



**OFFICIAL  
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

RELEASE 23.2 - JANUARY 1, 2023

AS APPROVED BY THE MEMBER CLUBS

TABLE OF CONTENTS – LGRA Rules Release  
23.2

**NOTE: Changes for 2023**

CHAPTER I - GENERAL RULES .....	1
1.0 Purpose.	
1.1 Eligible Breeds	
1.1.1 Approval Process For New Breeds	
1.2 Registration Requirements	
1.2.1 Approved Registries	
1.2.2 Registration with LGRA .....	2
1.3 Rules Committee and Rule Change Proposals	
1.3.1 Rule Change Proposals and Election Of Officers	
1.3.2 Qualifying Clubs	
1.4 The Official Race Meet	
1.4.1 Rule Change Proposals and Election of Officers	
1.4.2 Qualifying Clubs	
1.5 THE OFFICIAL RACE MEET	
1.6 Age Requirement	
1.7 Risk and Responsibility .....	3
1.8 The Host Club	
1.9 The Host Club Race Committee	
1.10 Entry Fees	
1.11 Qualifying To Race	
1.12 Minimum Starters For An Official Meet	
1.13 <b>Owner/Handler Sportsmanship</b>	
CHAPTER II - REQUESTING AN OFFICIAL RACE MEET .....	4
2.1 Request For Certification	
2.1.1 Submitting A Request For Next Year’s Calendar	
2.1.2 Submitting A Request For Additions/Changes To The Current Calendar	
2.1.3 Submitting A Request For The LGRA Nationals	
2.1.4 Rescheduling canceled meets	
2.2 Reporting Results Of An Official Race Meet .....	5
2.2.1 Phoned In/Email Results	
2.2.2 Results By Mail or Electronic Submission .....	6
2.2.3 Recordkeeping	
2.3 Parent Club National Specialties	
CHAPTER III – OFFICIALS .....	7
3.1 General	
3.2 Host Club Race Secretary	
3.3 Inspection Committee.....	8
3.4 <b>Race Committee</b>	
3.5 Foul Judges	
3.6 Finish Line Judges .....	9
3.6.1 Use of Camera To Determine Finish	
3.6.1.1 Placements after review .....	10
3.7 Scorekeeper	
3.8 Lure Operator.....	11
3.9 Starter and Assistant Starter	
3.9.1 Starting Boxes	

3.9.2 Hand Slip	
3.9.3 Other Duties	
CHAPTER IV – RUNNING THE OFFICIAL RACE MEET .....	12
4.1 The Race Format	
4.1.1 Distance	
4.1.2 Number Of Programs	
4.1.3 Grouping for First Program	
4.1.4 Rotating The Racers	
4.2 The Grading System.....	12
4.2.1 Initial Grading	
4.2.2 Grading With LGRA Records.....	13
4.2.2.1 Three Meets	
4.2.2.2 Two Meets	
4.2.2.3 One Meet	
4.2.2.4 Dogs Running Alone	
4.2.2.5 Assigning Grades.....	14
4.3 Graded Meets .....	14
4.3.1 Initial Meet Setup	
4.3.1.1 Using The Grading Guide	
4.3.1.2 Grading Guide Unavailable	
4.3.1.3 First Time Entered	
4.3.2 Selection Of Post Position	
4.3.3 First Program Draw .....	15
4.3.4 Second and Third Program Draw – Rotation By Points	
4.3.4.1 Ties	
4.3.4.2 Post Positions .....	16
4.3.5 Scoring the Meet	
4.4 Ungraded Meets	
4.4.1 Grouping for Ungraded Races	
4.4.2 Scoring Ungraded Races	
4.5 Sample Forms	
CHAPTER V – TROPHIES, AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS .....	17
5.1 Trophies	
5.2 Large Gazehound Racing Championship	
5.2.1 National Points.....	18
5.3 Superior Gazehound Racing Championship	
5.4 <b>Junior and Senior Racer Merit Titles</b> .....	19
CHAPTER VI – DISQUALIFICATION, DISMISSAL, BARRED, SCRATCHES, PROTEST .....	20
6.1 Disqualification For Intentional Foul	
6.1.1 Retaliation	
6.1.2 Uncertain Judge	
6.1.3 Placing and Points	
6.1.4 Penalty	
6.1.5 Appeal from Permanent Disqualification .....	21
6.2 <b>Dismissal</b>	
6.3 Barred From Racing	
6.4 Scratches.....	22
6.5 No Race; Rerun of a Race	
6.5.1 Options Instead of a Second Rerun.....	23
6.6 Protesting The Race Meet	

CHAPTER VII – RACE TRACK AND EQUIPMENT.....	24
7.1 Race Track	
7.2 Paddock Area	
7.3 Loud Speaker	
7.4 Blankets	
7.5 Racing Muzzles.....	25
7.6 Starting Box	
7.7 Lure and Lure Machine	
CHAPTER VIII – CHARTS AND FORMS .....	26
8.1 Race Set-up Chart .....	27
8.2 Race Meet Points.....	28
8.3 LGRA Race Meet Entry Form.....	29
8.4 Placing Judge Report.....	30
8.5 Official Foul Judge Report.....	31
8.6 Scoring Sheet.....	32
8.7 LGRA Regions .....	33

## **LGRA Rules Release 23.2**

### **CHAPTER I - GENERAL RULES**

#### **1.1 PURPOSE**

The Large Gazehound Racing Association (LGRA) has prepared these Official Rules and Regulations for Sprint Track racing to encourage competition within each breed of registered Gazehound, other than Whippet, under a uniformly high standard and to offer to Clubs a Sprint program for Gazehounds complementary to the excellent programs already enjoyed by Whippets, such as the Whippet Racing Association, the North American Whippet Racing Association and the Continental Whippet Alliance. Included is a Gazehound Racing Championship (GRC) award program designed to reward excellence in racing Gazehounds when they have met the necessary GRC point requirements. Every effort has been made to offer a set of rules that can be operated effectively and honestly by local race clubs.

#### **1.2 ELIGIBLE BREEDS**

Only purebred Afghan Hounds, Azawakh, Basenji, Borzoi, Chart Polski, Cirneco dell'Etna, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Italian Greyhounds, Magyar Agar, Pharaoh Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Medio/Grande, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Silken Windhounds, and Sloughi may be entered in an Official Race Meet held under these Rules and Regulations.

##### **1.2.1 Approval process for new breeds**

Any new gazehound breeds shall be given provisional eligibility, prior to a new racing season, upon written request from a LGRA Member Club. This request shall be announced on the LGRA email list to all LGRA clubs so they may participate in the Provisional process. Final breed eligibility will be by a vote of LGRA Member Clubs in the year-end ballot process and the breed will gain eligibility by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the ballots cast. Any new breed applying for provisional status during a current racing season will be accepted for that year but will not be voted on until the following year's ballot. The Race Secretary hosting a meet with provisional dogs will submit a short report to the NRD describing the races and performance of the provisional dogs, as well as any information relevant to their possible acceptance as a LGRA breed. This report will be published on the LGRA website. Championship points may be earned during this time and awarded upon breed eligibility.

#### **1.3 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

##### **1.3.1 Approved Registries**

All hounds must be registered with LGRA. The hounds must be individually registered with a recognized registry for purebred Gazehounds in order to register with LGRA.

The following registries are approved by LGRA: American Kennel Club (AKC), Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), United Kennel Club (UKC), National Greyhound Association (NGA), or any recognized foreign registry for pure-bred progeny of Gazehound breeds. Hounds registered with the AKC under Indefinite Listing Privilege (ILP) or Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL), UKC Limited Privilege (LP) and CKC Performance Event Number (PEN) may also be registered.

Foreign registered Gazehounds not yet registered in the United States may register provisionally until an approved registration is obtained.

The person entering a hound for racing must be the actual owner, or agent of the owner, or be in possession of papers transferring said ownership to the person entering the hound.

