



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **RGRROP311A Perform duties of greyhound race starter**

**Release: 1**

## **RGRROP311A Perform duties of greyhound race starter**

### **Modification History**

Not Applicable

### **Unit Descriptor**

#### **Unit descriptor**

This unit of competency specifies the outcomes required to safely and efficiently conduct greyhound race starts. It requires knowledge and skills associated with preparing for race starts, and working closely with other race meeting staff to start races and complete post-race activities, including the provision of reports to stewards and race club personnel.

To undertake this unit the candidate will be able to apply safe greyhound handling skills and follow workplace OHS standards.

This unit of competency operates in work environments of racing kennels, racecourses and public areas.

Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements may apply to this unit. Check with your State Principal Racing Authority for current license or registration requirements.

### **Application of the Unit**

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This unit of competency supports licensed and registered personnel and others in the greyhound racing industry who may be required to act as starters for greyhound race meetings as part of their job function.

### **Licensing/Regulatory Information**

Refer to Unit Descriptor

## Pre-Requisites

### Prerequisite units

## Employability Skills Information

**Employability skills**      This unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

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Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Prepare for race starts.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Race fields and distances are confirmed.</li> <li>2. <b>Past problems</b> with particular greyhounds during race starts are noted.</li> <li>3. <b>Operation of start boxes and other equipment</b> is confirmed prior to commencement of race meeting.</li> <li>4. Contingency plans are arranged in case of malfunction in start equipment.</li> <li>5. <b>Rules of racing</b> relating to starting a race are defined and complied with.</li> <li>6. <b>OHS and racing safety protocols and procedures</b> associated with the start of a race are complied with.</li> </ol>
Start greyhound race.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Race start time is confirmed with stewards.</li> <li>8. Box positions are verified and handlers directed to load greyhounds within time and safety constraints.</li> <li>9. <b>Incidents</b> are managed to minimise risk of injury to staff and greyhounds, and are reported to stewards and/or veterinarian.</li> <li>10. Non-starters are declared after conferring with stewards.</li> <li>11. Permission to start race is confirmed with stewards.</li> <li>12. Race start is initiated once final greyhound is boxed.</li> </ol>
Complete post-race duties.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Loading and start <b>reports are provided</b> to stewards.</li> <li>14. Notes on problems with starters are updated for personal records.</li> <li>15. Boxes and other start equipment are checked for damage and/or maintenance requirements prior to shutting down.</li> <li>16. Repairs or maintenance requirements are reported to race club.</li> </ol>

## Required Skills and Knowledge

### REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

#### Required skills

- applying safe handling and work practices when dealing with greyhounds
- communicating with race meeting staff, stewards, licensed and registered personnel

## REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

and others using assertive communication techniques to gather, interpret and relay information related to greyhound racing starts

- completing duties in accordance with safe operating procedures and nominated time frame
- complying with animal welfare legislation
- evaluating risks associated with race meeting starts and race day operations
- giving evidence in racing inquiries and investigations
- identifying individual greyhounds using industry-approved terminology, records and signalment
- identifying injured or distressed greyhounds that require assistance
- making effective decisions and resolving routine problems within the bounds of duties and responsibilities of a race meeting starter
- operating starting box equipment in accordance with safe operating and race day procedures
- reading and interpreting racing documents relating to race distances, race fields, track conditions, greyhound identification and performance records
- reading and interpreting workplace documentation, including rules of racing and starting procedures
- recognising damaged or defective gear
- relating to people from a range of social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds and with varying physical and mental abilities
- reporting incidents to stewards in a timely manner
- resolving disputes according to greyhound racing protocols and procedures
- teamwork skills to ensure completion of job tasks
- working in a high pressure environment
- written communication skills to complete workplace documentation and reports.

### Required knowledge

- approved gear
- common features of injury, illness and distress in greyhounds
- communication procedures within the race meeting and wider racing industry
- equipment used in work role and procedures for its operation and maintenance
- greyhound handling and controlling techniques
- OHS and environmental legislative requirements
- organisational policies and procedures
- positive and effective communication strategies used to work with a team, deal with conflicts and resolve disputes
- racing industry animal welfare requirements
- racing industry safety requirements, including safe operating procedures
- relevant rules of racing
- reporting requirements for irregularities and problems.



