



New South Wales

# Greyhound Racing Ban Bill 2025

## Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

## Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to, from 12 months after the date of assent to the proposed Act, ban greyhound racing in New South Wales by—

- (a) prohibiting, from that date, greyhound racing, the keeping of greyhounds for racing and betting on greyhound racing in New South Wales, and
- (b) prohibiting, from the date of assent to the proposed Act—
  - (i) the breeding of greyhounds in New South Wales for racing, and
  - (ii) the destruction of registered greyhounds, and
  - (iii) the transfer or export of greyhounds for racing, and
- (c) requiring the Minister to appoint an administrator to wind up greyhound racing in New South Wales and the affairs of Greyhound Racing NSW, and
- (d) providing for the repeal of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* and the dissolution of Greyhound Racing NSW.

## Outline of provisions

### Part 1 Preliminary

**Clause 1** sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

**Clause 2** provides for the commencement of the proposed Act in part on the date of assent to the proposed Act and in part on the first anniversary of assent to the proposed Act.

**Clause 3** defines certain words and expressions used in the proposed Act.

## **Part 2 Greyhound racing ban**

**Clause 4** prohibits greyhound racing and training in New South Wales and betting on greyhound racing in New South Wales.

**Clause 5** terminates greyhound racecourse licenses and the registration of greyhound racing clubs and trial tracks.

**Clause 6** prohibits the keeping of greyhounds for greyhound racing in or outside New South Wales. Clauses 4–6, which give effect to the ban on greyhound racing, apply from the day that is 12 months after the date of assent to the proposed Act.

**Clause 7** prohibits the breeding of greyhounds for greyhound racing.

**Clause 8** prohibits the destruction of a greyhound that was, on or before the date of assent to the proposed Act, registered under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* and any greyhound born to a registered greyhound. The prohibition does not apply to the destruction of a greyhound by a veterinary practitioner if the greyhound is severely injured, diseased or otherwise in a physical condition that it is cruel to keep the greyhound alive.

**Clause 9** prohibits the transfer of a greyhound to another State or Territory or the export of a greyhound overseas for racing.

## **Part 3 Dissolution of Greyhound Racing New South Wales**

**Clause 10** requires the Minister to appoint an individual as the administrator of Greyhound Racing NSW (the *administrator*).

**Clause 11** requires the administrator to wind up greyhound racing in New South Wales and the affairs of Greyhound Racing NSW.

**Clause 12** excludes the personal liability of the administrator for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith in relation to the administrator's functions.

**Clause 13** provides for the dissolution of Greyhound Racing NSW on the repeal of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*.

## **Part 4 Miscellaneous**

**Clause 14** provides that the proposed Act binds the Crown.

**Clause 15** provides for offences under the proposed Act to be tried in the summary jurisdiction of the Local Court or the Supreme Court. Clause 15 also provides that an offence may be initiated within 3 years after the date on which evidence of the alleged offence came to the attention of an officer.

**Clause 16** enables the Governor to make regulations for the purposes of the proposed Act.

## **Part 5 Repeal**

**Clause 17** provides for the repeal of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*. The repeal will take effect on the day that is 12 months after the date of assent to the proposed Act.

## **Schedule 1 Savings, transitional and other provisions**

**Schedule 1** contains savings, transitional and other provisions consequent on the enactment of the proposed Act.



New South Wales

# Greyhound Racing Ban Bill 2025

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*This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY for its concurrence.*

*Legislative Council*

*Clerk of the Parliaments*



New South Wales

# Greyhound Racing Ban Bill 2025

No           , 2025

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## A Bill for

An Act to ban greyhound racing and to dissolve Greyhound Racing New South Wales; and for related purposes.