### **1.3.2 Registration with LGRA**

Registration is accomplished by sending to LGRA a copy of the individual registration papers (described in 1.2.1) with a fee of \$2.00 U.S. per dog. This should be done at least two weeks prior to entering a meet; otherwise the dog may be registered on the day of the meet by submitting the above requirements to the meet Race Secretary for forwarding to LGRA along with the Official Meet Results. Provisional registration numbers may be obtained on the LGRA website, [www.lgra.org](http://www.lgra.org), but are not permanent until the individual registration papers and fees have been received by the LGRA Registrar. LGRA Registration is for the life of the dog.

## **1.4 RULES COMMITTEE AND RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS**

The National Race Director will establish the policy and, subject to approval of the Association's Members, the rules of conduct of the Association's Race Program. The Club Members shall implement and enforce the Association's rules and policy when sponsoring a race meet.

### **1.4.1 Rule Change Proposals and Election of Officers**

Member Club Delegates shall forward proposed rule changes to the National Race Director by October 10<sup>th</sup> of each year. The National Race Director shall forward them to the Rules Committee for comment by October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. The Secretary shall prepare written ballots for the proposed rule changes and no later than November 20<sup>th</sup> and send one ballot to each Member Club Delegate, who shall vote promptly and return the marked ballot by mail to the Secretary postmarked no later than midnight Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, in order to be counted per the By-Laws. On odd years, the ballot will include the nominees running for Officer positions. Amendments to the racing rules shall be by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the ballots cast.

### **1.4.2 Qualifying Clubs**

To qualify for participation in the Rule Change and election process, clubs must have held or co-hosted at least one sanctioned LGRA meet during the 12 month period Nov. 21 thru Nov. 20 of the voting year (i.e., ballot to ballot).

## **1.5 THE OFFICIAL RACE MEET**

The Official Race Meet will be offered to all eligible Gazehound breeds. Starting may be by a suitable starting box, if available, or by a hand slip. The method of starting will be advertised by the Club prior to the Meet by a premium list sent to owners of prospective entrants and posted on the LGRA Internet List. All racers must wear racing muzzles and correctly colored and numbered jackets. Hounds will compete only against other hounds of the same breed.

## **1.6 AGE REQUIREMENT**

Hounds must be 1 year of age or older on the day of an Official Race Meet to be entered.

### **1.7 RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The owner or agent entering a Gazehound in a LGRA meet assumes all risk and responsibility for loss or injury suffered or caused by his or her hound while on the grounds or near the entrance of the race meet.

### **1.8 THE HOST CLUB**

The Host Club for an Official Race Meet is the club, group, association, or individual that puts on the meet. The Host Club must be licensed by LGRA and must agree to abide by these Rules and Regulations.

The Host Club must have a copy of the current Rule Book available to exhibitors at every meet.

### **1.9 THE HOST CLUB RACE COMMITTEE**

Prior to the start of an Official Race Meet, the Race Secretary shall appoint a Race Committee of three persons, to be announced prior to the start of racing. Other than judges' decisions, the rulings of this committee are final in all matters occurring on the day of the Official Meet, subject to these Rules and Regulations.

### **1.10 ENTRY FEES**

Entry fees shall be fixed by the Host Club and shall be forfeited if a hound is disqualified, dismissed or scratched from racing for cause except as follows: 1. Bitches in season which come in after entry is made shall have their fees refunded; and 2. Hounds which are determined to be lame, obviously sick, or in season by the Inspection Committee prior to completing any races shall be barred from racing and have their entry fees refunded.

### **1.11 QUALIFYING TO RACE**

The Host Club Race Secretary may order a qualifying run with or without other hounds for any hound which has not previously raced at an Official meet, i.e., the Hound is First Time Entered (FTE), or has only Disqualified, Did Not Finish, or Off Course on his racing record. Hounds qualified for National Oval Track Racing Association (NOTRA) meets are considered already qualified for LGRA. Qualifying runs can be held at practice races or before an Official Meet. Entries at Official Meets should only be accepted for hounds which are qualified to race.

### **1.12 MINIMUM STARTERS FOR AN OFFICIAL MEET**

The minimum starters for an Official Meet shall be two (2) starters of the same breed.

### **1.13 OWNER/HANDLER SPORTSMANSHIP**

Owners/Handlers at LGRA events accept and agree to abide by the LGRA rules and generally accepted rules of conduct and good sportsmanship. Further, they shall pick up after their hound, keep the grounds clean, and treat their hounds with respect and in a humane manner.

Any verbal or physical abuse at sanctioned LGRA events will not be tolerated. Handlers, owners, or attendees found to be in violation of this rule will be asked to leave the premises by the Race Committee.

## **CHAPTER II - REQUESTING AN OFFICIAL RACE MEET**

### **2.1 REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION**

Any club, group, association or individual may request certification from LGRA to hold an Official Race Meet. Such a group or individual is referred to as the Host Club. They should be knowledgeable and experienced, and able to properly conduct an Official Meet.

#### **2.1.1 Submitting a request for next year's Calendar**

Annually by November 20<sup>th</sup>, each Member Club Delegate shall submit a request to the Secretary by mail or e-mail for next year's Calendar. A Race Meet Request form is available from the Secretary or on the LGRA website, [www.lgra.org](http://www.lgra.org), to facilitate meet requests. The application must include the dates requested, location, the method of starting for each breed, the name of the Host Club, and the name of the Host Club Race Secretary and Delegate. If only one breed is offered, the request should specify regional or annual national specialty. Priority for a given date will be based on the previous year's calendar. Requests received after November 20<sup>th</sup> will be considered based on date of submission.

#### **2.1.2 Submitting a request for additions/changes to the current calendar.**

(a) The request for certification to hold an Official Race Meet or change a scheduled date/site should be submitted to the Secretary at least 30 days prior to the date requested. It must specify the date, location, breeds for which races are to be offered, the method of starting for each breed, the name of the Host Club, and the name of the Host Club Race Secretary and Delegate. A Race Meet Request form is available from the Secretary or on the LGRA website, [www.lgra.org](http://www.lgra.org), to facilitate meet requests. The Secretary shall submit all requested additions/changes to the National Race Director for final approval.

(b) When a LGRA/NOTRA weekend is scheduled and field conditions make it impossible to hold the NOTRA meet at the same site, the Race Secretary should immediately notify the National Race Director via email or telephone. The NRD may allow an unscheduled LGRA meet to be held in lieu of the NOTRA meet. In the event the NRD cannot be reached, another LGRA Board member may be contacted to approve this change, with notification made to the NRD as soon as possible.

#### **2.1.3 Submitting a Request for the LGRA Nationals**

The request for certification to hold the annual National Race Meet should be submitted to the National Race Director between October 15<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>, to be included on the ballot to be mailed by November 20<sup>th</sup>. The request should specify the date, location, the method of starting for each breed, the length, width and height of the starting box holes, the name of the Host Club, and the name of the Host Club Race Secretary and Delegate. If only one breed is offered, the request should specify regional or annual national specialty. The request should also include details of the proposed site, a photo of the starting box, the format of the meet (one or two days), and accommodations offered.

Whenever possible, the Nationals should be rotated between the Northwest, Southwest, Midwest, East, and Southeast Regions based on the following:

(see map, Figure 8.7)

Northwest	Southwest	Midwest	East	Southeast
2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
2026	2027	2028	2029	Continuing

Northwest: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Yukon

Southwest: Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Manitoba, Nunavut, Ontario, Saskatchewan

East: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Vermont, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec

Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.

Each request will be reviewed by the Board of Governors prior to inclusion on the ballot. The Host Club may be asked to revise the request accordingly. All requests submitted will be included on the ballot. The site of the Nationals will be determined by a simple majority of Member Clubs voting. In the event of a tie, the Board of Governors will determine the site, based on the merits of each proposal.

