

	PROCEDURE	
GREYHOUND TRIALS – STATEWIDE COVID-19 SAFE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE		
CONTROLLER: RACING OPERATIONS MANAGER	OWNER: CEO	
REVIEWED: NOVEMBER 2020	SCHEDULED REVIEW: DECEMBER 2020	

1. **PURPOSE**

The Tasmanian government has a plan to ‘Rebuild a Stronger Tasmania’. As part of this plan, all workplaces are required to have a COVID-19 safety plan that complies with the minimum COVID-19 safety standards. The purpose of this Procedure is to outline the protocols that demonstrate our compliance with the *Minimum Standards (Work Health and Safety Amendment Regulations 2020)* and is a direction to those that enter the venue pursuant to Tasracing’s Conditions of Entry, which must be complied with.

The Procedure demonstrates our ability to protect Tasracing’s workers, racing industry participants, stewards, racing officials and the general public as we operate with new hygiene and safety protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic for the purpose of greyhound trial operations at the venue.

Tasracing is committed to providing a healthy and safe working environment and has identified alternative ways to deliver its racing operational practices to limit the spread of COVID-19. It is imperative that you comply with the safety standards outlined in this Procedure to safeguard racing in Tasmania.

For the purpose of this Procedure:

“**we / our**” means Tasracing Workers, the racing industry participants, the Stewards and Racing Officials.

“**workplace**” means a place of work for Tasracing Workers and the racing venues, Ladbrokes Racing Centre (Launceston), Ladbrokes Park (Hobart) and Devonport Showgrounds (DAPS), where the trial sessions are held.

“**venue**” means the Ladbrokes Racing Centre (Launceston), Ladbrokes Park (Hobart) and Devonport Showgrounds (DAPS) as applicable to the location of the trial session.

The Australian Federal, State and Territory Governments have put restrictions in place to slow the spread of COVID-19. The National Cabinet have a 3-step framework to create a COVIDSafe society with new ways of living and working.

This Procedure will be regularly reviewed and updated as these restrictions are varied and to reflect the recommendations by the Governments and Worksafe Tasmania.

This Procedure should be read in conjunction with Tasracing's Conditions of Entry (available at <https://tasracingcorporate.com.au/conditions-of-entry/>).

2. **SCOPE**

This Procedure applies to:

Tasracing: Tasracing employees (including full-time, part-time, casual and fixed term employees), volunteers, contractors (Security, Track Marshalls and suppliers to Tasracing) (collectively referred to as **Tasracing Workers**)

Racing Industry Participants All persons licensed by the Office of Racing Integrity (including, but not limited to, owners, trainers, attendants and catchers) who are engaged in racing activities at the venue.

Stewards Stewards of the Office of Racing Integrity (ORI).

Racing Officials Includes judges, vets, track workers, attendants, Club Committee members, club employees and volunteers and any other position deemed to be a Race Official by Tasracing or ORI.

General Public All persons attending the venue which do not fall within any of the above categories of persons in this section 2

3. **CORONAVIRUS**

3.1 COVID-19

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause respiratory infections. These can range from the common cold to more serious diseases. Coronavirus is a disease caused by a new form of coronavirus. It was first reported in December 2019 in Wuhan City in China and the disease outbreak is named COVID-19.

3.2 Symptoms

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, sore throat and shortness of breath. If you have any of these symptoms **do not attend** your workplace, a trial session or the venue. You will be denied entry or removed from the venue if you display any of these symptoms.

3.3 Protect others and stop the spread

It is a requirement that you practice good hygiene, social distancing and understand when to self-isolate if you need to. These practices will slow down the spread of the virus.

Good hygiene
means:

- wash your hands often with soap and water. This includes before and after eating and after going to the toilet;
- use alcohol-based hand sanitisers when you can't use soap and water;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth at all times;
- maintain good hand, sneeze and cough hygiene;
- clean and disinfect surfaces you use often such as benchtops, barriers and doorknobs;
- clean and disinfect objects you use often such as mobile phones, keys, wallets and work passes; and
- increase the amount of fresh air by opening windows or utilising air conditioning.

Social distancing

The more space between you and others, the harder it is for the virus to spread. Social distancing at the venue means you keep 1.5 metres away from others wherever possible and avoid physical greetings such as handshakes.

Self-isolate

A person with COVID-19 or suspected to have the virus must enter mandatory isolation. You will need to isolate to prevent the spread of the virus to others at your home if it is suitable, hospital if you need hospital care or another location if needed as decided by the public health authority.

3.4 Tasmanian Public Health Hotline – 1800 671 738

If you have questions and concerns about the impact of COVID-19 on your health and events, contact the Tasmanian Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738. Call this number if you think you might have COVID-19 as a result of experiencing any of the symptoms outlined by public health authorities, such as a fever and respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) or had contact with someone known or suspected to have COVID-19.

