

Australian Greyhound Federation

Code of Ethics

The Australian Greyhound Federation's primary role is as an advocate for all greyhound participants across Australia. The Federation also ensures a holistic approach to the growth, development and achievement of Canine Athletic potential. This role accepts the canines' long term interests as of greater importance than short term monetary considerations. To fulfil this role all members must behave in an ethical manner, and setting the highest integrity possible to Canine Athlete welfare. By becoming a member of the Australian Greyhound Federation, the person agrees to be held accountable for any breach of the following points:

1. Members must ensure the highest animal welfare management possible.
2. Members must respect the dignity and recognise the life of each greyhound.
3. Members must ensure that practical training environments are safe and appropriate. This appropriateness must take into consideration the age and maturity of the canine athlete.
4. Members must acknowledge and respect the Rules of Racing. This respect should extend to the spirit as well as to the letter of the rules, in both training and competition, to ensure fairness of competitive opportunity between all greyhounds.
5. Members must exhibit an active respect for stewards and officials, by accepting the role of those in providing judgement to ensure that meetings are conducted fairly and according to the established rules of racing.
6. Members must accept final responsibility for the performance and conduct of their greyhounds they train or own, while at the same time accept responsibility for their own decisions, conduct and performance.
7. Members must assert a positive and active leadership role to prevent any use of prohibited drugs or other disallowed performance enhancing substances or practices including live baiting. This leadership by members includes notifying State Authorities of any evidence or knowledge of the use of prohibited substances or illegal practices.
8. The member must acknowledge that all members have an equal right to desire the success of the greyhounds they train or own - competing within the rules. Observations, recommendations and criticism should be directed to the appropriate person outside the view or hearing of the public domain.
9. Members should hold recognised training qualifications. Members should respect that the gaining of training qualifications is an ongoing commitment, achieved through the upgrading of their knowledge by attendance of accredited courses and through practical training experience. Members also have a responsibility to share the knowledge and practical experience they gain.

10. Members must respect the image of the sport and the reputation of the Association and continuously maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, reflected in both the manner of appearance and behaviour, so that they do not bring Greyhound Racing or the AFGBOTA into disrepute.

11. Members must respect that on race day we are representing the sport to the general public. We should dress professionally, but minimise the use of alcohol while having race commitments. Members are responsible for the image of the sport, and must respect that responsibility at all times.

12. The AFGBOTA and its membership have a strict 'Zero Tolerance Policy' to any form of animal cruelty. It is a members' responsibility to self-report any rumour or act to the State Authority immediately on the knowledge thereof.