#### **2.1.4 Rescheduling canceled meets**

Canceled meets may be rescheduled within the 30 days following the original meet date(s) provided the host club submits a request for the make-up meet to the Secretary within 7 days of cancellation, the make-up date is at least 7 days from the date of request, and the make-up date falls within the same calendar year as the canceled meet. The date and location of the make-up meet must be specified in the request.

## **2.2 REPORTING RESULTS OF AN OFFICIAL RACE MEET**

### **2.2.1 Phoned in/email Results.**

Within 48 hours of a meet, the Host Club Race Secretary must phone or email in the following to the Registrar/Recorder: (See NOTE below regarding fines.)

- (a) Number of hounds starting in each breed.
- (b) The LGRA registration numbers (LRN) and the “call” name of each starter.  
If not registered with LGRA, the registered names of the starters and the owners’ names and addresses must be included.
- (c) The placing and meet score earned by each starter.
- (d) All First Time Entered (FTE), Disqualifications (DQ), Off Course (OC), Did Not Finish (DNF), and Scratch (S) with Race Number scratched from, i.e., ran race 1, did not run race 2, show S2.
- (e) The results of each race, indicating any reruns.

**NOTE:** Failure to comply with the 48 hour rule will result in a \$10.00 fine per day for every day late.

### **2.2.2 Results by Mail or Electronic Submission**

Within 7 days of a meet, the Host Club Race Secretary will submit a written or electronic report of the race meet to the Registrar/Recorder which will include the information required in 2.2.1 plus copies of all foul judge sheets where a foul was recorded and registration papers on all FTE dogs. Reports submitted electronically must contain clearly legible scanned copies of all required documentation. (See NOTE below regarding fines.)

There will be a \$1.00 U.S. per capita assessed on each dog running in each LGRA meet, and a \$2.00 U.S. registration fee for all FTE dogs. (See By-Laws Section 2.03 (b) and Rulebook Section 1.2.2.)

There are two options for submitting these fees: they may be sent by mail directly to the LGRA Treasurer, or they may be paid by PayPal. Any club wishing to pay in this manner should contact the Treasurer directly for the information.

As described in section 1.1.1 Approval process for new breeds, the Race Secretary will also submit a short report to the NRD should the meet entry include provisional breeds.

**NOTE:** Failure to comply with the 7 day rule will result in a \$10.00 fine per day for every day late.

### **2.2.3 Recordkeeping**

The results of the meet will not be recorded in the permanent records of LGRA nor will points towards a Gazehound Racing Champion be awarded until all necessary results and fees have been received.

## **2.3 PARENT CLUB NATIONAL SPECIALTIES**

A parent breed club may hold a LGRA meet as part of its annual national specialty.

The LGRA meet will be allowed regardless of the distance from other clubs' LGRA meets held on the same day.

In order for this rule to apply, the following must be met:

- i) LGRA is to be held as part of the parent breed club's annual national specialty, which also includes conformation.
- ii) The parent breed club must be a LGRA-approved club.
- iii) The parent breed club has chosen to hold the national specialty LGRA meet separately from any local club's regularly scheduled meet.
- iv) The parent breed club's annual specialty LGRA will not interfere with any regularly scheduled local meets. If a local club already has a meet scheduled in the same place on the same day that the parent breed club annual specialty LGRA meet will be held, then the meet must be scheduled either before or after the regularly scheduled local LGRA meet.

Regional specialties will still be bound by the current 400-mile policy. This rule only applies to parent breed club annual national specialties.

## CHAPTER III –OFFICIALS

### 3.1 GENERAL

Each Official Race Meet must use well-trained, competent and strictly honest officials. They *must not* be under the influence of alcohol or drugs or consume such items while acting as officials. Each Official Race Meet must have the following officials (their duties are listed):

### 3.2 HOST CLUB RACE SECRETARY

The Host Club Race Secretary will perform the following:

- (a) Applies to LGRA (or asks the Host Club Delegate to apply) for certification from LGRA to hold an Official Race Meet as described in 2.1.1.
- (b) Accepts entries for the meet and prepares a program for the meet which lists entries by breed, WAVE, name of hound and owner.
- (c) Collects all records of the meet and reports them to the Registrar/Recorder as outlined in 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.
- (d) Maintains an up-to-date knowledge of the racing ability and WAVE of each hound racing at Official Meets and assures that hounds start in the correct race.
- (e) Chairman of the Race Committee.
- (f) Calls the exhibitors together for a pre-race meeting prior to the start of each race meet.
- (g) Announces the members of the Race Committee, appoints officials and other persons needed for the set-up and operation of the meet, and restates the information in the Rule Book regarding what is a foul and what is a DNF to all the participants.
- (h) Assures that a copy of the current Rule Book is on hand.
- (i) Assures that all trophies and awards are on hand.
- (j) Provides grounds for the meet, arranges for clean-up before and after the meet.
- (k) Arranges for the set-up of the track when required.
- (l) Assures that all equipment and supplies are on hand and functional.
- (m) Coordinates the operation of the meet.
- (n) Conducts a public draw for each program of racing.
- (o) Calls the roll of the entered hounds before the draw for the first program of racing.
- (p) Calls up each race such that the meet is run efficiently without delay.

- (q) Announces the official order of finish of each race after receiving reports and consulting with Finish Line and Foul Judges and the Starter. Intentional fouls, possible fouls and pre-slips should be reported to the owner(s) immediately after the race. Such a report MUST be made no later than the start of the next program draw.
- (r) Assures that accurate score keeping is done on Official Record Sheets.
- (s) Rotates the racers by similar points for each program of racing in accordance with the scoring system.
- (t) Assures that the placing and scores are correctly listed on the scoreboard.

### **3.3 INSPECTION COMMITTEE**

The Inspection Committee shall consist of two knowledgeable individuals. At Roll Call, they inspect each Hound entered for lameness, sickness, being in season, and adequacy of muzzles.

### **3.4 RACE COMMITTEE**

The Race Committee consists of 3 knowledgeable individuals including the Race Secretary. They will perform the following:

- (a) Render a decision on any question regarding interpretation of the LGRA Rules and Regulations.
- (b) Render a decision on any complaint or protest lodged by any owner or handler of a racer.
- (c) Supply a written decision when requested by the person lodging the protest or complaint.
- (d) Rule on barring, scratching, dismissing, or disqualifying a racer based on the reports of the concerned officials.
- (e) Accept handler, owner, or attendee complaints about sportsmanship violations. Rule on the outcome of the complaint. The race secretary or delegate will be required to submit the Race Committee's decision in writing to the LGRA board any violations of rule 1.13 OWNER/HANDLER SPORTSMANSHIP when submitting race results.

### **3.5 FOUL JUDGES**

The Race Secretary shall appoint qualified Foul Judges prior to the running of a race. A Head Foul Judge may be appointed to assure that there are enough qualified judges for each race, and that judges do not have an interest in hounds entered in the race (i.e., owner, co-owner, handler). Two Foul Judges are required, but three preferred. Depending on the number of qualified officials, the Race Secretary may appoint the box operator/starter as the third Foul Judge.

Foul Judges should stand at appropriate locations on opposite sides of the track. If three judges, the first judge should be approximately 50 yards from the box, the third judge should be at the finish line and the second judge approximately halfway in between.

If only two judges, one should be within 8-10 feet of the finish line with the other halfway down the track.

Each Foul Judge must be well trained and experienced to carefully observe **the entire** race and determine whether there was “No Problem”, “No Race”, “Off Course”, “Possible Foul”, “Disqualifying Intentional Foul”. Each judge must also determine which racers are involved. Before conferring with anyone each Judge must make a written report to the Race Secretary of any problem on the Official Foul Judge Sheet (Fig. 8.5).

When a “Disqualifying Intentional Foul” is called, at least 2 judges must agree that it occurred and agree on the identity of the interfering Hound. It is not necessary that the judges agree on the identity of the hound(s) that suffered the interference. If there is lack of agreement about the identity of the interfering Hound, it should be called a “Possible Foul”.

