

COVID-19 RACING CODE PROTOCOLS GREYHOUND



EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2021

1. The objectives of Racing Queensland's COVID-19 Racing Code Protocols are to:
 - (a) Protect racing industry stakeholders (e.g., licensed persons, officials etc), licensed racing venues and training centres from the potential spread of COVID-19; and
 - (b) Continue to give guidance and structure to the core racing operations of a race meeting.
2. Racing clubs are required to conduct race meetings in accordance with the [COVID Safe Checklist for Restricted Businesses | Queensland Government \(covid19.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au). This Checklist applies across the whole venue.
3. Racing clubs are also required to meet the requirements of the Racing Code Protocols (as well as any Addendum to the Protocols), and any additional instruction or direction provided by RQ, and any requirements of the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) that may be imposed at a race meeting.
4. The Racing Code Protocols provide additional information and guidance/requirements for the Core Racing Areas and core racing operations of the race meeting, and for Essential Racing Personnel (including visiting participants from interstate and overseas).

Restriction of entry to Queensland / Declarations / Travel Categories

5. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 in Queensland and to manage outbreaks, the Queensland Government has put in place declaration requirements for all travel into Queensland from interstate and New Zealand (on quarantine free flights). Every person must complete a declaration to enter Queensland from anywhere in Australia or New Zealand. This includes Queensland residents.
6. You must complete the right declaration for your situation before you travel to enter Queensland. When you complete the declaration, you will be asked where you have been in the past 14 days. If your conditions change or you need to update your travel details prior to your arrival in Queensland, you'll need to complete a new declaration with updated details.
7. The Queensland Government has moved to a travel category system that allows areas across Australia and New Zealand to be designated as a green, orange or red category according to their risk level. There is also a blue designation for the New South Wales border zone. Full details via [Travelling to Queensland | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au)
8. **Green: No Restrictions.** If you have not been in a COVID-19 hotspot or interstate exposure venue or have been only in a safe travel zone country, you should be eligible for a green declaration. You must complete a [Queensland Entry Pass](#).
9. **Amber: Interstate exposure venues.** If you are travelling from an orange zone, it means you may have been to an [interstate exposure venue](#) in another Australian state or territory. If you have been to an interstate exposure venue at the relevant time you



will have to quarantine on arrival into Queensland as per the directions on your declaration. You must complete a [Queensland Entry Pass](#).

10. **Red: COVID-19 hotspots.** If you have been to a [COVID-19 hotspot](#) in the last 14 days or since the start date identified for the hotspot (whichever is shorter), generally you will not be allowed to enter Queensland, unless you are a returning Queensland resident, a new resident relocating, or for a limited range of essential purposes. If you are allowed to enter Queensland, you must complete 14 days mandatory quarantine. Depending on which State/COVID-19 hotspot you are entering from, this will either be in government arranged accommodation, or you may be able to home quarantine subject to certain requirements. You must complete the [Queensland Entry Pass](#).
11. **Blue: NSW border zone.** NSW border zone residents can only cross the border for a permitted purpose, including work. Likewise, Queensland residents can only enter the NSW border zone for a permitted purpose. You must complete a [Queensland Entry Pass](#) Border Zone Travel (X Pass).

You are not permitted to have been south outside of the NSW border zone in the 14 days prior to entry into Queensland. If a person travels south outside of the NSW border zone and needs to enter, or return to, Queensland within the 14 days, they will be required to go into hotel quarantine.

Current COVID-19 Hotspots

12. The Queensland Government may, from time to time, identify and declare certain areas to be declared COVID-19 hotspots. Refer to the [COVID-19 hotspot](#) link for detailed information of all current hotspots declared by the Queensland Government.
13. As stated above, generally, if you have been to a declared [COVID-19 hotspot](#) in the last 14 days or since the start date identified for the hotspot (whichever is shorter), you will not be allowed to enter Queensland, unless you are a returning Queensland resident, a new resident relocating, or if you are required to enter for a limited range of essential purposes.
14. The Queensland Government may also, in certain circumstances, amend or backdate the identified start date of a declared COVID-19 hotspot. In these circumstances:
 - (a) the Government may order that persons must follow the requirements of the Interstate Places of Concern (stay at home in Queensland) Direction, meaning anyone already in Queensland who has been in the declared COVID-19 hotspot since the amended or backdated identified COVID-19 hotspot start date must follow the stay-at-home requirements for a period of 14 days since leaving the area; and
 - (b) RQ may order that these persons are not permitted to attend a Queensland licensed racing or training venue during the period of the 14-day stay at home requirements.

