



COALITION FOR
THE PROTECTION
OF GREYHOUNDS

CRIMES AGAINST GREYHOUNDS

FY2025

A review of:

animal welfare violations
doping infractions
participant misconduct

in Australian greyhound racing



Executive summary

This report reviews every publicly available greyhound racing disciplinary decision finalised across Australia during FY2025. The data reveals 492 proven charges against 240 individuals, spanning animal welfare violations, doping offences, and participant misconduct.

However, the primary finding is not simply the scale of offending, but the persistent failure of greyhound racing regulators to prevent, detect and meaningfully deter it.

Welfare harm within the industry remains entrenched. Regulators repeatedly documented greyhounds denied veterinary treatment, kept in filthy and unsafe conditions, improperly euthanised, and subjected to prolonged neglect. Welfare enforcement remains largely reactive, with regulators frequently intervening only after serious deterioration, repeated non-compliance, or significant welfare harm has already occurred. The data also exposes a significant accountability gap, with dozens of participants charged with failing to account for greyhounds in their care, leaving no verified outcome or “proof of life” for the animals involved.

The industry’s reliance on race-day testing continues to leave major enforcement gaps despite the recognised limitations of that approach. Out-of-competition testing remains limited or absent in several jurisdictions. Trainers were found to have used prohibited substances including arsenic, steroids, methamphetamine, opioids, and pain-masking drugs. Regulators frequently accepted explanations of “environmental contamination” for positive tests, raising questions about the rigour of enforcement and investigative processes.

The report found that disciplinary systems routinely fail to impose meaningful consequences. Nationally, regulators suspended or made concurrent more than half of all fines imposed (\$183,100) and almost half of all suspension time (1,498 months). In several jurisdictions, even serious doping offences resulted in fully suspended penalties. These outcomes substantially weaken deterrence and allow repeat offending to persist.

The findings also expose major inconsistencies between jurisdictions. Victoria recorded the highest overall offending rate in the country, as well as the highest rates of animal welfare violations and participant misconduct. NSW recorded the highest number of welfare charges, while Tasmania recorded the highest rates of doping. SA, WA and the NT recorded comparatively low welfare charge rates, raising questions about detection rates and enforcement practices. In the NT, the absence of publicly available disciplinary decisions further limits meaningful scrutiny.

Queensland could not be included in the national analysis. During the reporting period, historical disciplinary decisions were removed from the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission website as part of a website transition and were not restored before publication. Despite repeated requests for access to the missing records, the material was not provided. The absence of disciplinary decisions from one of Australia's largest

greyhound racing jurisdictions creates a significant gap in national oversight and raises serious transparency concerns.

Several recurring patterns emerged across jurisdictions, including failures to provide timely veterinary treatment, repeated positive drug tests attributed to contamination, extensive use of suspended or concurrent penalties, inadequate tracking of retired greyhounds, and limited transparency around enforcement outcomes.

Some of the most concerning cases reviewed this year include:

- greyhounds found starving in heavily contaminated kennels in Victoria,
- repeated failures to obtain veterinary treatment for injured dogs in NSW, Victoria, WA and Tasmania,
- greyhounds testing positive to arsenic, amphetamines, methamphetamine, opioids, and anabolic agents,
- multiple cases in NSW where participants failed to account for greyhounds in their care, with no verified outcome for the animals involved.

Taken together, these findings indicate systemic weaknesses rather than isolated incidents. Serious welfare and integrity breaches remain persistent, enforcement is inconsistent across jurisdictions, and disciplinary outcomes frequently fail to prioritise animal protection. The evidence suggests a regulatory framework that is too often reactive, insufficiently transparent, and inadequately equipped to prevent or deter wrongdoing.

This report calls for immediate structural reforms, including:

- national minimum standards for transparency and mandatory public reporting of all integrity decisions,
- strict limits on the use of suspended and concurrent penalties,
- proactive, unannounced welfare inspections,
- independent, external oversight of doping explanations and integrity systems.

Without these reforms, the welfare harms, integrity failures and accountability gaps documented in this report are likely to persist.

Amy MacMahon

President

Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds

How we investigated greyhound racing infractions

1 Cases identified and charges logged

We reviewed every greyhound racing infraction heard across Australia in FY2025

- Cases of cruelty, neglect, doping, and misconduct were identified (see Appendix 3: Disciplinary decisions).
- Each proven charge was logged individually. Multiple charges within a single case were recorded separately. Withdrawn, unproven or dismissed charges were excluded.

2 Infractions categorised

Each proven charge was grouped into one of three categories:

- **Animal welfare** — cruelty, neglect, live baiting, poor housing, rehoming failures, failure to socialise, use of prohibited devices, lack of vet care.
- **Doping** — positive drug tests, banned substance administration (see Appendix 2: Drugs and their impact on greyhounds in racing).
- **Misconduct** — abusing officials, possession of banned substances, possession of prohibited devices, record-keeping failures, lay betting.

3 Penalties recorded

We tracked fines and suspensions — including amounts suspended or made concurrent

- Both the total penalty imposed and the suspended portion were recorded.
- Interim suspensions, reactivated past penalties, and prize money returns were excluded. Reprimands and warnings were noted without a penalty value.

4 Data analysed

We analysed infractions within each state and compared results across jurisdictions

- We tallied infractions and penalties within each state to show the scale of violations and assessed patterns to highlight state-level trends.
- Industry dog population data was applied to calculate infractions per 100 dogs, and penalty data was averaged to enable comparisons across jurisdictions.

National overview

Key figures¹

Dogs raced	18,687
Individuals charged	240
Animal welfare charges	151
Doping charges	139
Misconduct charges	202
Total charges	492
Total fines (\$)	324,675
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	183,100
Total suspensions (mo)	3,144
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	1,498
Life/indefinite suspensions	60

¹ Excludes Queensland. "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings²

Systemic offending at scale: Across Australia, 492 proven charges were recorded against 240 individuals across an industry in which 18,687 unique dogs were raced. This equates to 2.6 charges per 100 dogs raced and on average 2.1 charges per person, indicating routine offending embedded across the industry.

Welfare harm is systemic and entrenched: A total of 151 welfare charges (0.8 per 100 dogs) expose ongoing cruelty, including denial of veterinary care, prolonged suffering, and unsafe, unsanitary conditions. These are serious harms, not minor breaches, and reflect a system that fails to prevent suffering.