### **3.6 FINISH LINE JUDGES**

The Race Secretary shall appoint qualified Finish Line Judges prior to the running of a race. A Head Finish Line Judge may be appointed to assure that there are enough qualified judges for a race. A judge should not have an interest in a hound entered in the race to be judged. Qualified judges may officiate races in which their own dogs might be competing only if there is a shortage of officials and with agreement of the owner/handlers involved.

There must be at least two line judges for low point races and four line judges are recommended for high point races and when the races are very competitive. There must always be an equal number of line judges on each side of the track. The Finish Line Judges must be thoroughly qualified to accurately determine the order of finish of each race. One judge is designated “Head Judge”. Each Judge should carefully observe the order of finish of each race while standing well back from the track for good visibility, and, preferably from an elevated stand, at the Finish Line.

Immediately after each race, without conferring with anybody, they should each write the order of finish of every dog by number or color of racing jackets on the Finish Line Judges Report. The Reports are given to the “Head Judge” for correlation. The majority decides a difference of opinion. A tie should be called if the judges are equally split or if there is a very strong disagreement on a placing.

The outcome of the race for every racer must be indicated. A dog that leaves the track at any time prior to crossing the finish line shall be scored as ‘off course’. A dog that does not cross the finish line or crosses the finish line only after receiving assistance from a person or persons on the track should be scored as “did not finish”.

Results are not final until posted on the meet Scoreboard after reports of the Foul Judges have been considered.

#### **3.6.1 Use of Camera To Determine Finish**

Video cameras may be used to settle cases of disagreement or confusion over the order of the finish. If the judges do not agree on what they see in the recording the methods enumerated in these rules will be used to settle the dispute based on what each sees in the recording.

The use of video equipment shall be in a supplemental mode and will not replace the placing judges. If used, the following procedure must be used on each race.

- 1) The placing judges will call the race as usual. If there is a disagreement among the placing judges, they (and no one else) may call a photo finish. When this happens, the race will be posted as a photo finish. The resolution of this race shall take place prior to the running of the next race.

(a) All placing judges for that race will immediately proceed to the viewing area along with the video and video operator.

(b) Only the placing judges of the disputed or tied race and the video operator shall review the finish. After the placing judges review the video, they shall announce their results. These results shall become official and posted on the scoreboard

- 2) An owner may protest the FINISH of a race and must do so before the running of the next race. The judges will view the tape and rule on the finish. The owner will be allowed to view the video of the protested race with the judges but may not participate in, or attempt to influence, any discussion of what is viewed.

**Cameras:** The camera shall be a digital video camera capable of recording moving images in a digital format and playing them back in slow or stop motion with no loss of clarity. The playback equipment must be able to view individual frames in a stop motion format.

**Mounting and Positioning:** The camera will be on a firm base at least 5 feet (60 inches) above the ground and on the side of the track which gets the best light to see the dogs, the idea is that no dog is hidden behind any other dog, with higher mounting preferable. A camera on each side of the track is preferable to one mounted on one side of the track, to catch dogs not seen by the other camera.

Ideally the camera would be mounted over the center of the track with enough height to see the full track width. The camera shall be placed on the finish line and pointed across the track with a clear view of the full width of the finish line and track. The camera will not follow the dogs down the track. It will allow the dogs to run through its field of view. The camera will have an unimpeded view of the finish.

**Use:** The camera shall be set to the fastest shutter speed, called Action Mode on some cameras, to achieve the greatest clarity. The camera will record the program and race numbers, preferably before the race. The recording of the program and dogs may be visual or audio. The camera should be started before the race starts and shall run until after all dogs that finish cross the finish line.

**Retention:** The recordings will be retained until at least two (2) hours after the last race is run for the day.

#### **3.6.1.1 Placements after review**

Once the final placements are determined, under no circumstances should these placements be reversed.

### **3.7 SCOREKEEPER**

The Race Secretary may appoint a Scorekeeper, who will record the placements communicated by the Head Finish Line Judge in the Records of the race meet and on the scoreboard. The Scorekeeper shall also announce the hounds for each race and shall direct them to the starting box/line when they are properly blanketed and muzzled, after the Starter has signaled readiness.

All hounds shall exit the paddock area onto the track as directed and shall proceed as a group to the starting box/line. THE SCOREKEEPER SHALL NOT PERMIT A HOUND TO RACE UNLESS IT WEARS A MUZZLE THAT IS ACCEPTABLE AND IN GOOD CONDITION.

### **3.8 LURE OPERATOR**

The lure operator shall examine the lure machine to assure its proper operation after the lure has been taken to the start. The lure operator shall endeavor to keep the lure approximately 30 feet ahead of the lead hound. The lure operator shall endeavor to operate the lure as smoothly as possible down the course and shall continue the lure past the finish line at full speed. If possible, the lure should not be stopped until the last hound has crossed the finish line.

### **3.9 STARTER AND ASSISTANT STARTER**

#### **3.9.1 Starting Boxes**

Using a starting box is the preferred method for starting races for all breeds. Hand slipping is permitted. Changing the published starting method is allowed only under extreme circumstances.

For a box start, the lure should be placed 15 feet in front of and centered in front of the starting box with some slack in the line. The lure should be in clear view of all the racers.

#### **3.9.2 Hand Slip**

In the event that the meet is scheduled as a box start and for reasons beyond the control of the Race Secretary, the box is unavailable or inoperable, the meet may be hand slipped. The reasons for the change must be clearly stated and accompany the meet results as reported to the Registrar/Recorder. When a club repeatedly has the box unavailable or inoperable despite advertising a boxed meet, the club may be liable for suspension and/or voiding of all meets held under these circumstances.

When hand slipping is used to start a race, the lure will be placed 10 feet in front of the hounds with no slack. The hounds will be held behind the starting line in blanket order. Handlers may restrain the hounds in any fashion as long as it does not interfere with the start of another hound.

The Starter will ask the handlers if they are ready and after receiving a verbal response will signal the lure operator to start the lure. A hound will be penalized into last place for that race if it is pre-slipped (i.e., released before the movement of the lure). A pre-slip is called by the Starter. If there is an Assistant Starter assigned to that race, both the Starter and Assistant Starter must agree on the pre-slip.

#### **3.9.3 Other Duties**

The Starters check all racers and equipment at the starting box/starting line and assist in the loading of the racers into the starting box by numerical order.

They assure that no owner or handler touches the lure or teases the hounds with the lure.

The starters must immediately inform the Race Committee of any hound which unduly delays racing by refusing to face forward in the starting box, or which removes its muzzle several times at the start, or which refuses to walk to the start, or any similar actions that delay the start of the race for dogs that are already at the start line. (See Section 6.4 Scratches.)

## **CHAPTER IV - RUNNING THE OFFICIAL RACE MEET**

### **4.1 THE RACE FORMAT**

The Race Format consists of the distance of the races, the number of programs of racing (the number of times each racer runs in a meet), the number of racers in each race, and the method of rotating racers for each program of racing.

#### **4.1.1 Distance**

The distance of a LGRA Sprint course is 200 yards.

#### **4.1.2 Number of Programs**

The Official Race Meet consists of three programs of racing in which an entrant can race once in each program. If a racer does not start in one program, it is automatically scratched from subsequent programs. Each racer is assigned to a specific race in each program, either through use of the grading guide (first program) or scores earned in prior races (second and third programs). If the racer fails to run in its assigned race, it cannot be placed in any subsequent race in the same program.

In order for a meet to be official, all programs planned must be completed. Programs can be arranged to run each breed in sequence or intermingled. However, no hound should be required to race without a 30-minute rest between programs unless a rerun is required. A rerun may be run with less than 30 minutes rest depending on the length of the first run and with consent of the owner/handlers.

