



# NSW TAB Grading Policy

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## 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 The NSW TAB Grading Policy aims to:
- a) Create a fair, equitable and transparent system for participants to compete that ensures greyhounds with the most appropriate form secure starts and are grouped with greyhounds of like ability; and
  - b) Ensure the viability of the Industry by promoting the highest standard of racing possible that maximizes the racing career of greyhounds in NSW.

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## 2. Scope

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- 2.1 This Policy is applicable to the grading of all Category A (metropolitan) and Category B (TAB) race meetings conducted at NSW racetracks.
- 2.2 The Policy is applicable at the closing time of nominations for an Event or series of Events or a qualifying trial.
- 2.3 For the purpose of Category A race meetings conducted at Wentworth Park, the grade of a greyhound on 10 February 2009 shall be the same grade as it was at 11.59pm on 9 February 2009.

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## 3. Eligibility for Events

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- 3.1 The eligibility of a greyhound to compete in an Event shall be determined in accordance with the following hierarchy of events:
- a) A greyhound shall be deemed to be eligible for a Maiden Event if the greyhound at the time of starting, has never won an Event.
  - b) Upon winning a Maiden Event a greyhound will be classified as a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound at all tracks and distances.

*Category B (TAB Tracks Only)*

- c)
  - i. Upon winning two (2) Grade 5 Events at a particular track and distance, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular track and distance; or
  - ii. Upon winning two (2) Events at a Category A meeting in a particular distance category, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it competes in an Event at a Category B meeting in that particular distance category unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance;

- d) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.
- e) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.
- f) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.

*Category A – Wentworth Park Mondays*

- g) Upon winning one (1) Grade 5 Event on a Wentworth Park Monday that greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Monday at that distance.
- h) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event on a Wentworth Park Monday that greyhound will be classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Monday Event at that distance.
- i) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event on a Wentworth Park Monday that greyhound will be classified as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Monday Event at that distance.
- j) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event on a Wentworth Park Monday that greyhound will be classified as a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Monday Event at that distance.

*Category A – Wentworth Park Saturdays*

- k) Upon winning one (1) Grade 5 Event on a Wentworth Park Saturday that greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Saturday at that distance.
- l) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event on a Wentworth Park Saturday that greyhound will be classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Saturday Event at that distance.
- m) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event on a Wentworth Park Saturday that greyhound will be classified as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Saturday Event at that distance.
- n) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event on a Wentworth Park Saturday that greyhound will be classified as a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade greyhound when it next competes on a Wentworth Park Saturday Event at that distance.

- 3.2 Where a Maiden Event is conducted by way of heats, semi-finals and a final or heats and a final at a particular track, a greyhound that wins a heat and/or semi-final and/or the final shall at the conclusion of the series be deemed to have won one (1) Event for the purposes of determining the greyhound's grade under this Policy.
- 3.3 Where a greyhound is adjudged to have dead-heated for first place, the greyhound shall be deemed to have won the Event.
- 3.4 In order to be eligible to compete in an Event other than a Maiden Event at a Category A meeting, a greyhound must have won a Maiden Event and one (1) other Event over a distance of at least 400m unless the conditions of the Event state otherwise
- 3.5 In order to be eligible to compete in an Event below Grade 4 at a Division A Wentworth Park Monday meeting, the Division A Wentworth Park Saturday grade of a particular greyhound shall be no higher than or equal to Grade 3.

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## 4. Mixing of Grades

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- 4.1 GRNSW, upon application being made to it in writing, may grant permission to a Club to conduct an Event the conditions of which differ from this Policy, and such Event shall be known as a Special Event. A club must apply to GRNSW in order for a Group Race to be treated as a Special Event under this Policy.
- 4.2 Group Races may consist of greyhounds of any grade subject to the eligibility requirements of the particular Group Event.
- 4.3 A greyhound is eligible for a Free For All Event if the greyhound is eligible for a Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3 or Grade 4 Event, however a Grade 4 greyhound shall not be eligible for a Free For All Event if it has not won a minimum of four (4) Events including a minimum of three (3) Events in the Category of Race Meeting in which the Free For All Event is to be conducted.
- 4.4 The following Mixed Grade Events may be conducted with at least two (2) eligible greyhounds in the lower grade and at least one (1) eligible greyhound in the higher grade:-
  - i) 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
    - a) A Grade 4 greyhound shall not be eligible for a 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Mixed Grade Event if it has not won a minimum of four (4) Events including a minimum of three (3) Events in the Category of Race Meeting in which the Event is to be conducted.
  - ii) 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 4.5 Where a greyhound wins an Event consisting of multiple grades, that win shall be classified as a win in the lowest grade for which the greyhound was eligible to compete at that track, distance and category of meeting.

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## 5. Re-Grade

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5.1 After winning a Maiden Event at any track, a greyhound having its first start at a particular track, distance and category of meeting shall be eligible to contest a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Event at that particular track, distance and category of meeting except in the following circumstances:-

*5.1.1 Category A meetings*

- a) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting at a track other than Wentworth Park and at distances up to 564m, the greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- b) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting at a track other than Wentworth Park and at distances of 565m or above, the greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1

*5.2.2 Category B meetings*

- a) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting or a total of ten (10) Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances up to 564m, or has won a Group 1 Event, the greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- b) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting or a total of ten (10) Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances of 565m or above, or has won a Group 1 Event, the greyhound will be classified as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.