# Evidence Guide

## EVIDENCE GUIDE

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The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

### **Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit**

The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy all of the requirements of the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge and the range statement of this unit and include evidence of the following:

- knowledge of the requirements, procedures and instructions that are to apply when starting greyhound races
- implementation of procedures and timely techniques for the safe, effective and efficient application of race starting operations
- working with others to undertake and complete the required procedures that meet required outcomes.

Evidence should be collected over a period of time in a range of workplace-relevant contexts and include dealings with an appropriate range of situations.

### **Context of, and specific resources for assessment**

Competency must be assessed in a racing workplace that provides access to the required resources. Assessment is to occur under standard and authorised work practices, safety requirements and environmental constraints. It is to comply with relevant regulatory requirements or Australian Standards requirements.

Assessment of the practical components of this unit will be by observation of relevant skills.

The following resources must be available:

- a variety of greyhounds
- materials and equipment relevant to assessing candidate's ability to start greyhound races
- safe handling and approved race starting and associated facilities
- work instructions and related documentation.

### **Method of assessment**

Assessment methods must satisfy the endorsed Assessment Guidelines of the Racing Training Package.

The suggested strategies for the assessment of this unit are:

## EVIDENCE GUIDE

- written and/or oral assessment of candidate's required knowledge
- observed, documented and firsthand testimonial evidence of candidate's application of practical tasks.

Evidence is required to be demonstrated over a period of time, therefore where performance is not directly observed any evidence should be authenticated by supervisors or other appropriate persons.

This unit may be assessed in a holistic way with other units of competency relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role, for example:

- RGRCMN001A Comply with the rules of racing and related protocols.

### Guidance information for assessment

Assessment methods should reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy and numeracy demands) and the needs of particular target groups (e.g. people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, people with a language background other than English, youth and people from low socioeconomic backgrounds).

## Range Statement

### RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

***Past problems*** with particular greyhounds may include:

- greyhound:
  - attempts to fight with other dogs
  - charges forward
  - is reluctant to move into boxes
  - pulls sideways.

***Operation of start boxes and other equipment*** may include:

- boxes are clean
- back doors are working properly
- lids are set properly
- lids open properly



## RANGE STATEMENT

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***Rules of racing*** in relation to race starts may include:

- nine, ten and blank magnets are available
- red and green lights are working
- spare muzzles are available
- trip start is working.
- box draw and withdrawal after box draw
- failing to pursue the lure
- fighting
- greyhounds suffering injury or condition
- judge's decision
- lure driver, lure starting point and lure distance to leading greyhound
- no race, false start, postponement or abandonment of event
- unsatisfactory performance.

***OHS and racing safety protocols and procedures*** may include:

- adhering to responsibilities under OHS legislation and workplace practices
- adhering to responsibilities under national and state codes of practice; federal, state and territory legislation; and local government regulations covering animal welfare
- adhering to rules of racing and rules of the race venue
- considering variables that influence behaviour of greyhounds, such as:
  - fences and equipment
  - lure, wind and noise
  - other persons or animals
  - vehicles
- contributing to development of risk control measures
- following safe work practices
- following accident and injury procedures
- identifying and reporting unsafe work practices
- identifying race start hazards, including:
  - broken start equipment
  - gear breakage
  - injury to staff, attendant or greyhound
  - loose greyhound
- identifying emergency situations
- understanding individual greyhound behaviour
- wearing approved personal protective

## RANGE STATEMENT

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- Incidents*** may include:
- equipment.
  - delayed race start
  - greyhound turning in box
  - injured greyhound
  - loose greyhound
  - faulty equipment or box operation.
- Reports are provided*** to stewards:
- courteously and efficiently
  - maintaining confidentiality and discretion
  - promptly
  - using correct forms of greeting
  - via verbal and/or written communication, including:
    - describing actions
    - giving and receiving clear, accurate and simple messages
    - listening to and interpreting information and instructions
  - written reports may include simple documents and notes.

## Unit Sector(s)

**Unit Sector**                      Greyhound racing code

## Co-requisite units

**Co-requisite units**

## Functional Area

**Functional Area**                      Racing performance services