#### **4.1.3 Grouping for First Program**

Racers are to be grouped for the first program by a point system described in Section 4.3.1, Initial Meet Setup.

#### **4.1.4 Rotating the Racers**

Racers are to be rotated for the second and third programs by a point system described in Section 4.3.4, Second and Third Program Draw.

### **4.2 THE GRADING SYSTEM**

The object of the Grading System is to match racers against each other by a point system based on racing ability. Racers are not divided by sex or any other factor. All racers shall have a Grade classification A, B, C or D in the First Program of a meet using Graded Races. After each meet, each hound will have its Grade reevaluated depending on its performance in the meet.

#### **4.2.1 Initial Grading**

A hound with no previous race record at Official Race Meets starts in Grade D, with the following exceptions:

- 1) A dog may be started as a Grade C based on the results of schooling races and at the Race Secretary's discretion;
- 2) A hound that has raced in Official NOTRA Meets should be initially graded according to its NOTRA record by reducing its NOTRA grade by one grade.

#### **4.2.2 Grading with LGRA Records**

When a dog entered for an Official Race Meet has previously raced at Official Race Meets, it should be graded based on its current LGRA record.

##### **4.2.2.1 Three Meets**

When the dog has three or more meets on its racing record, only the last three meets entered are considered. When these three meets are complete, the weighted average (WAVE) is calculated as follows:

$$[(\text{meet 1}) + 0.7(\text{meet 2}) + 0.5(\text{meet 3})] / 2.2$$

where meet 1 is the most recent.

When the last three meets are all incomplete, the WAVE is the average of the scores.

##### **4.2.2.2 Two Meets**

When the dog has two complete meets within the last three, or ONLY two meets, both of which are complete, the weighted average (WAVE) is calculated as follows:

$$[(\text{complete meet 1}) + 0.7(\text{complete meet 2})] / 1.7$$

When a dog has only two meets in its record, both incomplete, the WAVE is the average of the scores.

##### **4.2.2.3 One Meet**

When the dog has only one complete meet within the last three, the WAVE is the score earned in that one complete meet.

If the dog has only one meet in its record and that meet is complete or incomplete, the WAVE is the score earned in that meet

##### **4.2.2.4 Dogs Running Alone**

The minimum number of dogs necessary for an official meet is two of the same breed (i.e. 2 Afghans for an Afghan meet or 2 Greyhounds for a Greyhound meet). A dog running alone does NOT earn points. A dog that runs all three programs alone will be considered as having run a schooling meet and no WAVE will be assigned. If the dog has previously run with competition, the WAVE will remain unchanged from the last meet with competition when next entered.

If the dog has never entered a meet with competition, it will be considered an FTE at the first meet where it runs with competition. (See Section 4.3.1.3, First Time Entered.)

#### 4.2.2.5 Assigning Grades

Grades are only used for dogs that have raced and obtained a WAVE in either NOTRA or CARA. See Section 4.2.1.

GRADE	WAVE
A	11 thru 22
B	8 thru 10.999
C	5.5 thru 7.999
D	Less than 5 .5

### 4.3 GRADED MEETS

Entrants who are recorded in the Grading Guide have previously participated in Official Race Meets and therefore should be run in graded meets. See also Section 4.4, Ungraded Meets.

#### 4.3.1 Initial Meet Setup

The Race Secretary, together with a committee of not more than two other qualified persons, make up the races for the first program.

##### 4.3.1.1 Using the Grading Guide

Use of the Grading Guide WAVES simplifies the grouping process and provides an objective basis for the grouping of the racers for the first program. The Race Secretary and committee should use the Grading Guide and the WAVES when available. The entered racers should first be listed in the order of their WAVE as listed in the Grading Guide.

##### 4.3.1.2 Grading Guide Unavailable

Segregate the entered hounds by grade. A knowledgeable Race Secretary will also group the better racers in each grade and the slower racers in each grade. The Race Set-up Chart (Figure 8.1) shows the required number of racers in each race and the order in which the races are to be run depending on the total number of starters in the program. The race groupings and the race order must conform to this chart. Grades may be combined to best fill the races according to the chart.

##### 4.3.1.3 First Time Entered

In accordance with Section 4.2.1, Initial Grading, First Time Entered (FTE) starters may be inserted in an appropriate group based on their NOTRA record (not higher than Grade B), schooling races (not higher than Grade C), or placed with Grade D racers as appropriate.

#### 4.3.2 Selection of Post Position

After the racers are grouped for each race, post positions are selected by random draw.

A truly random draw requires three people, one to shuffle the name tags of the racers, one to draw the name, and one to draw the post position. A suggested method is to have colored marbles or poker chips marked with the numbers 1 through 4. The name tags should be shuffled by the scorekeeper, one tag drawn by a second person, and a numbered post position then drawn by the third person.

Another possible method is to have the tags shuffled by the scorekeeper, drawn by a second person, and a post position called by a third person.

Each racer is to wear a racing jacket with the number of its post position and the appropriate color for that number.

### **4.3.3 First Program Draw**

The High Point race always has four dogs, as does the Low Point race when possible. If there are too few dogs to fill the intervening races with four dogs, the two and three dog races are always the LOWEST races. See Figure 8.1, Race Set-Up Chart.

The Race Set-Up Chart (Figure 8.1) shows the number of racers in each race and the order in which the races are to be run depending on the total number of starters. The WAVE of each racer is to be used as follows to make up the first program of races: The racers with the 4 highest WAVES are grouped for the highest or Grade A race. The racers with the next highest group of WAVES are then grouped for the next lower race. The use of WAVES in this manner is continued until all the racers are grouped. The High Point race always has four dogs, as does the Low Point race when possible. If there are too few dogs to fill the intervening races with four dogs, the two and three dog races are the LOWEST races. See Figure 8.1, Race Set-Up Chart.

Using the grouping method above, all racers are assigned to specific races. Within a breed, low point races are run first, and high point races are run last. Any racer that does not compete in its assigned race for whatever reason cannot be added to a subsequent race in the same program.

### **4.3.4 Second and Third Program Draw - Rotation by Points**

After the first program, the grade designations are dropped, and the racers are regrouped for the next program by the points earned in the first program. The Race Set-Up Chart (Figure 8.1) is used to determine the number of racers in each race depending on the total number of racers available for the next program. The procedure is to work from the “High Score” race down to the “Lowest Score” race grouping the racers with the same points and with lower points if needed to fill out a race, to make up the races for the next program.

#### **4.3.4.1 Ties**

If racers have equal points, the following rule is to be used if the hounds are tied within a race. Add together all the scores of the tied racers and divide by the number of dogs that are tied. Distribute the points equally among the dogs.

If racers have equal points, the following rule is to be used if they need to be divided between races in the subsequent program: The racer that ran in the “Higher” race must be grouped into the “Higher” race in the next program; if the racers were in the same race, the racer that placed higher must be grouped into the “Higher” race in the next program. If dogs are tied, looking back to the last program in which they were not tied should place the racers. If this is the first program, looking back to the Grading Guide will place the racers. The dog with the higher WAVE will be placed in the higher race in the next program.

#### **4.3.4.2 Post Position**

Actual post positions in each group are reset by random draw for programs two and three as described in Section 4.3.2, Selection of Post Position.

#### **4.3.5 Scoring the Meet**

Points are awarded to each hound after each race depending on its finish in the race. Hounds that are Off Course or that Did Not Finish as described in Chapter 3, Section 3.6 will receive a score of zero in that race. The sum or total of the points earned by each racer at the conclusion of the meet determines its final placing in the meet.

If there is a tie in total points at the end of the meet, the racer that ran in the “Higher” race in the final program is awarded the higher placing. If the racers with equal points were in the same race in the final program, the racer with the higher placing in that race is awarded the higher placing in the meet. A racer that does not complete all programs of a meet should be awarded a placing at the bottom of the list of racers with equal points. All dogs who started the first program of the meet will receive a placement.