Doping is persistent and enabled: There were 139 doping charges (0.7 per 100 dogs) across all jurisdictions. Reliance on race-day testing leaves widespread gaps, while repeated positives and accepted "contamination" excuses point to a system that tolerates drug use rather than deters it.

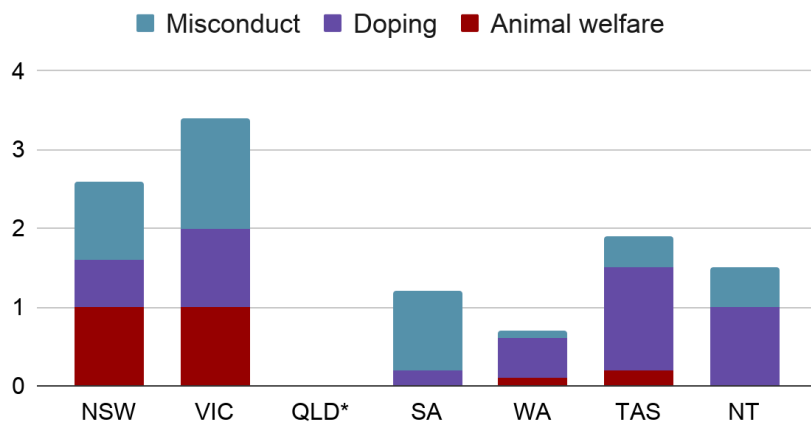
Misconduct reflects a culture of non-compliance: With 202 misconduct charges (1.1 per 100 dogs), behaviours including dishonesty, abuse of officials, and regulatory breaches are commonplace. This is not isolated behaviour but a pattern of disregard for oversight.

² See also Appendix 1, Table 2

Base penalties lack impact: Total fines of \$324,675 average just \$660 per charge, alongside 3,144 months of suspensions (6.4 per charge). Penalties are low relative to the seriousness of offences and fail to impose meaningful consequences.

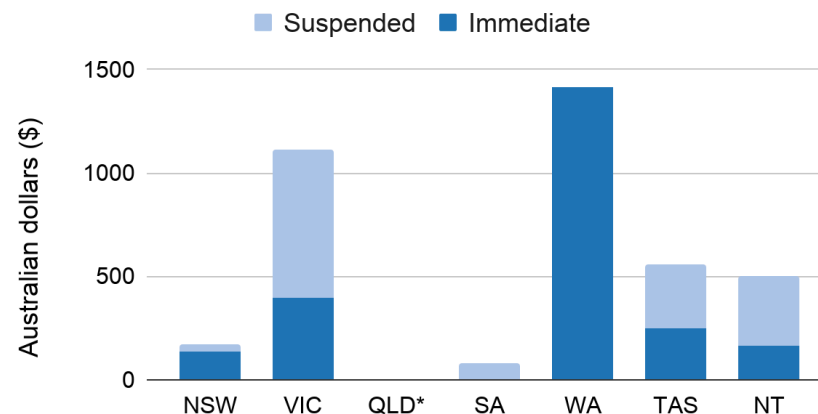
Penalty dilution nullifies enforcement: \$183,100 in fines (56%) and 1,498 months of suspensions (48%) were suspended or made concurrent. Penalties are routinely weakened, allowing offenders to avoid real consequences and continue operating.

Charges per 100 dogs raced

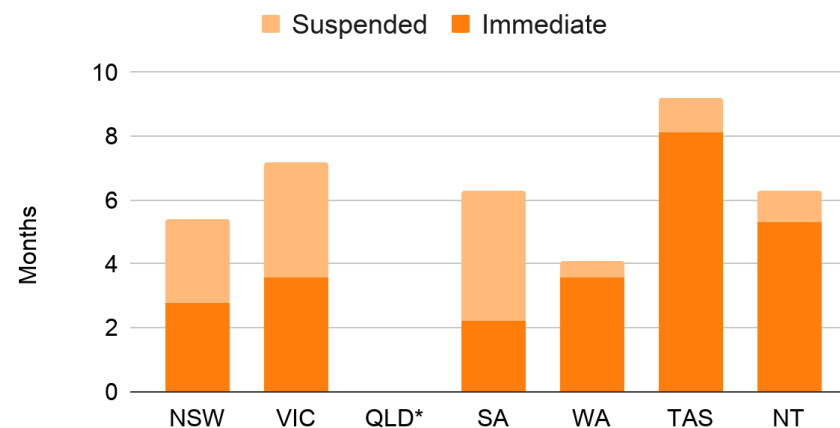


* Disciplinary decisions for the period covered by this report were not made available by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission.

Average fines per charge



Average suspensions per charge



New South Wales

Key figures³

Dogs raced	7,502
Individuals charged	102
Animal welfare charges	78
Doping charges	48
Misconduct charges	77
Total charges	203
Total fines (\$)	34,225
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	7,000
Total suspensions (mo)	1,099
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	519
Life/indefinite suspensions	52

³ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings⁴

Industrial-scale offending: NSW accounts for 40% of all dogs raced, with 2.0 charges per person and 2.7 charges per 100 dogs — both above the average state rates (1.6 and 2.0, respectively). These are not isolated incidents, but evidence of entrenched rule-breaking at scale.

Welfare breaches are routine: At 1.0 welfare charges per 100 dogs (78 total), NSW more than doubles the state average (0.4). Greyhounds are being improperly [euthanised](#), denied [veterinary care](#), kept in [filthy, unsafe](#) conditions, and failed at even the most [basic standards](#) of care. This points to systemic welfare failures.

Doping is enabled by weak oversight: NSW records 0.6 doping charges per 100 dogs (48 total), below the average state rate (0.8) — but all are race-day positives, leaving drug use outside race conditions untested. Routine findings of [steroids](#), [stimulants](#) and [pain-masking](#) drugs raise concerns about under-detection.