Exposure Venues / Contract Tracing Alerts

15. Queensland has current contact tracing alerts and related public health advice for people who have been in various exposure venues in Australia and New Zealand. The list of exposure venues is updated regularly.
16. You must monitor details of the [interstate exposure venues on the Queensland Health website](#) daily (at least once every 24 hours) from the time you complete a declaration and for 14 days after arriving into Queensland.
17. If you have been to any of the exposure venues at the relevant exposure times you must:
 - (a) immediately travel by private transport directly to your home or accommodation and quarantine;



- (b) [get tested](#) at your earliest opportunity (wear a mask while you are out getting tested);
 - (c) complete the online contact tracing form by clicking on the name of the relevant exposure venue. If you are unable to complete the online contact tracing form please call 134 COVID (134 268) (after you complete the contact tracing form you will be contacted by Queensland Health).
18. If you have been to any of the exposure venues at the relevant exposure times, you must continue to quarantine for 14 days even if you receive a negative test result, unless otherwise advised by a Queensland Health official. It can take 14 days before you develop symptoms or test positive to COVID-19.
19. Check the interstate/overseas Government websites for the most current list of exposure venues in their respective jurisdictions:
- (a) [ACT Government website](#)
 - (b) [NSW Government website](#)
 - (c) [Northern Territory Government website](#)
 - (d) [South Australia Government website](#)
 - (e) [Victoria Government website](#)
 - (f) [Western Australia Government website](#)
 - (g) [New Zealand Ministry of Health website](#)
 - (h) Note that the health advice provided by each government may differ as each manages the risk of transmission differently. If you are in Queensland, you must follow the specific health advice and restrictions provided by the Queensland Government.

COVID-19 Test

20. Any person (including trainers, handlers, officials and service providers) who enters Queensland and develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days after arrival, must present for a COVID-19 test and not attend a Queensland licensed racing or training venue until having received and provided evidence of a negative result to RQ.
21. Further to the above, RQ may require any person (either visiting or local participants) to undergo a COVID-19 test and require that they not attend a Queensland licensed racing or training venue until having received and provided evidence of a negative result to RQ.

Government Information / Links

22. The following links provide details of Queensland Government Border restrictions information and Directions, health advice and declared COVID-19 hotspots. All industry participants are required to ensure they are aware of, and comply with, any requirements contained therein.

[Border Restrictions Direction \(No. 28\) | Queensland Health](#)

[Declared Hotspots Direction | Queensland Health](#)

[Interstate Places of concern \(stay at home in Queensland\) | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

[Queensland Travel Declaration Direction | Queensland Health](#)

[Travelling to Queensland | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

[Entry to Queensland | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)



[Contact tracing – coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)



23. The following link provides information related to the Quarantine for International Arrivals Direction and quarantine-free flights, with reference to flights and arrivals from New Zealand to Australia:

[Quarantine for International Arrivals Direction | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/health/wellbeing/quarantine-for-international-arrivals-direction).