3.5 Keeping Tasmanians Safe

It is every Tasmanian's role to comply with the rules and restrictions imposed by the Tasmania Government to keep Tasmania safe. If you have information or concerns regarding non-compliance with self-isolation requirements please contact the Tasmanian Police by completing the form available on <https://www.police.tas.gov.au/services-online/tasmanian-health-hotline-form-for-reporting-non-compliance/> or speak to club officials immediately.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

Role	Responsibility
Chief Executive Officer	<p>The CEO is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementing this Procedure; • monitoring the effectiveness of the Procedure (proactive risk management of determining the effectiveness of the control measures); and • continual improvement of the Procedures.
Tasracing Workers	<p>Tasracing Workers must comply with this Procedure and assist the Club Officials in ensuring that all attendees at a race trial comply with this Procedure.</p> <p>Tasracing Workers are responsible for identifying improvements to compliance controls and reporting them to the CEO.</p>
Racing Officials	<p>Racing Officials must comply with this Procedure and provide written recommendations for improvements for enhanced compliance controls to the CEO.</p>
Racing Industry Participants	<p>Racing Industry Participants have a responsibility to understand, observe and comply with this Procedure and related procedures, and to identify and report improvements to enhance compliance controls to the CEO.</p>
General Public	<p>Members of the general public have a responsibility to understand, observe and comply with this Procedure and related procedures.</p>

5. GREYHOUND TRIAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Executive Summary

Greyhound Trials are to be conducted at the venue with no more than;

- **Inside area - 1 person per 2 sqm up to a maximum 250 persons**
- **Outdoor area - 1 person per 2 sqm up to a maximum 1,000 persons**

(N.B. These limits include all staff.)

In addition to these venue limits, the social distancing requirement of 1.5 metres also applies at all times.

Greyhound trials will be managed strictly in-line with this Procedure and WorkSafe Tasmanian's Guidelines for COVID Safe Workplace operations.

Greyhound trials are used as a key element in the education of greyhounds and for the purpose of animal fitness, remedial work and injury management. They are not carried out under race conditions.

Greyhound trials are held on a racecourse behind the mechanical lure, which is used on race day, and are held over a variety of distances. Starting boxes can also be utilised by the trainer if so desired. These trials usually consist of:

- greyhounds starting from the boxes; or
- greyhounds being Slipped behind the lure; or
- education of pups – teaching them to chase the mechanical lure.

Slipped for the purpose of this section means the process of holding a dog on the leash on the track and slipping or letting it go as the lure moves past.

Straight Tracks

Trials are also referred to in the process of training on the straight tracks where the majority of exercise is by way of free galloping with restricted sessions available to chase a drag lure. Straight tracks are located at Brighton, Launceston and Ulverstone. Straight track training venues do not fall within the following trial day protocols as outlined section 6 and requirements for trials.

Tasracing's greyhound trials will be managed strictly in-line with this Procedure and WorkSafe Tasmanian's Guidelines for COVID Safe Workplace operations.

6. GREYHOUND TRIAL DAY PROTOCOLS

6.1 Before Leaving Home

Do not attend the trial session if you feel ill or have any of the symptoms outlined in section 3.2.

If you identify with any of the below conditions, you **MUST** stay home and not attend any trial session:

- you are suffering COVID-19 symptoms or are otherwise unwell:
- you are subject to self-isolation or quarantine requirements for 14 days imposed by the Tasmanian Government / Public Health authority and this period has not expired;
- you have been in close contact with a person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19.

6.2 People most at risk of COVID-19

People aged 70 years and over, people aged 65 years and over with chronic medical conditions, people with compromised immune systems, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over the age of 50, are at greater risk of more serious illness if they are infected with COVID-19. Chronic medical conditions include but are not limited to diabetes, lung disease, heart disease, cancer and kidney failure. There is currently no cure or vaccine for COVID-19, or immunity in the community, so you must exercise a high degree of caution when deciding to attend trials sessions.

Tasracing strongly recommends that people most at risk continue to stay at home, avoid contact with others and carefully consider whether attending trial sessions (including accessing licensed kennels) will compromise your health. Should you attend trial sessions, Tasracing reminds you to practice good hygiene and social distancing measures to best support your health and wellbeing.

6.3 Venue Restrictions and Hygiene

In addition to the good hygiene requirements outlined in section 3.3, the following procedures will take place at venues for all greyhound trials:

- Food and/or drink may be available at the venue in line with the hospitality industry guidelines for the provision of food and drink;
- disposable gloves will be provided by Tasracing to Tasracing Workers, Racing Officials and Racing Industry Participants attending the trials to wear if they wish;
- hand sanitiser will be supplied at the kennels, toilets, scales, starting boxes and catching pen area;
- all attendees will be required to wash/sanitise their hands thoroughly throughout the trials;
- all workstations will be wiped clean before use and after trial session as per the cleaning procedure.

6.4 Trial Venue Entry Protocols

The club conducting the trials will monitor the total number of persons present at a trial session in operational areas to ensure maximum attendance numbers as per clause 5.1 are not exceeded.