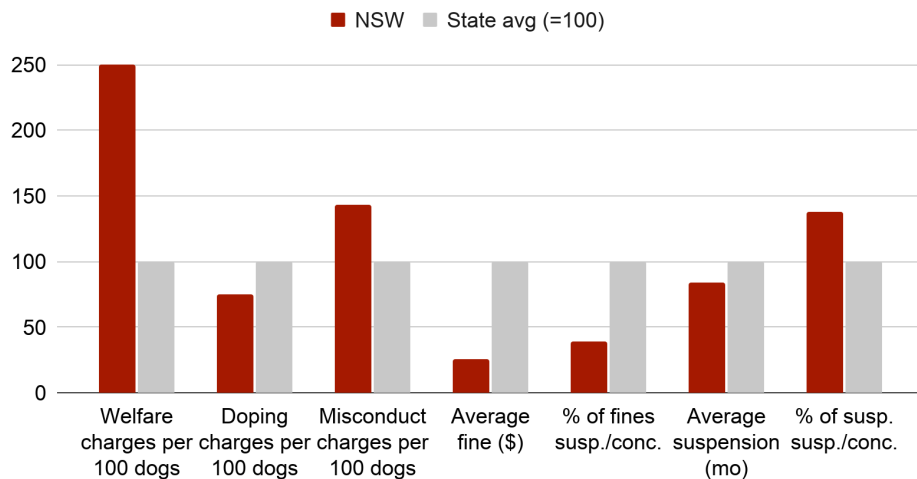
Dishonesty is widespread: NSW records 1.0 misconduct charges per 100 dogs (77 total), well above the average state rate (0.7). Cases frequently involve [lying to officials](#), [drug possession](#), [banned devices](#), [race field manipulation](#), verbal and physical [altercations](#), and [unfit character](#). This reflects persistent non-compliance rather than isolated misconduct.

⁴ See also Appendix 1, Table 2

Fines are too weak to matter: Average fines are just \$169 per charge (state avg: \$638). Timebound suspensions average 5.4 months per charge (state avg: 6.4). While life and indefinite bans occur at a rate of 25.6 per 100 charges issued, offending remains high.

Enforcement is diluted and delayed: 47% of suspensions and 20% of fines are reduced or wiped out. Some offenders serve no real penalty and cases can take years to finalise. The result is a system in which rules exist, but consequences do not.

NSW vs state averages



Greyhounds “disappeared”

In New South Wales, greyhounds are not just mistreated — they are disappearing.

Across the 2025 financial year, there were 27 cases where participants failed to account for greyhounds in their care, and emerging data for FY26 suggests this is part of a much larger problem. Records refer only to “greyhounds” — plural — meaning the true number of animals is unknown. When ordered to provide check-ins or retirement notifications, participants simply did not comply.

The penalty is limited: disqualification until proof of life or required paperwork is provided. Yet in many cases, that proof never comes. If these dogs were alive, it would be straightforward to produce evidence — a check-in, a transfer, a veterinary record. The absence of documentation raises serious welfare concerns.

Despite this, investigations remain unresolved, and no definitive outcome is required. This becomes an even greater problem once participants leave the industry, exposing a legal loophole that leaves regulators powerless. This goes beyond an administrative issue. It is a system where greyhounds can vanish — and nothing compels anyone to find them.

Victoria

Key figures⁵

Dogs raced	6,838
Individuals charged	101
Animal welfare charges	70
Doping charges	70
Misconduct charges	99
Total charges	239
Total fines (\$)	264,950
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	170,350
Total suspensions (mo)	1,731
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	851
Life suspensions	8

⁵ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings⁶

Victoria's enforcement reveals widespread offending:

Accounting for 37% of all dogs raced (6,838), Victoria records 3.5 charges per 100 dogs and 2.4 charges per person — the highest rates in the nation (state avg: 2.0 and 1.6). This is sustained rule-breaking at scale.

Serious welfare failures remain entrenched: With 1.0 welfare charges per 100 dogs (70 total), Victoria records the highest rate in the nation, more than doubling the state average (0.4). Victoria recorded horrendous cases of [cruelty and neglect](#), [denial of vet care](#), and [live baiting](#). These reflect serious [failures to meet basic care](#) obligations.

Doping is deeply embedded: Among the worst jurisdictions, Victoria records 1.0 doping charges per 100 dogs (70 total), above the average state rate (0.8). Trainers linked to [multiple positive swabs](#) across different dates reflect a pattern of persistent, repeat offending in the state.

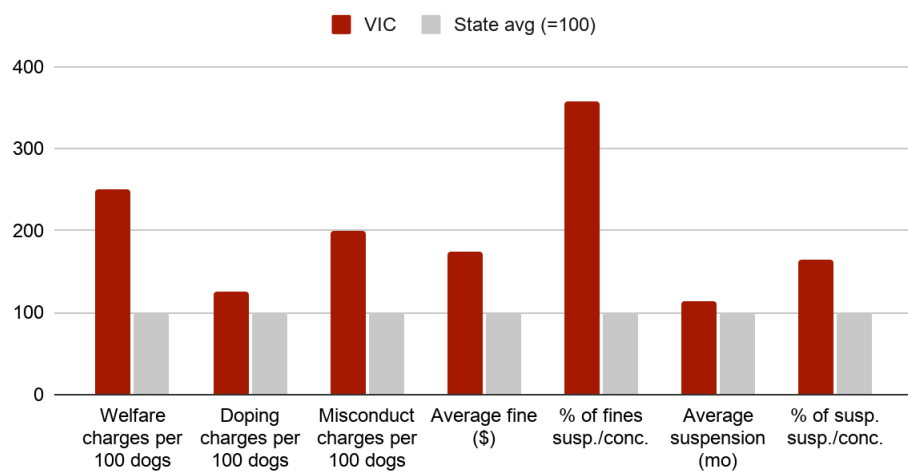
Misconduct is pervasive: At 1.4 charges per 100 dogs (99 total) — double the average state rate (0.7) — Victoria has the highest misconduct rate nationally. Persistent [non-compliance with steward directions](#), [failure to attend hearings](#), and [lying to officials](#) reflect persistent resistance to regulatory authority.

⁶ See also Appendix 1, Table 2

Penalties lack impact: Victoria issues fines averaging \$1,109 per charge and suspensions averaging 7.2 months — both above state averages. However, only 3.3 life bans per 100 charges indicate a reluctance to remove some of the worst offenders permanently.

Enforcement is significantly diluted: 64% of fines and 49% of suspension time are suspended or concurrent — well above the state benchmarks (51% and 34%). Despite high detection rates, penalties are routinely softened, weakening deterrence and enabling continued offending.