Race meeting and trial session entry for Interstate trainers

24. Interstate based trainers, except those that have been in a declared [COVID-19 hotspot](#) within the 14 days prior to the race meeting of nomination, are permitted to enter and handle* their greyhounds at Queensland race meetings or trial sessions. RQ may require any person (i.e., including interstate based trainers/handlers) to undergo and provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test post arrival into Queensland and prior to entering any racing or training venue.
25. Trainers based in the NSW border zone can continue to enter and handle their greyhounds at Queensland race meetings or trial sessions as normal. The trainer and/or any person transporting the greyhounds is required to possess the relevant [Queensland Entry Pass](#) Border Zone Travel (X Pass).
26. Interstate based trainers that have been in a declared [COVID-19 hotspot](#) within the 14 days prior to a race meeting at which they intend to enter, are able to nominate for Queensland race meetings in accordance with GAR 105(6).
- (a) Under this rule, the greyhound can be handled by a Queensland licensed trainer or attendant, or an interstate licensed trainer provided such trainer or attendant is not from, or has not been in, a declared COVID-19 hotspot during the 14 days prior to the race meeting of nomination.
 - (b) The trainer must provide written notification to both RQ and QRIC of:
 - (i) Details of when the greyhound will arrive in Queensland;
 - (ii) Transportation, handling and temporary kennelling arrangements that apply to the greyhound's visitation to Queensland; and
 - (iii) Details of when the greyhound will return to its base kennel.
 - (c) Transportation of the greyhound must be undertaken in a manner that complies with Queensland Border Restrictions and the persons involved possess the relevant [Queensland Entry Pass](#).

Inter-state kennel transfers / transportation protocols

27. Greyhounds are permitted to be transferred from an interstate kennel to a Queensland kennel. However, greyhounds being transferred from a kennel in a declared COVID-19 hotspot must be transported into Queensland either:
- (a) by an "Approved Canine Transportation Business" where the operator has obtained the necessary Queensland Government Border Declaration Freight and Logistics Pass; or
 - (b) by a licensed person or persons who themselves have not been in a declared COVID-19 hotspot and have satisfied all requirements and possess the relevant Queensland Government travel declaration pass
28. Notwithstanding point 27, greyhounds can be transferred from a kennel in the NSW border zone to a Queensland kennel as per normal processes, subject to the person transporting the greyhound/s possessing the relevant [Queensland Entry Pass](#) Border Zone Travel (X Pass).
29. An "Approved Canine Transportation Business" is a canine transportation business which has sought and been granted approval by RQ to transport greyhounds into and within Queensland.



30. The connections of a greyhound transferring from a kennel in a declared COVID-19 hotspot to a Queensland kennel must undertake all kennel transfer administrative advice, as required by their home state controlling body or bodies and the QRIC.
31. Prior to and upon completion of a transportation journey, the “Approved Canine Transportation Business” must ensure the vehicle is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to minimise any risk of COVID-19 transmission.
32. “Approved Canine Transportation Business” drivers and/or assistants are to make prior arrangements with any drop off points and are not to access licensed premises when transporting and delivering greyhounds (unless otherwise approved by QRIC stewards).
33. Any gear used by the “Approved Canine Transportation Business” on one greyhound must be sanitised before it is used on another greyhound.
34. RQ may impose other restrictions on the transport of greyhounds from declared COVID-19 hotspots or from other areas interstate.
35. Transport (freight) drivers undertaking travel from a declared COVID-19 hotspot should refer to the relevant Queensland Government protocol and other guidance (QLD Freight Protocol: [Operational protocol for freight movements entering Queensland | Queensland Health](#)). In addition to the requirement to have the relevant border declaration pass, this protocol:
 - (a) Introduces mandatory surveillance testing requirements for freight and logistics operators.
 - (b) Requires that freight and logistics operators who have been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days must have evidence of a negative test result within the last 7 days to enter Queensland. These operators must then maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle until 14-days have passed since they have been in a COVID-19 hotspot.
 - (c) Requires that freight and logistics operators who have left the confines of their vehicle in an affected area (as defined in the QLD Freight Protocol), to have undertaken a COVID-19 test in the 72 hours prior to entering Queensland, and to have evidence of a negative test result within the last 7 days to enter Queensland. These operators must then maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle until they leave Queensland or 14-days have passed since they have been in an affected area, whichever is shorter.

Attendance – Core Racing Area Access

36. To help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, access to the Core Racing Area is strictly restricted to Essential Racing Personnel, which includes:
 - (a) Licensed trainers with runners engaged to race or stewards’ trial at a race meeting, or to trial at a trial session;
 - (b) Licensed trainers or handlers specifically required to attend a race meeting or trial session, to enable a particular greyhound to race, e.g., by handling the greyhound, boxing the greyhound or catching the greyhound;
 - (c) Essential support personnel of trainers, such as persons required to assist trainers in commuting to race meetings or trial sessions at which they have greyhounds racing;
 - (d) QRIC stewards and officials;
 - (e) RQ officials;
 - (f) Essential club employees and race meeting contractors, including vision and broadcast providers;



- (g) Club officials and/or committee members carrying out a formal duty at the race meeting or trial session; and
 - (h) RQ accredited media as approved by RQ and the race club.
37. Further to the above, a racing club may choose to offer restricted catering services and oncourse wagering services within the Core Racing Area to service the Essential Racing Personnel. Where a racing club wishes to offer these services within the Core Racing Area they should engage in prior discussions with RQ and QRIC.

