

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Training Track Operator must have convenient use of, and access to, the following machinery and equipment for maintenance of the Public Training Track:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ for <u>sand tracks</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ tyre roller with harrows and brushes or other suitable alternative approved by RQ; ▪ appropriate tractor (minimum 35HP); ▪ watercart 2500L or larger (if no fixed irrigation system); and ▪ 3PL Grader Blade or similar. ○ for <u>grass tracks</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ an appropriate mower (rotary or cylinder); ▪ tow behind spike roller or similar; ▪ fertilizer spreader (tow behind or walk behind broadcast); ▪ water cart 2500L or larger (if no fixed irrigation system); and ▪ tow behind tank or knapsack for chemical application.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machinery and equipment must be maintained as per manufacturer specifications or other applicable guidelines to provide safe and effective operation as intended.

ITEM 6. Inside Running Rail

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Inside Rail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The track must have a complete inside running rail that conforms to the following specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ steel or aluminium rail which provides satisfactory visibility; ○ steel or aluminium upright posts; and ○ rail height between 300 - 500mm (with 420 - 450mm being the optimum). • All components (posts, rails and fittings) must be kept in sound condition to ensure structural integrity. • If no safety rail is installed, the infield/centre of the track must be free from objects, hazards and the surface must be consistent. • If a safety rail is installed, this must be set approximately 200 - 250mm higher than the running rail and slightly

	<p>offset behind the face of the rail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This safety rail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ may double as the irrigation pipe or may be a purpose-installed rail; and ○ may be either tubular or rectangular and its design and construction material must be approved by RQ. • All mounting plates and other fittings between posts and lure rail must be free of any rust, corrosion or damage caused by the cable or carriage - the integrity of this structure must not be compromised. • The rail must be free of gaps >2-4mm and damage which impacts on the smoothness and continuity of the movement of the lure carriage particularly relative to turns.
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ITEM 7. Lure System

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Lure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lure type must be either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cable; ○ Bramich; ○ Battery; ○ Drag or ○ Hand-pushed (applicable to Bullrings). • The lure arm must be a hoop arm or a straight arm and approved for use by RQ. • The lure or other apparatus (including any attachment to the lure or apparatus) must only be made of, and consist only of synthetic or artificial material and approved for use by RQ. • When operating a rail system, the lure carriage must never come into contact with the track surface. • When operating a drag system, the lure must be located in the centre of the track, or as near to the centre of the track as possible.
Cable and Rollers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All rollers or approved alternative cable alignment mechanisms must be operational and in a safe condition at all times to ensure no fouling of the cable.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any damaged cable rollers must be replaced immediately, and bearings must be checked regularly. • The cable must be maintained in a safe condition with no obvious fraying or damage which may cause a malfunction during use. Once evidence of wear is visible on the cable it must be replaced in a timely manner.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All components of the lure system must be monitored regularly, and any replacements completed as necessary including (at a minimum): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ lure carriages checked prior to each session; ○ lure motor regularly maintained; ○ roller bearings in good condition; ○ drive wheels routinely monitored; and ○ lubrication of the cable completed as required relative to the trial schedule.

ITEM 8. Starting Boxes

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Starting Box Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All starting boxes must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ be structurally sound with no obvious sharp edges or surfaces; and ○ ensure rear doors, whether roller or latch type are lubricated and fully operational and do not catch or stick. • The front starting gate and starting mechanism must be fully operational.
Synthetic Grass Matting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthetic grass mats (if used) must be installed on a level concrete or crusher dust base, and 20mm high absorption rubber is to be installed beneath the synthetic grass mat. • The synthetic grass mat must be back filled using a suitable fine sand (with the option of a rubber inclusion). Loam or soil is not permitted. • If synthetic grass is not installed, the ability to water and hand roll the track area immediately forward of the boxes to a suitable consistency is required.

Rubber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The internal rubber must be maintained in a condition that provides a consistent and safe surface. • Worn and thinning rubber mats must be replaced when required.
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ITEM 9. Bullring

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Bullring Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bullring surface must meet the same requirements as outlined in ITEM 1. • The outside fencing must meet the same requirements as outlined in ITEM 3. • The lure system must meet the same requirements as outlined in ITEM 7. • The starting boxes must meet the same requirements as outlined in ITEM 8.

ITEM 10. Catching Pen

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Catching Pen Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All water application must be even and consistent and must ensure the track surface and profile contains satisfactory water content. • The track surface: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ must be free of stones and other debris; and ○ must be similar in properties and presentation to the rest of the track. • Material/surface height levels must be maintained to ensure the transition from the track proper is consistent. • The pen must be fenced adequately and completely, following guidelines for the track fence (refer to ITEM 3); material selected must be safe. • The gate to the catching pen must be a non-return gate, around 1200mm in height and constructed with material to provide a safe area. • The length of the pen must be at least 9m and the width similar to that of the track. • The ability to use a hand-held hose or fixed sprinklers close to the catching pen area is required.