VIC vs state averages



Left to die in plain sight

The case of Kenneth Buxton and Bianca Reed exposes what “welfare breaches” in Victoria actually mean in practice — prolonged neglect, systemic failure, and preventable death.

Across multiple inspections, stewards found dogs confined in trailers covered in inches of faeces and saturated with urine. Dogs had no access to clean water and were forced to lie on filthy, broken bedding or directly on concrete. Ventilation was poor, natural light minimal, and basic hygiene absent.

Authorities issued repeated directions to rectify the conditions — and those directions were ignored.

The consequences were severe. One greyhound was discovered in a severely emaciated state, having lost nearly half its body weight over a sustained period of starvation. Veterinary evidence confirmed prolonged suffering before the dog was euthanised. Another greyhound died shortly after being removed from the property.

Despite the severity of the cruelty, the case also reveals a broader failure: these conditions persisted over months and multiple inspections before decisive action was taken — a clear example of entrenched animal suffering in the system.

Queensland

Key figures

Data unavailable

Critical findings

Queensland could not be included in the national analysis due to the unavailability of disciplinary decisions for the FY2025 reporting period.

During a transition to a new QRIC website, historical greyhound disciplinary decisions previously accessible online were removed and had not been restored at the time of publication. Repeated requests for access to the missing records were made during preparation of this report. QRIC initially advised that technical issues were affecting publication of the material, however the records were not subsequently restored or provided.

This absence of accessible disciplinary records creates a significant transparency gap in one of Australia's largest greyhound racing jurisdictions. Public disciplinary decisions are essential for independent scrutiny of animal welfare enforcement and regulatory consistency.

Without access to the underlying decisions, it is not possible to assess the scale of offending, the adequacy of penalties, or the effectiveness of integrity enforcement in Queensland.

Live baiting figure returns despite warning off

Despite the absence of most Queensland disciplinary decisions for FY2025, the limited material still publicly accessible raises significant integrity concerns.

One published matter involved Ronald Ball, previously warned off for 10 years over live baiting offences. In June 2025, QRIC stewards found that Mr Ball had breached the conditions of that warning off period after being discovered handling greyhounds on a licensed property. The resulting recommenced 10-year warning off period was later quashed on appeal due to procedural deficiencies.

Under Greyhounds Australasia rules, warned off persons are prohibited from participating in greyhound racing activities or entering properties where greyhounds are kept or trained.

The case raises broader concerns about dishonesty, rule evasion, and enforcement failures within the industry. A participant previously banned over one of greyhound racing's most serious forms of animal cruelty was nevertheless found to have continued involvement with greyhounds during the penalty period, and was ultimately let off.

South Australia

Key figures⁷

Dogs raced	2,134
Individuals charged	18
Animal welfare charges	0
Doping charges	5
Misconduct charges	21
Total charges	26
Total fines (\$)	2,000
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	2,000
Total suspensions (mo)	163
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	109
Life suspensions	0

⁷ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings⁸

Low charge rates point to enforcement failure: SA accounts for 11% of dogs raced, with 1.4 charges per person and 1.2 charges per 100 dogs, well below the average state rates (1.6 and 2.0). This raises concerns about under-enforcement.

Absence of welfare charges is not credible: SA recorded 0 animal welfare charges. This likely reflects non-detection rather than absence of harm. Even basic compliance was resisted, with participants [obstructing kennel inspections](#) and leaving [slaughtered animal carcasses exposed](#). Serious welfare issues are being missed or not pursued.

Doping is present but minimised: At 0.2 doping charges per 100 dogs (5 total), SA sits well below the state average (0.8) — but all cases were race-day positives in winning dogs. Substances included [morphine, codeine](#) and other [prescription drugs](#), routinely explained as [contamination](#). The low rate may reflect limited detection.

Misconduct is normalised: SA recorded 1.0 misconduct charges per 100 dogs (21 total), above the state benchmark (0.7). Cases include [abusive behaviour](#) and [offensive online conduct](#) in ugly clashes between participants, yet are routinely treated as minor.

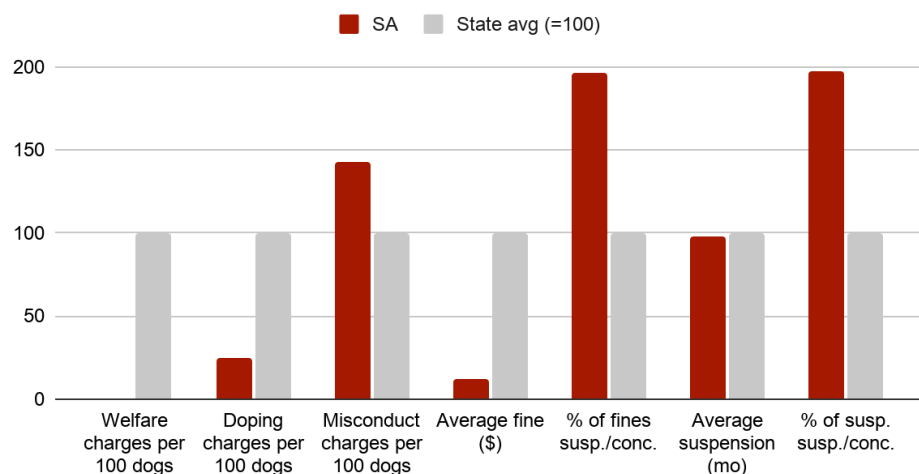
Penalties are negligible: The lowest of all jurisdictions, the

⁸ See also Appendix 1, Table 2

average fine is \$77 per charge (state avg: \$638). Base penalties for doping cases were well below the guidelines, while misconduct often received reprimands only.

Penalties are wiped out: The highest rates nationally, 100% of fines and 67% of suspensions are suspended or concurrent. Every doping case resulted in a fully suspended sanction. Penalties exist on paper, but are rarely enforced.

SA vs state averages



Doping without consequence

In South Australia, greyhounds are testing positive to prohibited substances — and little happens as a result.

In the cases finalised during the 2025FY, multiple dogs returned race-day positive tests, always after winning. Substances detected included morphine, codeine, and a range of prescription drugs.

These findings were routinely explained away. Trainers cited poppy seed ingestion, cross-contamination, or contact with human medication. In each case, these explanations were accepted.

The penalties are negligible. Fines and suspensions are consistently fully suspended, meaning no immediate consequence for presenting a drugged greyhound.