Temperature testing on arrival

38. RQ may require Essential Racing Personnel to undergo temperature testing on arrival at race meetings. Any decision in this regard will be made based on any current direction or advice of the Chief Health Officer or the Queensland Government.
39. Essential Racing Personnel are advised not to enter a racing venue if they are feeling unwell, have been in close contact with a known active case of COVID-19, have any COVID-19 symptoms, have travelled from overseas (except as provided for persons from New Zealand on quarantine-free flights), or been to a declared COVID-19 hotspot in the previous 14 days or since the start date identified for the COVID-19 hotspot (whichever is shorter).

Food and beverage service

40. For any food and beverage services provided to Essential Racing Personnel within the Core Racing Area, it is the racing club's responsibility to ensure appropriate protocols are in place with respect to food service as provided in the COVID Safe Checklist, the Guidance documents to the Checklist published by the Government, or any other Government restrictions in place from time to time.

Separation and hygiene

41. Racing clubs are required to implement satisfactory measures to ensure the principles of the directions issued by the relevant authorities regarding space and distancing are adhered to. This includes not exceeding any specified maximum occupancy density rules in place, maintaining physical distancing, avoiding physical contact, as well as regular handwashing, sanitisation and hygiene processes.
42. Racing clubs should display in areas used by Essential Racing Personnel relevant information sheets about COVID-19 and ways to reduce the spread of the virus.
43. Personal actions for participants to assist with the community obligation to uphold physical distancing include:
- (a) Exercising an industry first approach to COVID-19 free racing by ensuring that you do not attend race meetings or a trial session where you are unwell or displaying any symptoms that are associated with COVID-19;
 - (b) Making the necessary arrangements in the event you are unable to attend a race meeting or trial session with your greyhounds because you are unwell or displaying any symptoms that are associated with COVID-19. This may include organising and authorising for your greyhounds to be taken to, and handled at, a race meeting;
 - (c) Covering coughs and sneezes with an elbow or a tissue, and disposing of tissues properly;
 - (d) Washing hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitisers, including before and after eating, after going to the toilet, and after using shared equipment such as racing rugs;
 - (e) Cleaning and sanitising frequently used objects such as mobile phones, keys and wallets;

- (f) Keeping a distance of 1.5 metres between oneself and other people whenever possible – including in pre-kennelling, kennelling, race parading, boxing and catching of greyhounds;
 - (g) Minimising physical contact, especially with people at higher risk such as older people and people with existing health conditions; and
 - (h) Supporting physical distancing enhancements introduced by QRIC, RQ, and racing club officials at race meetings.
44. Where an internal seating area is provided by a racing club:
- (a) a sanitisation station is to be provided at the entrance and exit points;
 - (b) the provision of water is permitted and race meeting attendees may consume personal food supplies in the area; and
 - (c) the area should be subject to appropriate levels of oversight by an official of the racing club.

Check In Qld app – training venues, trackwork/trials, oncourse stables

45. As race clubs operate under the COVID Safe Checklist for Restricted Businesses, it is a requirement for the race club to collect and store contact information about all guests, patrons and staff at the time of entry, using the Check In Qld app. This includes attendance at any part of the venue at any time of the day (e.g., training areas, oncourse kennels, trials etc.), and for all persons including licensed participants, RQ and QRIC officials, club staff, owners and members of the public.
46. Race clubs are to ensure that sufficient Check In Qld app options/places exist at the entrance to the venue, and also in and around the kennel areas for persons who are unable to stop at the entrance to check-in.
47. Trainers are encouraged to assist by ensuring that all their staff, owners or other service providers (e.g., vets etc.) are checked-in on arrival.