

Chapter Game 15

HUMANE TREATMENT OF RACING ANIMALS

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Note: Chapter RACE 15 was renumbered chapter WGC 15 and corrections made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1. and 6., Stats., [Register, March, 1995, No. 471](#).

Note: Chapter WGC 15 was renumbered chapter Game 15 under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1., Stats., and corrections made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 6. and 7., Stats., [Register November 2003 No. 575](#).

Game 15.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that animals participating in races in this state shall be treated humanely both on and off racetracks throughout the life of the animals.

History: Cr. [Register, March, 1990, No. 411](#), eff. 4-1-90.

Game 15.02 Humane issues. (1) Owners and trainers of greyhounds shall humanely treat, both on and off the race track, all greyhounds in their possession or under their control:

(a) This condition shall terminate only when the party ceases to be an owner or trainer of greyhounds;

(b) A proven violation of this rule shall ban the responsible party from holding any racing related license for a minimum 5 year period.

(c) A person is guilty of inhumane treatment for any, but not limited to, of the following acts: if the person overdrives, overloads, drives when overloaded, overworks, tortures, torments, deprives of necessary sustenance, drink or shelter, cruelly beats, mutilates any animal, or causes or procures any animal to be so overdriven, overloaded, driven when overloaded, overworked, tortured, tormented, deprived of necessary sustenance, drink, shelter, or to be cruelly beaten or mutilated; and whoever having charge or custody of any animal, either as owner or otherwise, subjects any animal to needless suffering, or inflicts unnecessary cruelty upon the animal, or in any manner abuses any animal, or fails to provide the animal with proper food, drink or shelter or protection from the weather, or who drives or otherwise uses an animal unfit for racing, training or other labor.

(d) No person shall remove or alter, either directly or indirectly, any tattoo, other marking, device, coloration or special characteristic that is used for the purpose of identifying a greyhound.

(2) A sworn affidavit for each greyhound to be entered shall be filed by the trainer or owner with the steward stating the dog has not been trained on a live lure:

(a) The affidavit shall disclose the locations and dates of training and names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all trainers. This affidavit is to be filed by the trainer or owner prior to entry;

(b) Providing false information shall subject the licensee to a forfeiture, suspension, revocation of license or any combination;

(c) A violation of this rule shall result in a suspension of the guilty party for life;

(d) For purposes of this requirement it is presumed a greyhound cannot be trained at an age of less than 10 months.

(3) The division shall investigate on all complaints regarding humane treatment of greyhounds.

History: Cr. [Register, March, 1990, No. 411](#), eff. 4-1-90; [CR 03-070](#): cr. (1) (d), am. (2) (a) [Register November 2003 No. 575](#), eff. 12-1-03.

Game 15.03 Euthanasia. (1) All persons subject to the jurisdiction of the division shall only use a lethal injection of barbiturates to euthanize a greyhound:

(a) Only a licensed veterinarian shall administer such barbiturates.

(b) Such barbiturates shall be administered in a manner sufficient to ensure that the animal feels no pain or discomfort.

(2) Violation of this rule shall subject the violator to the penalties as provided in s. [562.13 \(4\)](#), Stats.

History: Cr. [Register, March, 1990, No. 411](#), eff. 4-1-90.

Game 15.04 Live lure prohibition. (1) No animal that participates in races upon which pari-mutuel wagering is conducted in this state, and no animals which are whelped or trained in this state for racing, shall be trained on a live lure or bait.

(2) No person shall enter or permit a dog to be entered in a race if that person knows that the dog was trained in a state that does not specifically prohibit the use of live lures or bait in a race or training for entry in a race.

(3) Any occupation licensee who violates this section shall have his or her occupation license revoked for life.

History: Cr. [Register, March, 1990, No. 411](#), eff. 4-1-90; am. (1) and (3), [Register, July, 1990, No. 415](#), eff. 8-1-90; correction in (3) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 5., Stats., [Register, July, 1990, No. 415](#); [CR 03-070](#): am. (2) [Register November 2003 No. 575](#), eff. 12-1-03.