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## 6. Drop-Back Rule

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6.1 Where a Grade 4 greyhound or higher, is unplaced at the same category of meeting, at the same particular track and distance in two (2) Events after its last win at that particular category of meeting, track and distance, that greyhound shall be lowered one (1) grade when it next competes in an Event at that particular track, distance and category of meeting.

6.2 In accordance with clause 8.1, Wentworth Park Saturday and Wentworth Park Monday are to be considered different tracks for the purpose of this policy.

## 7. Grading Guidelines

- 7.1 The following is the order of entry that the Grader shall use for the inclusion of greyhounds in fields for graded Events :
- i) Last start winners at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
  - ii) Last start placegetters at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
  - iii) Greyhounds that were reserves at the previous meeting at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination that had not gained a start at that meeting;
  - iv) Last start winners at a Category B race meeting when nominating at an alternative Category B race meeting or at a different distance at the track of nomination;
  - v) Greyhounds dropping in grade at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
  - vi) Greyhounds with the best race form amongst the remainder as determined by the Grader. For the purposes of Category A and Category B race meetings, the Grader shall determine best race form using the Weighted Points Score Table. (See Appendix A)
- 7.2 For the purposes of Category A and Category B race meetings, once the Order of Entry has determined the pool of greyhounds to be drawn, the 'top-down' grading principle will be applied in the following order:
- i) Greyhounds graded 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be drawn to race ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade ahead of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ahead of 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade ahead of 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade ahead of maiden greyhounds;
  - ii) Greyhounds of the same grade shall be drawn in the following order:
    - a) Greyhounds with the highest number of meeting category wins in the distance category;
    - b) Greyhounds with the highest number of total wins.
    - c) Greyhounds with the highest number of points under the Weighted Points Score Table (See Appendix A);
  - iii) For the purposes of 7.2(ii)(a), there are two distance categories:
    - a) Sprint: all distances up to and including 564m
    - b) Distance: 565m and longer
- 7.3 The Order of Entry shall not apply when grading Special Events, events conducted by way of heats and final or events open to the 'Best' greyhounds nominated as determined by the Grader. For the purposes of such Events at a Category A or Category B race meeting, unless the conditions of the Event determined by the Race Club state otherwise, greyhounds shall be drawn in the following manner:
- i) Greyhounds graded 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be drawn to race ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade ahead of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ahead of 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade ahead of 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade ahead of maiden greyhounds;
  - ii) The Weighted Points Score Table (See Appendix A) will determine the order of entry for greyhounds of the same grade;
  - iii) Greyhounds of equal grade and Point Score will be drawn by lot.

- 7.4 The following is the order of entry that the Grader shall use for the inclusion of greyhounds in fields for Maiden Events conducted at Category A and Category B race meetings:
- i) Last start placegetters at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
  - ii) Greyhounds that were reserves at the previous meeting at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination that had not gained a start at that meeting;
  - iii) Greyhounds placed in two (2) of their last three (3) race starts;
  - iv) Greyhounds placed in one (1) of their last three (3) race starts;
  - v) First start greyhounds drawn at random;
  - vi) Greyhounds unplaced after having one (1) race start;
  - vii) Greyhounds unplaced as determined by the Weighted Point Score Table.
- 7.5
- i) Guarding implies that greyhounds owned and/or trained by the same person will be separated into different divisions of an event whenever and wherever possible. Guarding will be applied as follows:-
    - a) all maiden Events; and
    - b) all Events consisting of heats and/or semi-finals
    - c) all Grade 5 Events containing greyhounds that have won four (4) Events or less.
  - ii) Race fields for Grade 4 Events and higher, as well as race fields for Grade 5 Events with greyhounds that has won five (5) events or more, will not be guarded.

## 8. Categories of Race Meetings

For the purposes of this Grading Policy, race meetings conducted at greyhound racing tracks throughout Australasia are categorised as follows:

### 8.1 Category A Race Meetings

Wentworth Park Saturday (NSW)	Saturday night meetings only
Wentworth Park Monday (NSW)	Monday night meetings only
Meadows (VIC)	Saturday night meetings only
Sandown (VIC)	Thursday night meetings only
Albion Park (QLD)	Thursday night meetings only
Cannington (WA)	Saturday night meetings only

Note that all Group races as set out in the Australian Greyhound Racing Association Group Race Calendar conducted interstate will be classified as Category A Events regardless of the classification of the track at which the Group race is held for the purposes of determining a greyhound's grade under this Policy.