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*The LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY has this day agreed to this Bill with/without amendment.*

*Legislative Assembly*

*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly*

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The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—	1
<b>Part 1 Preliminary</b>	2
<b>1 Name of Act</b>	3
This Act is the <i>Greyhound Racing Ban Act 2025</i> .	4
<b>2 Commencement</b>	5
This Act commences as follows—	6
(a) for sections 4–6 and Part 5—on the day that is 12 months after the date of assent to this Act,	7
(b) otherwise—on the date of assent.	8
<b>3 Definitions</b>	10
In this Act—	11
<b>administrator</b> means the individual appointed under section 10(1).	12
<b>greyhound racing</b> means racing between greyhounds in competitive pursuit of an artificial lure activated by mechanical means, and includes—	13
(a) a greyhound trial or training race, and	14
(b) racing in a test of speed of a greyhound or greyhounds competing separately.	15
<b>greyhound trial track</b> means—	16
(a) premises, other than a licensed racecourse, held out by the proprietor as being available for the purpose of enabling greyhounds, other than greyhounds owned by or leased to the proprietor, to compete in trials or be trained in racing, and	17
(b) other prescribed premises.	18
<b>GRNSW</b> means Greyhound Racing New South Wales constituted under the <i>Greyhound Racing Act 2017</i> .	19
<b>licensed racecourse</b> has the same meaning as in the <i>Betting and Racing Act 1998</i> .	20
<b>meeting for greyhound racing</b> means an event at which greyhound racing takes place.	21
<b>premises</b> includes the following—	22
(a) a building or structure,	23
(b) land or a place, whether built or not,	24
(c) a vehicle or trailer.	25
<b>Note—</b> The <i>Interpretation Act 1987</i> contains definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Act.	26
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## Part 2 Greyhound racing ban

### 4 Greyhound racing and betting prohibited

A person must not—

- (a) conduct a meeting for greyhound racing in New South Wales, or
- (b) operate a greyhound trial track in New South Wales to enable a greyhound to compete in a trial or be trained in racing, including a greyhound owned or leased by the person, or
- (c) officiate at, or otherwise participate in, greyhound racing at—
  - (i) a meeting for greyhound racing, or
  - (ii) a greyhound trial track, or
- (d) provide betting services, within the meaning of the *Betting and Racing Act 1998*, in relation to greyhound racing in New South Wales.

Maximum penalty—1,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both.

### 5 Termination of club racecourse licences

A racecourse licence under the *Betting and Racing Act 1998*, to the extent that it authorises a meeting for greyhound racing, is terminated.

### 6 Keeping of greyhounds for greyhound racing prohibited

A person must not keep a greyhound in New South Wales for greyhound racing in or outside New South Wales.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.

### 7 Breeding of greyhounds for greyhound racing prohibited

A person must not breed a greyhound in New South Wales for greyhound racing in or outside New South Wales.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.

### 8 Destruction of registered greyhounds prohibited

- (1) A person must not destroy a registered greyhound or cause a registered greyhound to be destroyed.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a registered greyhound destroyed by a veterinary practitioner if, in the practitioner's opinion, the greyhound is so severely injured, so diseased or in a physical condition that it is cruel to keep the greyhound alive.

- (3) In this section—

**registered greyhound** means—

- (a) a greyhound that was, on or before the date of assent to this Act, registered under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*, or
- (b) a greyhound born to a greyhound referred to in paragraph (a).

**veterinary practitioner** has the same meaning as in the *Veterinary Practice Act 2003*.

### 9 Interstate transfers and exports of greyhounds prohibited

- (1) The owner of a greyhound must not—

- (a) relocate the greyhound to another State or Territory for greyhound racing, including by transferring the greyhound to a person in another State or Territory, or

- (b) export the greyhound for greyhound racing outside of Australia. 1
- Maximum penalty—500 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months, or both. 2
- (2) In this section— 3
  - transfer**, in relation to a greyhound, means transferring ownership of the greyhound, 4
  - including by sale, gift or surrender. 5