Game 15.05 General humane rules. (1) Greyhounds shall not be muzzled in their crates while housed in kennels on the grounds of a licensed association, unless permission is obtained by the division's veterinarian, which shall be granted only for valid veterinary medical concerns.

(2) No greyhounds shall be removed from the grounds of the racetrack unless prior approval from a division steward or designee has been obtained, unless the greyhound is being removed for the purpose of receiving veterinary care and the greyhound is returning to the kennel compound or the greyhound is housed in the association's adoption kennel.

(a) Approval may include inspection and identification of the greyhound.

(b) The destination of the greyhound shall be submitted to the division stewards or division veterinarian on a form supplied by the division. The form shall be completed and submitted by the trainer, kennel owner, or greyhound owner prior to the greyhound's removal from the grounds of the racetrack.

Note: Related forms are available free of charge at Division of Gaming offices located at each racetrack or by calling (608) 270-2555.

(4) All greyhounds transported to or from any racetrack within the state shall be hauled under the following conditions:

(a) All crates shall be designed and used for the sole purpose

of transporting greyhounds. These crates shall be 2 feet wide, 3 feet long and 34 inches high.

(b) All crates shall be of sound construction, maintained in good repair and clean.

(c) All vehicles shall be in good repair.

(5) All greyhounds shall have been vaccinated for rabies as provided in s. 95.21 (2), Stats.

(6) Only one greyhound shall be housed per crate in a kennel at any time.

(7) The trainer of each kennel shall be responsible for the proper maintenance, upkeep and sanitary condition of the kennel, crates and turn-out pens.

(8) All greyhounds kenneled at a racetrack licensed under s. 562.05 (1) (a) and (b), Stats., shall be vaccinated against rabies. If a greyhound does not possess a current valid rabies vaccination prior to kenneled at the racetrack, vaccination shall occur prior to arriving at the racetrack. Copies of current rabies certifications evidencing a vaccination and its expiration date, which are signed by a licensed veterinarian, shall be recorded with the division. When a greyhound's rabies vaccination expires, a new vaccination shall occur, and certificate filed, prior to expiration.

(9) All greyhounds kenneled at a racetrack licensed under s. 562.05(1)(a) and (b), Stats., shall be vaccinated against canine distemper virus, infectious canine hepatitis (canine adenovirus type 2), leptospirosis, parainfluenza, and parvo virus annually. If a greyhound does not possess a current vaccination against these diseases prior to kenneled at the racetrack, vaccination shall occur prior to arriving at the racetrack. Copies of current certifications evidencing vaccination against these diseases, which are signed by a licensed veterinarian, shall be filed with the division. When a greyhound's vaccination expires, a new vaccination shall occur, and certification shall be filed prior to expiration.

(10) No greyhound may compete in a race if any vaccination required by the division has expired.

(11) No licensee shall possess any device capable of forced ingestion or absorption into a greyhound by human means unless the licensee possesses a written order from a veterinarian or the item is listed below:

- (a) Oral syringe
- (b) Eye dropper
- (c) Inhalation device

(12) No greyhound shall be rectally, orally, vaginally, nasogastrically or gastrically probed or intubated without a written order from a veterinarian or have any item placed in a body cavity of a greyhound for the purpose of causing the animal to lose or gain weight.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1990, No. 411, eff. 4-1-90; am. (5), cr. (7) and (8), Register, July, 1990, No. 415, eff. 8-1-90; CR 03-070: r. (2), renum. (3) to be (2) and am., am. (4), (6), (8), cr. (9) to (12) Register November 2003 No. 575, eff. 12-1-03.

Game 15.06 Scientific research. (1) No licensee, except the greyhound's owner, may directly or indirectly transport or arrange transportation of a greyhound that has raced in the state of Wisconsin to a facility licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of the greyhound participating in animal research or blood donation.

(2) No licensee shall directly or indirectly remove a greyhound from the grounds of the racetrack without the owner's consent, except in removals of greyhounds for the purpose of obtaining veterinary care.