You are not permitted to attend a trial session at the venue if you are subject to any of the conditions in section 6.1

6.5 COVIDSafe App

Tasracing encourages all persons to play an important role in helping stop the spread of COVID-19 by downloading the COVIDSafe app. The app can be downloaded at the following link: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app>.

Downloading the app is something you can do to protect yourself, your family and the racing industry. The app helps expedite contact tracing and serves to benefit the racing industry in the event the app user tests positive for COVID-19.

If you do not wish to download the app or do not have a smartphone to download the app, Tasracing recommends that you maintain a travel log to perform a similar function.

6.6 Travel Log Requirements

The recommended minimum amount of travel details to be kept by anyone attending a trial session (who do not have the COVIDSafe app) is as follows:

- date;
- name of person(s) making the journey;
- departure address; and
- location of all stops during the journey to the trial session; including the name and address of any business visited (service station or takeaway food outlet etc).

6.7 Social Distancing

In accordance with section 3.3, you are required to comply with the strict social distancing requirements while attending trial sessions. A minimum distance of 1.5 m between any two personnel is required. If any person fails to adhere to this social distancing requirement, Club Officials have authority to direct a person to leave the venue.

6.8 Duties of Club Officials

The club conducting the trials will be responsible for ensuring all documented protocols in the Procedure are adhered to by all persons attending the trial session.

Club Officials may demand identification information and will be authorised to report breaches to the Stewards and/or Tasmania Police. The Club Officials will be observing all persons attending the trial session to ensure compliance with this Procedure and will pay particular attention to social distancing. All personnel must follow the direction of Club Officials in relation to social distancing.

6.9 Non-compliance

Any Racing Industry Participant found to have breached a COVID-19 principle and/or protocol as contained within this Procedure will be reported to the Stewards for inquiry and will be subject to any penalty the Stewards deem appropriate. They will be refused entry or escorted from the venue immediately.

Non-compliance of this Procedure shall be considered an offence under Greyhounds Australasia Rules GAR 86(p) – “A *person (including an official)*

shall be guilty of an offence if the person disobeys or fails to comply with the lawful order of a Steward or other person or body having official duties in relation to greyhound racing”.

For Tasracing Workers, incidents of non-compliance with this Procedure are considered to be serious and may result in disciplinary outcomes or termination of the contract.

Any members of the general public found to have breached a COVID-19 principle and/or protocol as contained within this Procedure or otherwise will be reported to Tasmania Police and will be refused entry or escorted from the venue immediately.

6.10 Venue Signage and Social Distance Markings

Tasracing will display clear instructions and reminders of these protocols at the venue. Floor and ground markings will be installed (where possible) to assist all personnel to adhere to social distancing protocols.

The Club Officials will monitor adherence to floor or ground markings.

6.11 Wet Weather Gear

To minimise the spread of COVID-19, wet weather gear will not be made available at the venue. You are required to bring your own wet weather gear for your own personal use.

6.12 Prior to Arrival at the Venue

If you have downloaded a COVIDSafe app on your mobile device, we remind you to activate the Bluetooth prior to entering the venue. Alternatively, you should meet the minimum travel log requirements detailed in section 6.6.

Any person who is in a high-risk group such as older people or people with underlying illnesses that make them more vulnerable to respiratory disease, including those with diabetes, chronic lung disease, kidney failure and people with suppressed immune systems, should not attend race meetings (including accessing licensed kennels).

6.13 Conduct of Trials

Trials will be arranged, conducted and supervised by the Club operating at the venue. The process and conduct of trials is the responsibility of the hosting club.

Hobart Trial Locations



Launceston Trial Locations



Devonport Trial Locations



7. **PROCEDURE REVIEW CYCLE**

This Procedure is classified as operational and is to be approved, reviewed and endorsed by the Tasracing CEO on a regular and ongoing basis, or when there is a significant change to the external environment. The Procedure will be provided to the Tasracing's Audit & Risk Committee for noting.

8. **REFERENCES**

- Tasracing Working Safely in a COVID-19 Environment Procedure
- Tasracing COVID-19 Safety Plan
- Tasracing Risk Assessment
- Tasracing Code of Conduct Manual
- Tasracing Workplace Health and Safety Procedure
- Tasracing Privacy Management Framework
- Tasmanian Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (WHS Act)
- Tasmanian Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (WHS Regulations)
- SafeWork Australia
- WorkSafe Tasmania
- Tasmanian Government Department of Health
- Minimum Standards (Work Health and Safety Amendment Regulations 2020)
- Cleaning Procedure
- 3 step framework for a COVIDSafe Australia, Australian Government

9. **DOCUMENT CONTROL**

Date	Version	Author	Approved by
18 May 2020	1.0	IPM Consulting Services	CEO
19 May 2020	1.1	Liam Swan	CEO
20 May 2020	1.2	Ann Swain	CEO
26 June 2020	1.3	Liam Swan	CEO
1 November 2020	1.4	Ann Swain/Liam Swan	CEO