



COALITION FOR
THE PROTECTION
OF GREYHOUNDS

SUBMISSION

Interactive gambling amendment (Gambling reform) Bill 2026

We acknowledge the traditional Owners of Country across Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and recognise the role Elders play in maintaining connection to Country, Culture and Community.

July 2026

CPG comments on the Interactive Gambling Amendment (Gambling Reform) Bill 2026

Greyhound racing must not be exempt from advertising restrictions

The bill fails to protect children and young people who attend or participate in greyhound racing from gambling harms

In the Explanatory Memorandum for the Interactive Gambling Amendment (Gambling Reform) Bill 2026 (the Gambling Reform Bill) it is stated that

"Collectively, these measures address the saturation of wagering advertising, which significantly contribute towards the normalisation of gambling amongst young Australians, and which play a critical role in gambling harms."

By providing the exemptions in Item 10A(3)(c) and Item 62, the Albanese Government accepts that children who attend greyhound races or actively participate in greyhound racing will continue to be exposed to gambling advertising, which will normalise gambling among this cohort of young Australians.

Greyhound racing clubs attract families and children

Many, if not most, Australian greyhound racing venues provide facilities designed to attract families. Many greyhound racing clubs organise family friendly events in an attempt to attract young people to participate in greyhound racing.

Following are some examples:

- The Q (Queensland) opened in 2025 and includes facilities and events that are designed to attract families, such as face painting at the Christmas in July event.¹
- The recently opened Taree race track holds events targeting children (see Photograph 1).²
- Shepparton greyhound racing club holds kid's days (see Photograph 2).³
- Nowra greyhound racing club involves young children in the Puppy Classic parade (see photograph 3).⁴

¹ <https://www.theq.au/event/christmas-in-july/2026-07-24/>

² <https://s9752.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Taree-Cup-greyhounds-2023.png>

³ <https://sheppartongreyhounds.org.au/event/event-four/>

⁴ <https://www.nowradogs.au/>

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Photograph 1 – children at Taree greyhound race track



Photograph 2 – Kid's day attractions at Shepparton greyhound club



Photograph 3 – Kids at the Puppy Classic parade

Many more examples of how children and young people are involved in greyhound racing can be found online.

Every regulator actively attracts children and young people to greyhound racing

Every state-based greyhound racing regulator has established formal programs to attract children to the greyhound racing industry (ACT is the only jurisdiction to have banned greyhound racing):

- The NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission has established the Junior Attendant program to involve 12 to 14 year old children, and the Associate Attendant and Associate Racing Official programs to involve 14 to 18 year old children and young people in greyhound racing.⁵
- Tasracing has an internship program to involve school children in greyhound racing during school holidays. The internship includes participating in a race day.⁶
- The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission allows children as young as 14 years of age to apply for a 3 year attendant licence.⁷
- Greyhound Racing South Australia allows children aged 14 to 15 years to hold a catcher's licence.⁸
- Greyhound Racing Victoria allows children as young as 14 years to become a licensed catcher.⁹
- RacingWA allows young people 16 years of age or older to apply for an attendant licence.¹⁰
- In the Northern Territory, children as young as 14 years are able to register as attendants.¹¹

Greyhound racing exposes children and young people to gambling ads

This submission demonstrates that greyhound racing clubs promote themselves as family friendly and organise events to attract children to racing venues. Every greyhound racing regulator supports the industry by registering/licensing children as young as 12 to participate in greyhound races.

The above photographs show the extensive gambling advertisements on the safety barriers, on clothing and safety vests worn by attendants, on vests worn by the dogs and on screens. Many more examples can be found on greyhound racing club websites.

⁵ <https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/integrity/participant-registrations>

⁶ <https://tasracing.com.au/careers-training/intern-application-form>

⁷ https://qric.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/2112901/Stablehand-or-Kennel-Attendant-Application.pdf

⁸ <https://grsa.blob.core.windows.net/uploads/Application%20for%2014-15%20registration%20April%202026.pdf>

⁹ <https://greyhoundcare.grv.org.au/licence-categories/>

¹⁰ https://racingwa.com.au/docs/default-source/registrations---forms/greyhound/licensing/lrg-011b_new-licence-application---greyhounds_attendant.pdf?sfvrsn=de4de611_6

¹¹ <https://nt.gov.au/industry/gambling/racing/greyhound-racing/apply-or-renew-greyhound-attendant-registration>

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There is therefore no doubt that children and young people who attend or participate in greyhound racing will be exposed to gambling advertising. Such exposure normalises gambling. This is contrary to the Federal Government's justification for the Gambling Reform Bill, i.e. to *"...address the saturation of wagering advertising, which significantly contribute towards the normalisation of gambling amongst young Australians, and which play a critical role in gambling harms."*

If the Federal Government is serious about protecting **all** Australian children and young people from gambling harms, then greyhound racing venues must also be subject to the gambling advertising bans specified in the Gambling Reform Bill.

Recommendation

Amend the Gambling Reform Bill to remove every item that exempts greyhound racing (and racing in general) from the gambling advertisement prohibitions specified in the bill.

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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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[coalitionprotectgreyhounds](https://www.instagram.com/coalitionprotectgreyhounds)



[save_greyhounds](https://twitter.com/save_greyhounds)



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