

GWIC Kennel Inspections Protocols



GWIC Inspectors attend kennels and conduct kennel inspections as part of their functions under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*, the Greyhound Racing Rules and the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice.

In conducting kennel inspections, GWIC Inspectors will be assessing compliance with the standards contained in the NSW Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice, which include;

- Nutrition and Hydration
- Health and Wellbeing
- Greyhound Breeding
- Housing and Environment
- Transporting Greyhounds
- Exercise, Socialisation and Enrichment
- Training, Trialling and Racing
- Rehoming Greyhounds as Companion Animals

While the Inspections will focus on the kennelling and greyhound housing areas, the inspections will also incorporate the food preparation and storage areas, treatment records, medications, supplements and other substances.

Appropriate bio-security measures will be adopted when attending multiple kennels on any one day.

Kennel Inspection Types

There are generally five types of kennel inspection;

1. Routine
2. New Kennels / New Licence / Licence Upgrade
3. Follow Up
4. Targeted or Intelligence-led
5. Positive Swab / Out of Competition Swabbing

- 1. Routine** – These are planned routine inspections for licenced trainers and breeders.
- 2. New Kennels / New Licence / Licence Upgrade** – Inspections to assess the readiness of new kennels and participants in housing and caring for greyhounds. For relocated kennels and for a new breeder or trainer licence.
- 3. Follow Up** – These inspections are conducted to address issues identified during previous inspections.
- 4. Targeted inspections** – These Inspections are primarily intelligence-led, where information or a complaint has been received regarding animal welfare concerns for either a specific greyhound or the behaviour of the participant/s on the property. Targeted inspections are also used to carry out out-of-competition swabbing of greyhounds.
- 5. Positive Swab** – These inspections are conducted in most cases where the Commission receives an A sample notification for a positive swab for a permanently banned prohibited substance. An unannounced kennel inspection, coordinated with the serving of the A Sample notification will normally be undertaken.

Scheduling of Kennel Inspections

- In conducting routine, new kennel, new licence and some follow up inspections (1 to 3 above), GWIC Inspectors will contact the owner / occupier of kennels at least **two days prior** to the proposed kennel inspection to schedule a mutually convenient time and day to time to conduct the inspection.
- Routine, new kennel, new licence and some follow up inspections can be arranged with less than two days' notice, provided it can be arranged at a mutually convenient day and time. No Body Worn Cameras (BWC's) will be used for these inspections. BWC's will only be deployed if an inspector is working without another GWIC staff member and with the consent of the participant.
- If the owner or occupier of the kennels wishes to have a support person present during the kennel inspection this should be raised with the inspector when they make contact to schedule the inspection so that this can be accommodated wherever possible.
- Targeted, intelligence led, positive swab (4 & 5 above) and some follow up inspections will be conducted as unannounced inspections. These inspections will deploy the use of BWC's by inspectors.
- If the owner or occupier of the kennels are not present when GWIC Inspectors attend to conduct an unannounced kennel inspection, the Inspectors will contact the owner / occupier of the kennels and make arrangements for their attendance or that of their nominated representative to make arrangements to conduct an inspection in their presence.
- If the owner / occupier cannot be contacted or cannot be present, GWIC Inspectors may enter the kennels and conduct an inspection in accordance with their powers under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* with the approval of the Associate Director for Investigations and Compliance or their deputy. The conduct of kennel inspections and the interaction of GWIC staff with industry participants will always occur in a professional, collaborative, polite and respectful manner.

Complaints regarding GWIC inspections

Should participants wish to lodge complaints regarding the conduct of an inspection by the Commission they can:

- Contact the GWIC Associate Director of Investigations and Compliance, who will discuss the matter with you and review the inspection.
chiefinspector@gwic.nsw.gov.au
- Lodge a formal complaint with the Commission via its website
<https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/integrity/your-feedback>
- Lodge complaint with the NSW Ombudsman <https://www.ombo.nsw.gov.au/>
- If alleging corrupt conduct, lodge a complaint with the Independent Commission Against Corruption: <https://www.icac.nsw.gov.au/>