

INDUSTRY NOTICE

(Greyhound Participants)

Date of issue: 9 December 2024

GREYHOUND RACING – CESSATION OF EAR TATTOOING 1 NOVEMBER 2024

Following a review by a working group, the Greyhounds Australasia Board determined that from 1 November 2024, the practice of ear tattoo in registered greyhounds will no longer be required.

This change will see all jurisdictions move to the microchip as the primary method of identification, with integration of alternative identification measures, as tools for secondary identification to be determined. ORI and Tasracing are researching other identification methods, such as nose print technology and industry will be kept informed.

Until a cost effective and reliable secondary identification method is identified and adopted it remains important that all pups are “marked up” accurately so as markings can be used as a secondary identifier.

The GA Rules will continue to provide for the ear tattoo to be recognized as a secondary source of identification for dogs tattooed prior to 1 November 2024.

Litter Registration – What will happen now?

- Pups will continue to need a C3 vaccination at 6 – 8 weeks of age.
- The breeder of the litter will need to have pups microchipped between 10 – 16 weeks of age and at that time they can also have the C5 vaccination.
 - Implanters will –
 - microchip each pup presented by the breeder;
 - record that information against the greyhound unique number (previously ear tattoo) on the litter registration form;
 - place a microchip sticker on the forms as is currently the practice;
 - record the pup’s sex and colour on the form;
 - ensure that the number of male and female pups presented match the number recorded on the litter registration form;
 - complete vaccination if requested by the breeder. (The breeder can choose to have a veterinary practice which may not be listed as an Approved Implanter facility complete the immunisation of the litter.) If they do, the vaccination must be the last part of the process.
- The breeder will be responsible for payment to their chosen Implanter for the microchipping service. Breeders should not be charged for the microchip itself as they are supplied by ORI. Vaccination costs are the responsibility of the breeder.
- The breeder will then need to organise to have an ORI Marking Official inspect the litter where the microchip will be verified along with the colour and sex of each pup. The markings of each pup will be recorded on the form based on the microchip implanted, along with any distinguishing features.
- When each process is completed, the Breeder will then be required to lodge their litter registration and other required documents to the Office of Racing Integrity.

Breeders, Owners and Trainers should purchase a microchip scanner, so they can check any greyhounds in their possession to ensure the microchip is readable and to ensure they are presenting the correct greyhound. If you encounter any issues with the identification of the greyhound, you should contact the Office of Racing Integrity immediately.

Contact the Office of Racing Integrity if you have any questions.

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Further Information
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