This approach stands in contrast to other states, where similar findings attract meaningful penalties, even when the drugging is found to be accidental.

In South Australia, positive tests are not treated as serious breaches — they are explained away and ultimately go unpunished.

Western Australia

Key figures⁹

Dogs raced	1,559
Individuals charged	11
Animal welfare charges	2
Doping charges	8
Misconduct charges	2
Total charges	12
Total fines (\$)	17,000
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	0
Total suspensions (mo)	49
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	6
Life suspensions	0

⁹ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings¹⁰

Lowest charge rates point to under-enforcement: WA records the lowest rates nationally, with just 1.1 charges per person and 0.8 charges per 100 dogs (state avg: 1.6 and 2.0), despite accounting for 8% of dogs raced. This raises concerns about under-detection.

Serious welfare harm is rarely captured: There were just 0.1 welfare charges per 100 dogs (2 total), well below the state benchmark (0.4). Both involved failures to obtain [veterinary care](#), with one case [ending in euthanasia](#) — suggesting broader harm may not be fully identified.

Doping persists behind low detection rates: WA records 0.5 doping charges per 100 dogs (8 total), below the state average (0.8), with all cases race-day positives — suggesting under-detection. Substances included [arsenic](#), [cobalt](#) and [opioids](#), often explained as contamination.

Misconduct may be underreported: WA records just 0.1 misconduct charges per 100 dogs (2 total) — the lowest rate nationally (state avg: 0.7). These charges arise from a single case involving [threatening conduct](#) toward a welfare advocate, pointing to broader integrity issues that may not be fully captured.

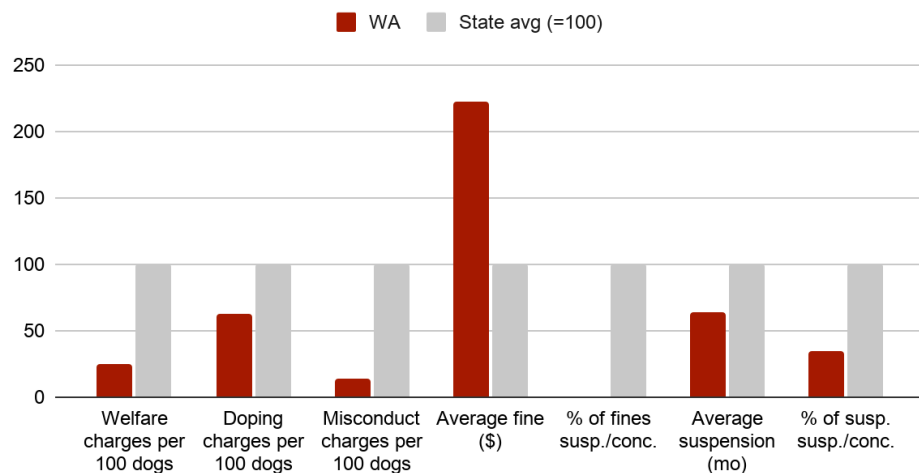
Penalties are inconsistently applied: WA records the highest

¹⁰ See also Appendix 1, Table 2

average fines nationally at \$1,417 per charge (state avg: \$638), yet the lowest average suspensions at 4.1 months per charge (state avg: 6.4). Serious welfare failures attracted short suspensions, and doping cases often resulted in fines only.

Low suspension dilution masks enforcement gaps: Only 12% of suspensions are reduced (state avg: 34%), and no fines were suspended. However, low charge numbers and gaps in published decisions point to inconsistent and opaque enforcement.

WA vs state averages



Delayed care, preventable suffering

In Western Australia, both recorded welfare cases involved the same failure: trainers did not obtain timely veterinary treatment for injured greyhounds. In one case, a leg injury was left untreated until the condition deteriorated to the point of euthanasia. In another, care was delayed despite clear signs of injury, only addressed after the fact.

This is not an isolated issue. Across jurisdictions, failure to seek prompt veterinary care is one of the most common welfare breaches. Greyhounds depend entirely on their trainers for treatment, yet again and again, care is delayed or denied until conditions worsen.

The explanation is rarely stated, but the pattern is clear. Veterinary treatment is expensive. Similar dynamics are visible elsewhere. In Tasmania, stewards discovered a greyhound left untreated for a tail injury. Care was forced, but the delay resulted in amputation. In Victoria, a trainer attempted backyard surgery on a dog using a staple gun.

In Western Australia, the consequences are stark: injuries worsen, suffering is prolonged, and in the most serious cases, dogs lose their lives. Yet even where harm escalates to this level, penalties remain manifestly inadequate.

Tasmania

Key figures¹¹

Dogs raced	460
Individuals charged	8
Animal welfare charges	1
Doping charges	6
Misconduct charges	2
Total charges	9
Total fines (\$)	5,000
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	2,750
Total suspensions (mo)	83
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	10
Life suspensions	0

¹¹ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings¹²

Small industry, high offending intensity: Tasmania accounts for just 2% of dogs raced yet records 2.0 charges per 100 dogs, equal to the average state rate, and 1.1 charges per person (state avg: 1.6). This indicates concentrated offending rather than isolated incidents.

Welfare failures remain present despite low detection: At 0.2 welfare charges per 100 dogs (1 total), Tasmania sits below state average (0.4), raising concerns about under-detection. The sole case involved delayed veterinary care escalating to [tail amputation](#), indicating harm is occurring but rarely captured.

Doping rates are the highest nationally: Tasmania records 1.3 doping charges per 100 dogs (6 total), well above average (0.8). Substances include [arsenic](#), [cocaine](#), and [unprescribed medications](#), often found in race winners, suggesting persistent offending and limited testing.

Misconduct reflects broader integrity concerns: At 0.4 charges per 100 dogs (2 total), below the state benchmark (0.7), cases include [physical violence](#) between participants, including a [headbutting](#) incident. The low rate may reflect under-reporting rather than stronger compliance.

