

August 15, 2008 (by email)

Mr B Hogan
Chief Executive Officer
GRNSW
PO BOX 170
CONCORD WEST 2138

Dear Brent,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to GRNSW's review of the **Grading Policy**.

The NSW GBOTA assumes that GRNSW will reconvene the Grading Policy Consultative Committee to further review the Policy and looks forward to being a part of that Committee.

The NSW GBOTA provides the following initial comments in the meantime:

1. Fifth Grade Concerns

- Members have advised that any greyhound that has won in excess of 10 races at Category A or B level should not be entitled to compete in a grade 5 via a drop-back.
- Members have advised that no greyhound that has won a Group race (excepting maiden group events) should be able to compete in a grade 5 at Category A or B meetings.
- Members believe that grade 5 events should be composed having regard for the number of wins various competitors have had. This is to suggest grouping greyhounds in grade 5 with similar win totals.
- Members believe that greyhounds should be able to win two grade 5 events before progressing to grade 4 at a particular track.

2. Mixing of Grades

- Members believe that further consideration needs to be given to the number of grade 5 greyhounds that are to be included in a mixed 4/5 event. Currently, the policy requires only one.
- Members believe further consideration needs to be given as to how the grade 5 greyhounds placed in mixed stakes are selected. It is suggested that the highest win grade 5's should be mixed with the lowest win grade 4's.
- Members have advised that FFA events under 564m should be restricted to grades 1, 2 and 3 greyhounds. Events over 564m may continue to combine grades 1 to 4.

Yours sincerely,
Brenton Scott
Executive Officer