Figure 8.2A shows the number of points awarded according to the order of finish in each race in each of the three programs.

Always use one High Point for each of the programs of graded races.

If the meet is ungraded then a High Point will be used in the 2nd and 3rd programs only. See Section 4.4.2, Scoring Ungraded Races (Table 8.2B).

### **4.4 UNGRADED MEETS**

If at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the entries are first-time entered, then that breed may run in ungraded races.

#### **4.4.1 Grouping for Ungraded Races**

The grouping for Ungraded Races is by random draw. The Race Set-Up Chart (Figure 8.1) should be used to determine the number of races and the number of racers in each race. Post position is determined by random draw in the same manner as for Graded Races. (See Section 4.3.2, Selection of Post Position and Section 4.3.3, First Program Draw).

#### **4.4.2 Scoring Ungraded Races**

Figure 8.2B shows the number of points awarded according to the order of finish in each race in each ungraded program.

### **4.5 SAMPLE FORMS**

A sample ENTRY FORM, PLACING JUDGE REPORT, FOUL JUDGE REPORT, and an OFFICIAL SCORE SHEET are shown in FIGURES 8.3, 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 respectively.

## CHAPTER V - TROPHIES, AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

### 5.1 TROPHIES

The Host Club selects trophies, rosettes and ribbons and sets up a program to use them to best advantage. When point scoring is used, emphasis should be placed on rewarding the racers, which accumulate the most points, and the following are usually honored in each breed:

- High Score Hound
- High Score Opposite Sex
- Top Five Racers
- High Score in each Grade

If enough trophies are available and there are sufficient entries in each category, awards may also include:

- High Score FTE
- High Score Veteran
- High Score Oval Champion
- High Score Coursing Champion
- High Score Show Champion
- High Score Obedience Degree

### 5.2 LARGE GAZEHOUND RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

Points toward a Gazehound Racing Championship (GRC) are awarded in each breed depending on the number of eligible entrants as indicated in the chart below. No GRC points will be awarded to a hound that does not finish all races or finishes last in its breed or that has not defeated at least one hound in at least one race in that day's racing.

GRC POINTS AWARDED (non GRC only)				
Eligible Entry	High Score Hound	Second High Score	Third High Score	Fourth High Score
2-4	1.0	0.5		
5-7	2.0	1.0		
8-10	3.0	1.5	0.5	
11-15	4.0	2.0	1.0	
16 -21	5.0	3.0	1.5	
22-30	6.0	4.0	2.0	
31-40	7.0	5.0	3.0	
41 or more	8.0	6.0	4.0	2.0

The number of 'eligible entrants' is determined after the racers are scored and placements are awarded. To calculate 'eligible entrants', subtract any champion dogs (GRC, SGRC) that place above the first non-titled dog. The eligible entry includes the first non-titled dog and all those dogs that place below it (including dogs with championships and incomplete meets).

Example: Entry of 12 in the breed. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placing dogs are both GRC's. The eligible entry is therefore 10 dogs.

If there is a tie in racing points for placements which are to receive GRC points, the GRC points are to be split equally among the racers with the tied points.

A permanent title of Gazehound Racing Champion (GRC) will be awarded as a suffix to the registered name of any hound which has earned at least 12 GRC points. LGRA will award a certificate to the owner.

After a hound has earned the number of points which qualify for a GRC, it may continue to compete, but cannot earn any more GRC points.

### 5.2.1 National Points

National Points will be awarded to the High Score, 2nd High Score, 3rd High Score, and 4th High Score, depending on Starters as outlined in the NRC Points Awarded Table.

National Points will be awarded to both GRC and non-GRC hounds, based on performance in a meet. No National Points will be awarded to a hound that does not finish all races or finishes last in its breed or that has not defeated at least one hound in at least one race in that day's racing.

The purpose of National Points is to track the highest performing hounds on a Seasonal and Career basis, and to show progress towards certification of a Superior Gazehound Racing Championship.

NRC POINTS AWARDED				
Number of Starters	High Score Hound	Second High Score	Third High Score	Fourth High Score
2-4	1.0	0.5		
5-7	2.0	1.0		
8-10	3.0	1.5	0.5	
11-15	4.0	2.0	1.0	
16-21	5.0	3.0	1.5	
22-30	6.0	4.0	2.0	
31-40	7.0	5.0	3.0	
41 or more	8.0	6.0	4.0	2.0

If there is a tie in racing points for placements which are to receive NRC points, the NRC points are to be split equally among the racers with the tied points.

### 5.3 SUPERIOR GAZEHOUND RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

A gazehound may attain the title of Superior Gazehound Racing Champion by accumulating 30 National Points. The awarding of Gazehound National Points shall be per the chart in Section 5.2.1.

**5.3.1** A hound may accrue National Points towards SGRC II, III, etc. in increments of 30 points.

## **5.4 JUNIOR AND SENIOR STRAIGHT RACER MERIT TITLES**

Title certificates will not be mailed; however, owners may request emailed confirmation from the Registrar/Recorder that the requirements were met.

*For qualifying races held on or after January 1, 2018, hounds who have not yet achieved their GRC title may be eligible to earn legs towards their JSR and SSR titles.*

### **5.4.1 Junior Straight Racer Merit Title**

The title of Junior Straight Racer (JSR) is awarded to any hound that completes all Programs in four meets without a DQ, scratch, off course, or did not finish; AND at least one Program per meet must be with qualifying competition. The JSR title is a permanent suffix title. The JSR title will be replaced by the SSR or GRC title, whichever comes first.

### **5.4.2 Senior Straight Racer Merit Title**

The title of Senior Straight Racer (SSR) is awarded to any hound that completes all Programs in six meets; AND finishes in the top half of the dogs that ran all Programs without a DQ, scratch, off course, or did not finish. If an odd number of dogs completes all the Programs, reduce that number by one, then divide by two to determine how many dogs qualify for a leg toward their SSR title. If two dogs finish with the same number of race meet points AND one qualifies, they both will earn a leg toward their SSR title. The SSR title is permanent and will replace the JSR title, if and when it is earned. Once earned, the GRC title will replace the SSR title.

## **CHAPTER VI - DISQUALIFICATION, DISMISSAL, BARRED, SCRATCHES, PROTEST**

### **6.1 DISQUALIFICATION FOR INTENTIONAL FOUL**

A Hound shall only be disqualified for “Intentional Foul” between the starting box/line and the finish line. An “Intentional Foul” shall consist of a racer intentionally making contact or not making contact, but obviously impeding, stopping or forcing the second Hound to run wide to avoid contact. A head turn may indicate intent to interfere but is not required for Intentional Interference to take place.

Only the Foul Judges can disqualify a racer and they should do this fearlessly, but only when sure of the identity of the Hound that committed the foul.

Prior to discussing the foul with other Foul Judges, the Host Race Secretary or any other person, each Foul Judge shall write the foul on his/her Foul Judge Report Form. Then each Foul Judge shall go directly to the Host Race Secretary and show the written report. If two or more Foul Judges have written up the same foul, then the Host Race Secretary shall issue a notice of Disqualification to the Owner/Handler of the Hound stating the foul committed and race/program that it occurred.

No person, even one qualified to foul judge, shall fill out a foul judge report unless known to be foul judging that race by the Race Secretary or the Race Secretary’s appointee (i.e., the Head Foul Judge) BEFORE the race begins.

Foul Judges are encouraged to include as much detail regarding each foul on the foul reporting sheet as they can provide.

#### **6.1.1 Retaliation**

If a hound retaliated after being attacked, it should not be disqualified. Only the aggressor should be disqualified.

#### **6.1.2 Uncertain Judge**

If a Foul Judge is uncertain whether an Intentional Foul was committed or is uncertain of the identity of the aggressor, he should call a “Possible Foul” on his Report, according to the provisions of Section 3.5.