### 8.2 Category B Race Meetings

Bathurst (NSW) – TAB Meetings  
 Bulli (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Casino (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Cessnock (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Dapto (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Gosford (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Lismore (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Maitland (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Nowra (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 Richmond (NSW) - TAB Meetings  
 The Gardens (NSW) - TAB Meetings

Ballarat (VIC)  
 Bendigo (VIC)  
 Cranbourne (VIC)  
 Geelong (VIC)  
 Horsham (VIC)  
 Meadows (VIC) – All meetings except Saturday night  
 Sale (VIC)  
 Sandown (VIC) – All meetings except Thursday night  
 Shepparton (VIC)  
 Traralgon (VIC)  
 Wangaratta (VIC)  
 Warragul (VIC)  
 Warrnambool (VIC)

Albion Park (QLD) – Monday nights only  
 Gold Coast (QLD)  
 Ipswich (QLD)

Angle Park (SA) – Thursday & Mondays only  
 Gawler (SA) – Thursday & Mondays only

Cannington (WA) – All meetings except Saturday night  
 Mandurah (WA)

Hobart (TAS) – Thursday & Mondays only

Launceston (TAS) – Thursday & Monday only

Addington (Christchurch) (NZ)  
Manukau (Auckland) (NZ)  
Waikato (Cambridge) (NZ)  
Wanganui (Hatrack) (NZ)  
Otago (Dunedin) (NZ)  
Invercargill (Ascot Park) (NZ)  
Manawatu (Palmerston North) (NZ)

### **8.3 Category C Race Meetings**

Appin (NSW)  
Armidale (NSW)  
Bathurst (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Broken Hill (NSW)  
Bulli (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Casino (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Cessnock (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Coonabarabran (NSW)  
Coonamble (NSW)  
Cowra (NSW)  
Dapto (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Dubbo (NSW)  
Forbes (NSW)  
Gosford (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Goulburn (NSW)  
Grafton (NSW)  
Gunnedah (NSW)  
Kempsey (NSW)  
Lismore (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Lithgow (NSW)  
Maitland (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Moree (NSW)  
Mudgee (NSW)  
Muswellbrook (NSW)  
Nowra (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Potts Park (NSW)  
Richmond (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Tamworth (NSW)  
Taree (NSW)  
The Gardens (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Temora (NSW)  
Tweed Heads (NSW)  
Wagga (NSW)  
Wauchope (NSW)  
Wentworth Park (NSW) – Non TAB Meetings  
Young (NSW)

Canberra (ACT)

Healesville (VIC)

Albion Park (QLD) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights  
Bundaberg (QLD)  
Cairns (QLD)  
Capalaba (QLD)  
Mackay (QLD)  
Rockhampton (QLD)

Townsville (QLD)

Angle Park (SA) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Barmera (SA)

Gawler (SA) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Kulpara (SA)

Mount Gambier (SA)

Port Augusta (SA)

Port Pirie (SA)

Strathalbyn (SA)

Whyalla (SA)

Northam (WA)

Hobart (TAS) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Devonport (TAS)

Launceston (TAS) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Darwin (NT)

Ashburton (NZ)

Taranaki (NZ)

Wairarapa (NZ)

Wellington (NZ)

## Weighted Points Score & Pro Rata

Weighted Point Score for the purpose of determining order of entry in accordance with clause 11.								
<b>Division A</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	112	96	88	44	40	36	32	28
<b>Grade 2</b>	104	88	80	40	36	32	28	24
<b>Grade 3</b>	96	80	72	36	32	28	24	20
<b>Grade 4</b>	88	72	64	32	28	24	20	16
<b>Grade 5</b>	80	64	56	28	24	20	16	12
<b>Maiden</b>	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
<b>Division B</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	84	72	66	33	30	27	24	21
<b>Grade 2</b>	78	66	60	30	27	24	21	18
<b>Grade 3</b>	72	60	54	27	24	21	18	15
<b>Grade 4</b>	66	54	48	24	21	18	15	12
<b>Grade 5</b>	60	48	42	21	18	15	12	9
<b>Maiden</b>	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
<b>Division C</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	56	48	44	22	20	18	16	14
<b>Grade 2</b>	52	44	40	20	18	16	14	12
<b>Grade 3</b>	48	40	36	18	16	14	12	10
<b>Grade 4</b>	44	36	32	16	14	12	10	8
<b>Grade 5</b>	40	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
<b>Maiden</b>	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6

### Pro Rata

Greyhounds that have not yet competed in five (5) starts are allocated points on a pro-rata or an average over five (5) starts with a weighting of 80% applied to the "pro-rata" points. To calculate the points of a greyhound that has not competed in five (5) starts you divide the greyhound's total points by the amount of starts it has competed in, then you multiply the new average by the difference between 5 and the number of actual starts and after applying the 80% discount weighting add the result to the actual points earned from the greyhound's starts.

#### Examples for working out the points of greyhounds using this method:

**One Start** = 36 points  $36 / 1 = 36$   $36 \times 4 = 144$   $144 \times 0.8 = 115$   $115 + 36 = 151$  points

**Two Starts** = 46 points  $46 / 2 = 23$   $23 \times 3 = 69$   $69 \times 0.8 = 55$   $55 + 46 = 101$  points

**Four Starts** = 84 points  $84 / 4 = 21$   $21 \times 1 = 21$   $21 \times 0.8 = 16$   $16 + 84 = 100$  points