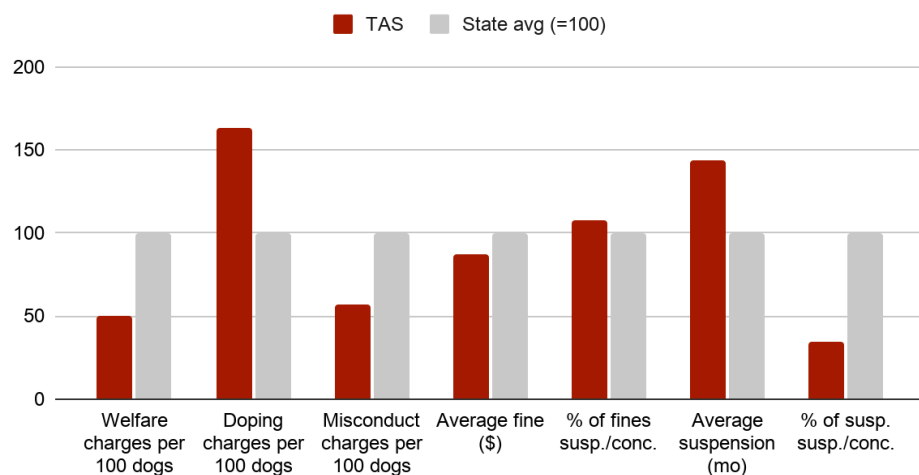
Penalties are skewed: Average fines are \$556 (state avg: \$638) and suspensions average 9.2 months (state avg: 6.4).

¹² See also Appendix 1, Table 2

While the headbutting incident resulted in a 5-year suspension, the animal welfare case received a 2-month suspension, indicating lighter treatment of animal harm.

Penalty dilution remains a systemic weakness: 55% of fines are suspended (state avg: 51%), and 12% of suspensions are reduced (state avg: 34%). Despite strong penalties in some cases, widespread suspended fines weaken enforcement and reduce immediate consequences.

TAS vs state averages



Arsenic positives, familiar excuses

In Tasmania, greyhounds are returning positive tests to arsenic — a pattern seen across multiple states — yet the explanation is almost always the same: dogs supposedly ingest the substance by chewing treated timber in kennel areas. These claims are routinely accepted.

Arsenic has historically been associated with performance enhancement, raising questions about whether these cases are truly accidental. Even if they are, the issue is no less serious. Greyhounds are being kept in environments where they can ingest a dangerous and prohibited substance.

This points to a broader failure. Dogs chewing kennel structures suggests stress, boredom, or poor conditions, yet this is treated as incidental rather than a welfare concern.

Penalties do little to deter the behaviour. In these cases, fines were just \$1,000, with \$500 suspended, and no suspension imposed. There appears to be limited proactive prevention of the risk, and no meaningful consequence when it does.

Across jurisdictions, the pattern is consistent: arsenic is detected, excuses are accepted, and the system moves on.

Northern Territory

Key figures¹³

Dogs raced	194
Individuals charged	n/a
Animal welfare charges	0
Doping charges	2
Misconduct charges	1
Total charges	3
Total fines (\$)	1,500
Suspended/concurrent fines (\$)	1,000
Total suspensions (mo)	19
Susp./conc. suspensions (mo)	3
Life suspensions	0

¹³ "Suspension" includes suspensions, disqualifications, and deregistrations. See also Appendix 1, Table 1

Critical findings¹⁴

Low charge rates point to under-enforcement: The NT records 1.5 charges per 100 dogs (below the state benchmark of 2.0) from just three total charges. In such a small dataset, this raises concerns about limited detection.

No welfare cases is not credible: The NT recorded 0 animal welfare charges (state avg: 0.4 per 100 dogs). Given consistent welfare issues elsewhere, this may reflect non-detection rather than absence of harm.

Doping rates are high despite minimal oversight: At 1.0 doping charges per 100 dogs (2 total), the NT exceeds the average state rate (0.8). One case involved multiple stimulants, including amphetamines and methamphetamine, suggesting serious integrity risks.

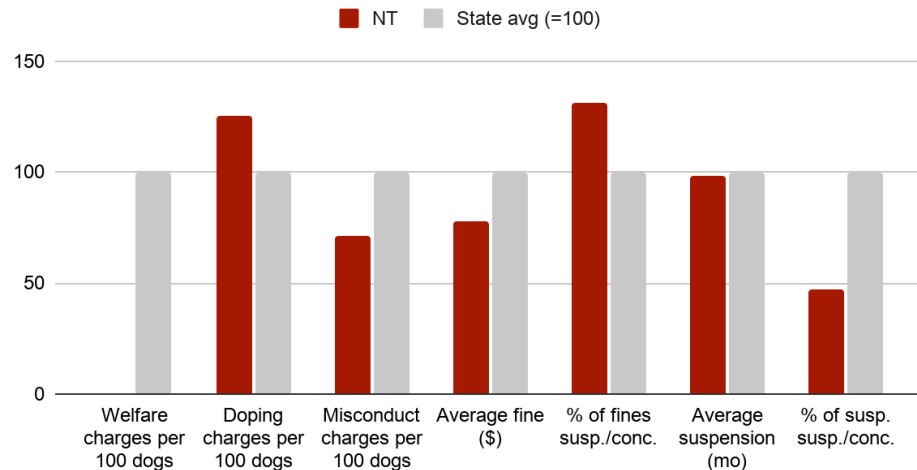
Misconduct is opaque and underreported: With 0.5 misconduct charges per 100 dogs (1 total), below the state average (0.7), and no published detail, the true nature and severity of offending cannot be assessed.

Penalties cannot be properly evaluated: Average fines (\$500 per charge) and suspensions (6.3 months) align with state averages, but the absence of reasoning or case detail prevents assessment of consistency or proportionality.

¹⁴ See also Appendix 1, Table 2

Transparency is severely lacking: 67% of fines and 16% of suspensions are reduced or suspended, yet there is no dedicated publication of steward decisions. With only brief references in an annual report, enforcement operates with minimal visibility or accountability.

NT vs state averages



A system operating in the dark

In the Northern Territory, the public record of greyhound racing infractions consists of just three charges — and almost no detail. The first annual report released in decades notes two doping offences and one misconduct breach. One greyhound tested positive to multiple stimulants; another to caffeine. Beyond that, nothing is disclosed.

Crucially, it is not possible to determine how many individuals were involved, or whether these charges relate to separate incidents. There are no names, no factual summaries, and no explanation of how the substances were detected. The misconduct charge is recorded without any description of the conduct itself. Even basic information — the circumstances, evidence, or reasoning behind penalties — is absent.