ITEM 11. Trial Kennels

DESCRIPTOR	MINIMUM STANDARD
Trial Kennel Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The period of time during which greyhounds are secured in kennels must be managed and minimised where the kennels are in sight or earshot of the trial track. • Kennels must provide a space of around 1m², and be at least 1200mm in height. The space must be designed so as to allow sufficient room for a greyhound to lie down and turn around but not large enough to allow excess movement during periods of excitability. • The material used for construction of kennels must provide safety/comfort and security of the animals, and be easily cleaned. • Kennels must be well ventilated and provide suitable protection from the elements. • Access to clean fresh/potable water for hosing of animals and/or drinking water is required. • Emergency management equipment must be ready for use at each trial session (i.e. stretcher and basic first aid treatment kit, access to air conditioning/iced water etc in the event of heat stress or similar). • Local vet contact information (including location) must be displayed in the kennels and protocol/procedure must be drafted for emergency management in the event of a casualty and/or illness of a greyhound.

4B. MINIMUM STANDARDS: CATEGORY 3 TRAINING TRACKS

ITEM	MINIMUM STANDARD
1. Track Surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The track surface must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ safe and consistent for greyhounds at all times, free of depressions or major undulations; ○ presented in a smooth, consistent and even condition free of any debris, stones or rocks; and ○ free of objects and encroachments (e.g. irrigation sprinkler heads, pop-up sprinklers and drainage swales, etc). Any such items should be located outside the fenced course surface. • Adequate water must be applied consistently and evenly to the track surface prior to and during trial or exercise sessions (if required).

2. Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to apply adequate volumes of water at a consistent application rate onto the track leading into trials or exercise is mandatory.
3. Outside Fence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An outside fence that provides satisfactory visibility and prevents greyhounds from escaping and other animals from encroaching on the premises is essential. • All components (posts, rails and fittings) must be kept in sound condition to ensure structural integrity. • No objects that may cause damage or injury may be protruding on the course. • All sharp edges must be padded.
4. Boundary Fence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fence around the entire perimeter of the training complex/venue (boundary fence) is required to contain a loose animal within the facility and/or to prevent entry of unwanted animals including wildlife. If exclusion fencing for feral animals is installed, the posts must be capped and fixed into the ground, the fence must be constructed with mesh (not plain wire strands) • Barbed wire is not permitted on the track or fencing in any animal precinct. • Fences must be placed and installed in accordance with manufacturers and/or suppliers' specifications. • All components (posts, rails and fittings) must be kept in sound condition to ensure structural integrity. • No objects that may cause damage or injury may be protruding on the fence (i.e. no fixing fence panels with fittings that protrude through the trackside of the fencing).
5. Machinery and Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate machinery and equipment is required for the maintenance of the Public Training Track in keeping with the above minimum standards. • Machinery and equipment must be maintained as per manufacturer specifications or other applicable guidelines to provide safe and effective operation as intended.

5. APPLICABLE LAWS

The standards in this document do not seek to address compliance with all applicable laws regarding the facilities and equipment at a Public Training Track.

As each Public Training Track is unique in respect to location, design and layout, Applicants and Training Track Operators will need to consider the codes and associated documents applicable to the specific Public Training Track to ensure compliance with all applicable laws.

Codes/legislation that Applicants and Training Track Operators may need to consider include (without limitation):

- Australian Building Standards;
- National Construction Code;
- Queensland Development code; and
- Building fire safety regulation.

Applicants and Training Track Operators will be required to:

- adopt and implement any policies and procedures reasonably necessary to ensure that it complies with all applicable laws relating to health and safety and adopts all safety standards that a reasonably prudent person operating a Public Training Track would adopt; and
- perform their obligations under the relevant registration in a manner that complies with all applicable laws.

6. RULES OF RACING

The requirements set out in this Guideline are subject to the Rules of Racing.

In the event of any inconsistency between the Rules of Racing and this Guideline, the former shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS

This Guideline should be read in conjunction with the Greyhound Public Training Track Registration Procedure.

8. VERSION HISTORY

Current Version:	1	Effective Date:	November 2, 2022
Document Owner:	Asset & Industry Performance Manager	CEO Approved:	November 2, 2022
Enquiries to:	policies@racingqueensland.com.au	Due for Review:	November 2, 2023