History: CR 03-070: cr. Register November 2003 No. 575, eff. 12-1-03.

Game 15.07 Kennel standards. Kennels and the kennel compound shall be maintained by the association and kennel

owners in the following manner to promote the health, safety, and welfare of racing greyhounds and humans:

(1) Kennel facilities shall be structurally sound, maintained in good repair, and protect animals housed in the facilities from injury.

(2) All kennel facilities and other buildings comprising the kennel compound shall have locks on all outside doors to protect against illegal entry. When kennel facilities and buildings used for the purposes of storage or maintenance are unattended by authorized personnel, all doors and gates must be secure and locked. One copy of the key for the lock shall be maintained by the kennel compound security officer for the purpose of accessing the building in the event of an emergency.

(3) All kennel facilities shall have a functional climate control system to regulate the air temperature in the kennel to a minimum of 60 degrees during the winter heating season and 78 degrees during the summer cooling season.

(4) Kennel personnel shall inspect the kennel and turn-out pens before leaving the kennel and immediately upon return to determine if unauthorized persons or unattended greyhounds are present. The presence of unattended greyhounds or unauthorized persons shall be immediately reported to the on-duty kennel compound security officer. The following shall constitute a violation of this section:

(a) The presence of 2 or more greyhounds in a turn-out pen when no person representing the kennel is present within 20 feet of the kennel.

(b) The presence of one or more greyhounds in a turn-out pen when no person representing the kennel is present on the grounds of the racetrack.

(5) Kennel personnel shall inspect the turn-out pens prior to placing greyhounds in the pens to ensure the absence of foreign matter, signs of unauthorized entry, open gates, or damaged fencing.

(6) All kennels and the kennel compound shall be sufficiently illuminated both internally and externally.

(7) The following rules shall govern electrical use in a kennel:

(a) Electrical outlets shall have coverplates, and all electrical wiring and lights shall be maintained in a manner which protects against damage by or injury to a greyhound.

(b) Devices in use shall be connected directly or with an electrical cord not more than 50 feet long to an electrical outlet.

(8) All turn-out pens shall meet the following specifications:

(a) The turn-out pens surface shall have a minimum base consisting of 4 inches of sand that has been routinely aerated to provide an adequate drainage system to minimize areas of standing water.

(b) All turn-out pens shall have at least one gate a minimum of 36 inches wide.

(c) All turn-out pens shall be free of weeds and grass.

(d) All feces buckets located in a turn-out pen shall have secure lids.

(e) All feces located in turn-out pens or within 50 feet of a kennel building shall be picked up and discarded in the designated receptacle(s) no less than one time per day.

(9) Kennels and all areas and buildings within the kennel compound shall be free of sharp or protruding objects and maintained in a clean manner which promotes the health, safety and well being of greyhounds housed on association grounds. This shall include ensuring grass and weeds within 20 feet of any structure, motor vehicle, turn-out pen, or sprint path are not in excess of 5 inches in height.

(10) All kennel floors and walls shall be impervious to water and free from feces, blood, and urine.

(11) All food and bedding shall be stored in a manner that prevents contamination and deterioration.

(12) All kennels shall have interior running hot and cold water and an exterior cold water faucet.

(13) All kennels shall have at least one fire extinguisher in working order.

(14) All kennel buildings shall have at least one operational window with a screen and two operational exterior doors, one of which shall lead to a turn-out pen.

History: CR 03-070: cr. Register November 2003 No. 575, eff. 12-1-03.

Game 15.08 Rodent and insect control. (1) All racing associations and kennel owners shall provide systematic and effective insect and rodent control, including control of flies, mosquitoes, fleas, ticks, and mice, to all areas on association grounds under the association's or kennel owner's control.

(2) No kennel owner or trainer shall present a greyhound for weigh-in if that greyhound is infested with fleas or ticks. Greyhounds observed by the division veterinarian or steward during weigh-in or weigh-out to be infested with fleas or ticks shall be scratched.

History: CR 03-070: cr. Register November 2003 No. 575, eff. 12-1-03.