This lack of transparency makes meaningful evaluation impossible. It is not possible to assess the seriousness of offences, the consistency of penalties, or whether enforcement is effective.

In every other jurisdiction, the data reveals systemic issues. In the Northern Territory, the issue is that almost nothing is revealed at all.

Recommendations

Minimum standards for accountability based on the findings of this report:

1. Mandatory transparency of all integrity decisions

All steward inquiries, charges, and penalties must be publicly reported in full, including names, facts, evidence, and reasoning. Jurisdictions operating without accessible records should be considered non-compliant.

2. National minimum reporting and enforcement standards

A consistent baseline must be established across all states for recording, investigating, and reporting infractions. Near-zero charge rates should trigger formal review rather than being assumed to reflect compliance.

3. Limits on suspended and concurrent penalties

The routine use of suspended fines and penalties should be restricted. Penalties must have immediate, enforceable consequences to function as a deterrent.

4. Escalating penalties for serious and repeat offences

Clear thresholds should require stronger sanctions for repeat offending, doping breaches, and cases involving animal harm. Reduced penalties should not be repeatedly applied to serious conduct.

5. Independent scrutiny of doping explanations

Common defences, including environmental contamination, must be subject to independent verification. Where contamination is accepted, mandatory corrective action should be enforced, not merely noted.

6. Proactive welfare enforcement

Regulators must shift from reactive responses to proactive inspections and intervention. Failure to seek veterinary care or prevent harm should attract meaningful sanctions.

7. National oversight and auditing

An independent mechanism should monitor consistency across jurisdictions, including auditing penalty decisions, publication practices, and enforcement outcomes.

Appendix 1

Table 1: Raw data by state

State	Dogs raced	Indiv. charged	Welfare charges	Doping charges	Misconduct charges	Total charges	Total fines (\$AU)	Susp./conc. fines (\$AU)	Total susp./disq. (mo)	Susp./disq. susp./conc. (mo)	Life/indef. susp.
NSW	7,502	102	78	48	77	203	34,225	7,000	1,099	519	52
VIC	6,838	101	70	70	99	239	264,950	170,350	1,731	851	8
QLD¹⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SA	2,134	18	0	5	21	26	2,000	2,000	163	109	0
WA	1,559	11	2	8	2	12	17,000	0	49	6	0
TAS	460	8	1	6	2	9	5,000	2,750	83	10	0
NT	194	N/A	0	2	1	3	1,500	1,000	19	3	0
Total	18,687	240	151	139	202	492	324,675	183,100	3,144	1,498	60

¹⁵ Queensland disciplinary decisions unavailable at time of publication.

Table 2: Statistics by state

State	% of total dogs raced	Average charges per person	Animal welfare charges per 100 dogs	Doping charges per 100 dogs	Misconduct charges per 100 dogs	Total charges per 100 dogs	Avg. fine per charge (\$AU)	% of fines susp./conc.	Avg. susp. per charge (mo)	% of susp. susp./conc.	Life/ indef. susp. per 100 charges
NSW	40	2.0	1.0	0.6	1.0	2.7	169	20	5.4	47	25.6
VIC	37	2.4	1.0	1.0	1.4	3.5	1,109	64	7.2	49	3.3
QLD¹⁶	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SA	11	1.4	0	0.2	1.0	1.2	77	100	6.3	67	0
WA	8	1.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	1,417	0	4.1	12	0
TAS	2	1.1	0.2	1.3	0.4	2.0	556	55	9.2	12	0
NT	1	N/A	0	1.0	0.5	1.5	500	67	6.3	16	0
State avg.	-	1.6	0.4	0.8	0.7	2.0	638	51	6.4	34	4.8
Nat. rate	-	2.1	0.8	0.7	1.1	2.6	660	56	6.4	48	12.2

¹⁶ Queensland disciplinary decisions unavailable at time of publication.

FIGURE 3

TOTAL CHARGES PER 100 DOGS

BY STATE/TERRITORY
FY2025

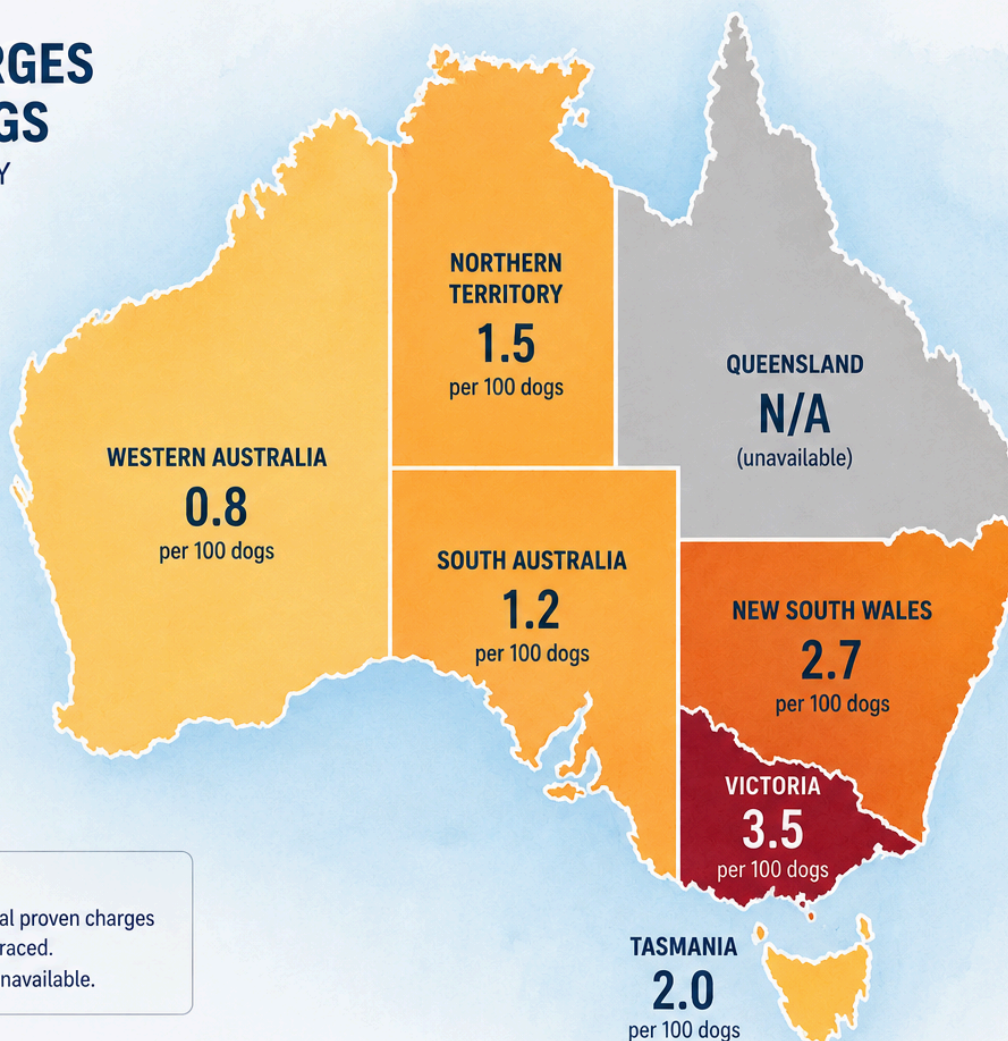
This heat map shows the total number of proven charges per 100 dogs raced in each state/territory during the 2025 financial year.