#### **6.1.3 Placing and Points**

If a hound is disqualified, points and placing in that race are distributed as if it had not participated. The disqualified hound retains the points earned prior to the race in which it was disqualified.

#### **6.1.4 Penalty**

A hound that is disqualified is dismissed from further racing at this meet. If a hound is disqualified a second time within twelve (12) months of the first foul, it will be barred from racing at Official Race Meets for the twelve months following the date of the second foul. Should a hound be disqualified for “Intentional Foul” three times it will be permanently barred from Official Race Meets.

### **6.1.5 Appeal from Permanent Disqualification**

The owner of a hound that has been permanently barred may appeal to the National Race Director when he can prove his hound is a clean racer. The Owner must have concurrence from a Host Club Race Secretary that the Hound is now requalified and attach that endorsement to the Appeal to the National Race Director.

### **6.2 DISMISSAL**

Hounds may be dismissed for the remainder of the race meet by the Race Committee for the following reasons:

- (a) Hounds whose handler or owner interferes with an Official.
- (b) Hounds whose handler or owner interferes with or takes unfair advantage of other hounds in a race, i.e., when loading into a starting box, or when retrieving hounds at the conclusion of the race. All persons waiting to catch a hound at the finish of a race must stand outside the designated track area and beyond the finish line. The track area is defined as the space between the finish line judges, extending approximately 50 yards past them.
- (c) No handler may tease his racer with the lure or touch the lure or have a lure in his possession to tease his racer at the start. These practices may distract other racers or give unfair advantage to some racers. The Starter/Assistant Starter only may tease the racers just before the start.
- (d) Hounds not running in a race which escape onto the racetrack and interfere with the running of a race.
- (e) Hounds whose handler or owner disregards requests by Officials to put their hounds on leash.
- (f) Hounds whose handler or owner disregards requests by Officials to move away from trackside since they may distract the racers and interfere with the running of a race. This includes exhibitors and spectators.
- (g) Hounds whose handler or owner scratches a hound which is not injured or ill after the racers have been regrouped for the next program of racing.
- (h) Hounds whose owner, co-owner, or handler has been found to be in violation of rule/heading 1.13 OWNER/HANDLER SPORTSMANSHIP.

### **6.3 BARRED FROM RACING**

The Race Committee shall bar any hound from racing for the following reasons:

- (a) A bitch that shows noticeable signs of being in season. She can be barred at any time during a meet when such signs become noticeable.
- (b) A hound that shows obvious signs of sickness or lameness.
- (c) Any hound that "Fouls" at schooling races can be barred temporarily from Official Race Meets if the Race Secretary feels the hound will "Foul" at the Official Meet.

## **6.4 SCRATCHES**

An owner or handler may scratch his racer from the meet before the racers have been regrouped for the next program of racing. No racer may be scratched by its owner or handler after the racers have been regrouped for the next program of racing unless the racer is injured or ill, and the injury or illness has been verified by the Race Committee.

The Race Committee may scratch a hound without prejudice for the following reasons:

- (a) Any racer that fails to finish a race or fails to finish in true racing style may be scratched from further racing.
- (b) Any hound which unduly delays racing by refusing to face forward in the starting box, or which removes its muzzle several times at the start, or which refuses to walk to the start, or any similar actions that delay the start of the race for dogs that are already at the start line.  
(See Section 3.9.3, Starter and Assistant Starter, Other Duties.)
- (c) Any hound left out of a race by neglect or oversight of the handler or owner.

## **6.5 NO RACE; RERUN OF A RACE**

A race is to be rerun after a suitable rest period only under the following circumstances:

- (a) If a racer catches or passes the lure or any part of the lure between the start and the finish line, it will be declared a "No-Race".
- (b) If the lure operator sees a racer catch or pass the lure or a hound check on a piece of the lure which has fallen off, he should stop the lure if possible and the handlers are to retrieve their hounds.
- (c) If the starting box fails to open properly giving any racer an unfair advantage.
- (d) If a hound not entered in a race escape and interferes with the racers.
- (e) If there is any outside interference with the race which is likely to have altered the race results.
- (f) If a situation occurs which presents a likelihood of injury to a racer, the lure should be stopped, and the handlers are to retrieve their hounds.
- (g) If two or more dogs stop because of objects or distractions on or near the track (paper, garbage, etc.).
- (h) If a hound is disqualified for intentional foul during a race, that race will be re-run without the offending hound unless the owners of the hounds in the race unanimously agree to accept the order of finish.

The results of the meet should indicate which races were rerun.

### **6.5.1 Options Instead of a Second Rerun**

If a race has been rerun and a second rerun of that race is indicated, the Race Committee, after considering the condition of the racers and the fairness to all involved, may choose one of the following alternatives instead of a second rerun:

- (a) If the first rerun of the race was more than 3/4 complete and in the opinion of the Race Committee, the placings of any one or more of the racers was not likely to change from that at the point where the race was stopped, the placing(s) should be awarded, and any remaining points should be equally divided among the other racers.
  
- (b) Split all the points available in the race equally among all the participants in the race.

### **6.6 PROTESTING THE RACE MEET**

Any owner or handler of a hound entered in an Official Race Meet has the right to lodge a claim of protest in writing with the National Race Director. Such person should first contact the meet Race Secretary at the time of the incident in question, to allow the Race Committee a chance to rule on the complaint. Such person should request a written decision from the Race Committee.

If the protest involves a decision or action taken by any member of the Race Committee then a substitute will be appointed to the Race Committee by the Race Secretary. This person will be drawn from the other club members or exhibitors present and must not have been involved in the decision or action leading to the protest.

An appeal to this decision can be requested from the National Race Director and must be filed within 10 days of the meet. A check for \$25.00 must accompany the appeal, payable to LGRA. The Protest Fee will be returned if the Protest is considered justifiable by the NRD.

## CHAPTER VII - RACE TRACK AND EQUIPMENT

### 7.1 RACE TRACK

The race track shall be a straight, flat surface of 200 yards, plus an additional 50 yards past the finish line, if possible, but in no event less than 30 yards. The surface of the race track should be turf, sod, or soft dirt.

The race track shall be a minimum of 20 feet in width at the start, and 30 feet in width at the finish line with an additional 10 - 20 ft. in width at both start and finish whenever field conditions allow. These are **minimum** widths, and wider tracks are preferred, when possible, to allow the hounds more freedom of stride and to reduce bodily contact.

The finish line should be clearly indicated by using white, orange or other highly visible spray paint or other athletic line marking substance in cases where paint is prohibited. The line must be painted using a straight edge (such as a string taut between the end posts marking these lines). For meets in which some breeds are hand slipped, the start line should be clearly indicated in the same manner.

The starting box should be placed parallel to the start line. When hand-slipped, two hounds may start on each side of the box, in blanket order, with one and two to the left, three and four to the right. If the track is wide enough that all hounds can start to one side of the box, they must line up in blanket order on the start line.

### 7.2 PADDOCK AREA

The Paddock should be set in a centrally located area a short distance from the race track. The paddock should have sufficient room for blanketing of hounds, the scoreboard and a scorekeeper's table. Programs and score sheets should be available but are not mandatory.

### 7.3 LOUDSPEAKER

A loudspeaker or megaphone should be available to inform owners, handlers, and spectators of all activities in connection with the meet.

### 7.4 BLANKETS

Each racer must wear a racing blanket. Only the following colors should be used:

Red Blanket	White Numeral "1"
Blue Blanket	White Numeral "2"
White Blanket	Black Numeral "3"
Green Blanket	White Numeral "4"

Blankets should extend from the shoulder blades to beyond the last rib, be fitted neither too tightly, restricting the stride, nor so loose as to unduly flap in the wind. Numerals should be at least four (4) inches tall.

## **7.5 RACING MUZZLES**

All racers must wear muzzles while racing. Approved muzzles include the box type used at all US Greyhound tracks; plastic coated English-style light wire racing muzzles, plastic basket muzzles or the pelican style muzzle (example: Irish coursing muzzles). Each owner should provide his hound with a suitable muzzle.