<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Dissolution of Greyhound Racing New South Wales</b>	1
<b>10</b>	<b>Removal of directors and appointment of administrator</b>	2
(1)	As soon as practicable after the date of assent to this Act, the Minister must appoint, by notice published in the Gazette, an individual as administrator of greyhound racing.	3 4 5
(2)	On the appointment of the administrator—	6
(a)	each of the directors of the Board of GRNSW ceases to hold office, and	7
(b)	the affairs of GRNSW must be managed by the administrator, and	8
(c)	the administrator has and may exercise all the functions of GRNSW, and	9
(d)	an act, matter or thing done in the name of, or on behalf of, GRNSW by the administrator is taken to have been done by GRNSW.	10 11
(3)	The Minister may determine the administrator's remuneration and other conditions of employment.	12 13
(4)	The administrator's remuneration and other expenses are payable by GRNSW.	14
<b>11</b>	<b>Administrator to wind up greyhound racing in NSW</b>	15
	The administrator must, as soon as practicable, wind up greyhound racing in New South Wales and the affairs of GRNSW in accordance with this Act.	16 17
<b>12</b>	<b>Personal liability of administrator</b>	18
(1)	The administrator is not personally subject to liability for anything done—	19
(a)	in good faith, and	20
(b)	for the purpose of exercising the administrator's functions under this Act.	21
(2)	In this section—	22
	<i>done</i> includes omitted to be done.	23
	<i>liability</i> means civil liability and includes action, claim or demand.	24
<b>13</b>	<b>Dissolution of GRNSW</b>	25
(1)	On the repeal of the <i>Greyhound Racing Act 2017</i> , GRNSW is dissolved.	26
(2)	Assets, rights or liabilities of GRNSW become, on its dissolution, the assets, rights and liabilities of the Crown.	27 28
(3)	An act, matter or thing that is authorised or required to be done in relation to the assets, rights or liabilities by GRNSW is authorised or required to be done by the administrator or another person appointed by the Minister.	29 30 31

<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	1
<b>14</b>	<b>Act to bind Crown</b>	2
	This Act binds the Crown in right of New South Wales and, to the extent the legislative power of the Parliament of New South Wales permits, the Crown in all its other capacities.	3 4 5
<b>15</b>	<b>Nature of proceedings for offences</b>	6
(1)	Proceedings for an offence under this Act or the regulations may be dealt with summarily before—	7 8
(a)	the Local Court, or	9
(b)	the Supreme Court in its summary jurisdiction.	10
(2)	Proceedings for an offence under this Act or the regulations may be commenced within but not later than 3 years after the date on which evidence of the alleged offence first came to the attention of an officer.	11 12 13
(3)	Subsection (2) applies despite any provision of the <i>Criminal Procedure Act 1986</i> or another Act.	14 15
(4)	In this section— <i>officer</i> means a person declared by the regulations to be an officer for this section.	16 17
<b>16</b>	<b>Regulations</b>	18
	The Governor may make regulations about a matter that is—	19
(a)	required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed, or	20
(b)	necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.	21 22

<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Repeal</b>	1
<b>17</b>	<b>Repeal</b>	2
	The <i>Greyhound Racing Act 2017</i> No 13 is repealed.	3

## Schedule 1 Savings, transitional and other provisions

### 1 Regulations

- (1) The regulations may contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the commencement of—
  - (a) a provision of this Act, or
  - (b) a provision amending this Act.
- (2) A savings or transitional provision consequent on the commencement of a provision must not be made more than 2 years after the commencement.
- (3) A savings or transitional provision made consequent on the commencement of a provision is repealed 2 years after the commencement.
- (4) A savings or transitional provision made consequent on the commencement of a provision may take effect before the commencement but not before—
  - (a) for a provision of this Act—the date of assent to this Act, or
  - (b) for a provision amending this Act—the date of assent to the amending Act.
- (5) A savings or transitional provision taking effect before its publication on the NSW legislation website does not—
  - (a) affect the rights of a person existing before the publication in a way prejudicial to the person, or
  - (b) impose liabilities on a person for anything done or omitted to be done before the publication.
- (6) In this section—  
*person* does not include the State or an authority of the State.

### 2 Prohibition on new registrations under Greyhound Racing Act 2017

- (1) This section applies until the repeal of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* by Part 5.
- (2) Despite any provision of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*, the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission must not, after the commencement of this section, register a greyhound in accordance with that Act.  
**Note—** The *Companion Animals Act 1998*, section 9 requires the registration of greyhounds that are not registered under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*.
- (3) In this section—  
*Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission* means the commission established under the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017*, section 4.