Queensland data is unavailable.

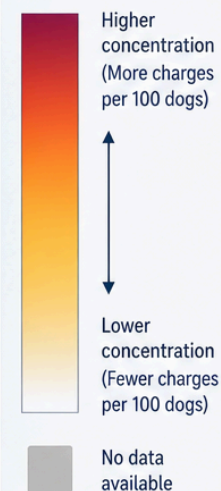


NOTE:

Figures represent total proven charges per 100 unique dogs raced.
Queensland data is unavailable.



**TOTAL CHARGES
PER 100 DOGS**



Source: Appendix 1, Table 2 – Crimes Against Greyhounds FY2025 Report

Appendix 2

Drugs and their impact on greyhounds in racing

Substance	Used for	Risks
5β Androstane-3α, 17β-Diol	Hormone regulation, performance enhancement	Imbalance in natural testosterone levels, long-term health effects unknown
Amphetamine	Performance-enhancing stimulant to increase energy and alertness	Elevated heart rate and blood pressure, risk of heart failure, potential for seizures
Arsenic	Performance enhancement—believed to increase stamina	Vascular damage, swelling, organ bleeding
Caffeine	Performance-enhancing stimulant to increase energy and alertness	Increased heart rate, anxiety, tremors, risk of seizures
Carprofen	Pain reliever, anti-inflammatory	Gastrointestinal issues, potential liver or kidney damage if overused
Cobalt	Performance enhancement—increases red blood cells	Risk of cardiovascular disease, excessive levels linked to toxicity
Cocaine	Performance-enhancing stimulant used to increase alertness and energy	Elevated heart rate and blood pressure, risk of cardiac arrest, seizures, hyperthermia, and severe neurological damage
Codeine	Masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Respiratory depression, drowsiness, potential for dependency or overdose
Dexamethasone	Reduces inflammation and allows racing despite injury or illness	Risk of infections, muscle weakness, increased thirst, potential for adrenal insufficiency
Gabapentin	Masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Sedation, dizziness, potential for dependency
Meloxicam	Masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Gastrointestinal issues, kidney damage if used long-term

Methamphetamine	Performance-enhancing stimulant to increase alertness	Severe cardiovascular damage, risk of addiction, organ damage
Morphine	Masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Respiratory depression, drowsiness, risk of overdose
Norcodeine	Metabolite of codeine - masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Same risks as codeine, including respiratory depression and potential overdose
Oripavine	Precursor to opioids like morphine	Severe respiratory depression, potential for overdose
Paraxanthine	Stimulant used for performance enhancement	Similar to caffeine: increased heart rate, anxiety, tremors, seizures
Prednisone	Reduces inflammation and allows racing despite injury or illness.	Long-term use linked to muscle weakness, increased infections, Cushing's disease
Prednisolone	Active form of prednisone - reduces inflammation and allows racing despite injury or illness.	Similar to prednisone: risk of infections, muscle weakness, Cushing's disease
Procaine	Local anaesthetic used to mask pain	Allergic reactions, risk of overdose, nervous system depression
Recombinant human erythropoietin (rHuEPO)	Performance-enhancing, improving endurance and reducing muscle fatigue	Linked to cardiac arrest, blood clot formation, and stroke
Stanozolol	Anabolic steroid for muscle building and performance enhancement	Liver damage, cardiovascular disease, hormonal imbalance, potential aggression
Tapentadol	Masks pain and allows greyhounds to race despite injuries	Respiratory depression, risk of dependency or overdose
Theophylline	Performance-enhancing respiratory stimulant, used to improve endurance	Tremors, seizures, gastrointestinal issues, potential for overdose
Theobromine	Stimulant found in chocolate, used for performance enhancement	Toxic for dogs, causes tremors, seizures, and in severe cases, can be fatal

Appendix 3

Disciplinary decisions

Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission (NSW)

<https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/integrity/disciplinary-decisions>

Greyhound Racing Victoria (VIC)

<https://fasttrack.grv.org.au/StewardsHearing/StewardsInquiry?Year=2025>

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QLD)

<https://qric.qld.gov.au/stewards-reports/greyhound/>

Most of the historical FY2025 disciplinary decisions previously accessible through the QRIC website were unavailable at the time of publication following a website transition.

Greyhound Racing SA (SA)

<https://greyhoundracingsa.com.au/care-and-integrity/integrity-reports>

Racing WA (WA)

<https://racingwa.com.au/stewards-inquiries>

Greyhounds WA 'Kennel Notes' (WA)

<https://www.greyhoundswa.com.au/publications/>

Not all Western Australian disciplinary matters were published on the Racing WA website. Some cases were instead identified through Greyhounds WA "Kennel Notes" publications

Tasracing (TAS)

<https://tasracing.com.au/integrity/stewards-inquiries-decisions>

Racing and Wagering Commission (NT)

https://dth.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/1571784/ntrw-commission-annual-report-2024-25.pdf

ABOUT THE COALITION FOR THE PROTECTION OF GREYHOUNDS

The Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds is committed to a ban on greyhound racing. Until that happens we fight to end the suffering of greyhounds in the racing industry. Our campaigns are designed to influence public opinion and target state governments.



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