The muzzle should allow the hound full freedom to open his mouth at all times. However, the muzzle must not allow the hound to be able to grasp the lure. A hound which can grasp the lure is a potential danger to the other hounds and handlers. Muzzles made of heavy wire are dangerous and not permitted. Light wire muzzles of the English type, if not plastic coated, are not permitted.

The racers must wear their muzzles from the Paddock area to the start.

## **7.6 STARTING BOX**

The Starting Box is the preferred method of starting a LGRA Official Race Meet. A flip front, spring or hydraulically operated starting box with at least four holes, similar to those used at Greyhound training tracks and sized for Borzoi and Scottish Deerhounds is suitable.

## **7.7 LURE AND LURE MACHINE**

The lure machine shall be battery driven and capable of pulling a lure at a consistently smooth and steady pace 10 or more yards ahead of the racers. Advisable test speed for 200 yards is 8-9 seconds. Back-up batteries, lure and lure machine must be available. The lure shall contain or be accompanied by a predator call or squawker, such as those available from the National Greyhound Association. The lure shall be made of real or synthetic fur and shall be large enough to be sighted at all times and travel a straight path. White rags or plastic bags may be part of the lure to improve its visibility or weight. Continuous Loop lure designs will NOT be used for LGRA sprints. The lure shall be replaced if it becomes dusty, muddy or takes on the same color as the racetrack.

## **CHAPTER VIII - CHARTS AND FORMS**

### **8.1 Race Set-up Chart**

Figure 8.1 shows the number of 4-, 3-, and 2-dog races and the total number of races for entries of two to forty-eight hounds.

### **8.2 Race Meet Points**

Figure 8.2A gives the scoring for graded races for all three programs.

Figure 8.2B gives the scoring for ungraded races for all three programs.

### **8.3 LGRA Race Meet Entry Form**

Figure 8.3 includes both quick entry and first-time entered information, plus disclaimer and signature of owner.

### **8.4 Placing Judge Report**

Figure 8.4 is the form that should be used by the Head Line Judge to report the outcome of each race. The form is reproducible with four reports per page.

### **8.5 Official Foul Judge Report**

Figure 8.5 is the Official Foul Judge Report. Each foul judge must report the outcome of every race and reports of fouls must be turned in to the Race Secretary immediately after the race in question.

### **8.6 Scoring Sheet**

Figure 8.6 is the official record of the draw and outcome of the meet for use by the Race Secretary. Participants may also use the form for their personal records.

### **8.7 Map of LGRA regions**

Figure 8.7 shows the states and provinces in each region.

**RACE SET-UP CHART**

Total Number of Dogs	Number of Races			DOGS PER RACE												
	4-Dog Races	3-Dog Races	2-Dog Races	HP	← Races must be run in this order →										LP	
2	0	0	1	2												
3	0	1	0	3												
4	1	0	0	4												
5	0	1	1	3	2											
6	1	0	1	4	2											
7	1	1	0	4	3											
8	2	0	0	4	4											
9	1	1	1	4	2	3										
10	1	2	0	4	3	3										
11	2	1	0	4	3	4										
12	3	0	0	4	4	4										
13	1	3	0	4	3	3	3									
14	2	2	0	4	3	3	4									
15	3	1	0	4	4	3	4									
16	4	0	0	4	4	4	4									
17	2	3	0	4	3	3	3	4								
18	3	2	0	4	4	3	3	4								
19	4	1	0	4	4	4	3	4								
20	5	0	0	4	4	4	4	4								
21	3	3	0	4	4	3	3	3	4							
22	4	2	0	4	4	4	3	3	4							
23	5	1	0	4	4	4	4	3	4							
24	6	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4							
25	4	3	0	4	4	4	3	3	3	4						
26	5	2	0	4	4	4	4	3	3	4						
27	6	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	3	4						
28	7	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4						
29	5	3	0	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4					
30	6	2	0	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4					
31	7	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4					
32	8	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4					
33	6	3	0	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4				
34	7	2	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4				
35	8	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4				
36	9	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4				
37	7	3	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4			
38	8	2	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4			
39	9	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4			
40	10	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4			
41	8	3	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4		
42	9	2	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4		
43	10	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4		
44	11	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		
45	9	3	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	
46	10	2	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	
47	11	1	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	
48	12	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	

### Race Points Chart – Graded Races

	HP RACES	OTHER RACES
First Program		
1 st	8	5
2 nd	6	3
3 rd	4	2
4 th	3	0
Second Program		
1 st	6	5
2 nd	4	3
3 rd	3	2
4 th	2	0
Third Program		
1 st	8	5
2 nd	6	3
3 rd	4	2
4 th	3	0

**Figure 8.2A**

### Race Points Chart – Ungraded Races

	ALL RACES				
First Program					
1 st	5				
2 nd	3				
3 rd	2				
4 th	0				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">HP RACES</td> <td style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">OTHER RACES</td> </tr> </table>				HP RACES	OTHER RACES
	HP RACES	OTHER RACES			
Second and Third Programs					
1 st	8	5			
2 nd	5	3			
3 rd	3	2			
4 th	0	0			

**Figure 8.2B**



Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

QUICK ENTRY (For dogs that have previously raced in LGRA events):

LGRA NO: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LGRA NO: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LGRA NO: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**FTE (First Time Entered Dogs):**

CALL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTERED NAME (Include titles): \_\_\_\_\_

SIRE: \_\_\_\_\_

DAM: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION PAPERS ATTACHED: AKC \_\_\_\_\_ NGA \_\_\_\_\_ AKC ILP \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**FTE (First Time Entered Dogs):**

CALL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTERED NAME (Include titles): \_\_\_\_\_

SIRE: \_\_\_\_\_

DAM: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION PAPERS ATTACHED: AKC \_\_\_\_\_ NGA \_\_\_\_\_ AKC ILP \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

I and my heirs, legal representatives and assigns shall hold harmless and defend from any claim for personal injury, illness or property damage arising out of participation in this race meet sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_, its officers, directors, committees, agents and members, and the Large Gazehound Racing Association, its officers, directors, committees, agents, and members. I agree to abide by the Official Rules and Regulations of LGRA and its code of conduct during this race meeting.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Figure 8.3

# FINISH LINE JUDGE REPORT

PLACING JUDGE REPORT	
JACKETS	
1	RED
2	BLUE
3	WHITE
4	GREEN
PROGRAM _____ RACE _____	
PLACE	JACKET NO. OR COLOR
1 ST	
2 ND	
3 RD	
4 TH	
JUDGE _____	

PLACING JUDGE REPORT	
JACKETS	
1	RED
2	BLUE
3	WHITE
4	GREEN
PROGRAM _____ RACE _____	
PLACE	JACKET NO. OR COLOR
1 ST	
2 ND	
3 RD	
4 TH	
JUDGE _____	

PLACING JUDGE REPORT	
JACKETS	
1	RED
2	BLUE
3	WHITE
4	GREEN
PROGRAM _____ RACE _____	
PLACE	JACKET NO. OR COLOR
1 ST	
2 ND	
3 RD	
4 TH	
JUDGE _____	

PLACING JUDGE REPORT	
JACKETS	
1	RED
2	BLUE
3	WHITE
4	GREEN
PROGRAM _____ RACE _____	
PLACE	JACKET NO. OR COLOR
1 ST	
2 ND	
3 RD	
4 TH	
JUDGE _____	

**Figure 8.4**



## SCORING SHEET

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

Program _____			Race _____			Program _____			Race _____		
#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total	#	Name	Place	Pts.	Prev.	Total
1						1					
2						2					
3						3					
4						4					

**Figure 8.6**



**Figure 8.7**

Northwest: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Yukon

Southwest: Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Manitoba, Nunavut, Ontario, Saskatchewan

East: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Vermont, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec

Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.