

## GREYHOUND RACING VICTORIA

### CRITERIA GUIDELINES

#### 2021 - 2022 GREYHOUND OF THE YEAR (GOTY)

1. Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) awards 'Greyhound of the Year' in three categories (Sprinter, Stayer, and Greyhound of the Year [GOTY]) in recognition of outstanding performances by eligible greyhounds during the racing year (1 July to 30 June)
2. **Sprinter of the Year** – the Sprinter of the Year Award is given to the best eligible greyhound based on performances in races conducted over less than 570 metres during the racing year.
3. **Stayer of the Year** – the Stayer of the Year, is given to the best eligible greyhound based on performances in races conducted over 570 metres during the racing year.
4. **Greyhound of the Year** – the Greyhound of the Year is given to the best eligible greyhound based on performances in races over all distances during the racing year.
5. The GOTY Awards are open to greyhounds, including International or interstate owned or bred greyhounds, that have been domiciled in the State of Victoria for a period of not less than four consecutive calendar months during the year of the award.
6. In selecting a greyhound for a GOTY Award, the GOTY voting panel will consider the greyhound's racing performances on Australian racetracks only
7. A greyhound is not eligible for consideration for a GOTY Award and cannot be included in any voting by the GOTY voting panel if the greyhound has returned a positive swab to a prohibited substance.

#### **The GOTY Voting Panel**

8. The GOTY voting panel will comprise up to seven people selected by GRV from the following sections of the greyhound industry:
  - Greyhound racing media representatives
  - A representative from the Victorian Greyhound Owner, Trainers, Breeders Association
  - A representative from each of the two Victorian metropolitan Greyhound Racing Clubs
  - A representative from the GRV Racing department.

9. The GOTY voting panel may also include a representative approved by the GRV Board and agreed on by the remaining GOTY voting panel members where there is a vacancy on the panel and a suitable representative from the listed sections of the greyhound industry cannot be agreed upon within a reasonable time.

If any member of the voting panel resigns or is unable to continue their role during the voting year, then GRV will select another person to fill such role.

10. Having a GOTY voting panel of less than seven members does not invalidate a decision of the voting panel. Subject to greyhound eligibility requirements being met, the decisions of the GOTY voting panel are final.
11. Voting will be conducted via a confidential online medium with back-end details available only to the Chair of the GOTY Committee and Executive officer of the GOTY Committee.
12. Eligible voting committee members have three days to cast their vote from the time that the voting link is communicated.
13. If a member of the Committee has a greyhound nominated in any of the GOTY categories, the member will be excluded for the finalist voting portion of the GOTY Committee. In this instance the Chair of the GOTY Committee will take up the votes allocated to the excluded committee member and the Chair will cast a vote on finalists in each of the categories.

#### **Selecting the winners of the GOTY Awards**

14. Nominations for a GOTY Award go through a three-stage process with the GOTY voting panel:
  - a. Confirmation of nomination
  - b. Short listing
  - c. Voting by the individual GOTY voting panel members.

#### **Confirmation of nomination**

15. The voting panel will meet as required to propose nominees for a GOTY Award.
16. The GOTY voting panel will vote on each prospective nomination. A nomination for a GOTY Award will be confirmed if the nomination receives a positive vote of at least 66% of the votes cast by the voting panel members.

#### **Short listing**

17. After the end of the year, the GOTY voting panel will meet to shortlist the confirmed nominations for a GOTY Award.

18. The Panel will vote on the confirmed nominations until they have shortlisted three final contenders for each GOTY Award category.

### **Voting**

19. The GOTY voting panel will meet to each cast a vote for one of the shortlisted nominations in each GOTY Award category:
  - a. Each voting member will select a Sprinter of the Year (based on performances in races over less than 570 metres); and
  - b. Each voting member will select a Stayer of the Year (based on performances in races over 570 metres or more); and
  - c. Each voting member will select a Greyhound of the Year from the shortlisted nominations based on performances over all distances.
20. GOTY voting panel members will cast their votes by way of a secret ballot. Each member will cast a vote for one greyhound in each category and place each of their votes in a separate sealed envelope or secure online link
21. For the avoidance of doubt, for the GOTY 'Year' means the racing calendar year (1 July to 30 June).

### **Presentation of Award**

22. The GOTY Award recipients will be announced, and the award will be presented at the Greyhound of the Year Award event.

### **Revocation**

23. The GOTY Awards are given at the complete discretion of the Greyhound Racing Victoria Board and may be revoked by the Board.
24. The Board will automatically consider revocation of a GOTY Award if the Board forms the belief that a recipient has engaged in conduct that may bring discredit to the GOTY Award, Greyhound Racing Victoria, or the sport of greyhound racing.
25. The GOTY voting panel may also seek revocation of a GOTY Award by the Board if the majority of the Panel believe that the recipient has engaged in conduct which may bring discredit to the GOTY Award. The GOTY voting panel will form its own view and make a recommendation to the Board as to whether the panel believes the GOTY Award should be revoked.
26. Where the Board or GOTY voting panel is considering revocation, the Chief Executive Officer of Greyhound Racing Victoria will notify the recipient. That person will be offered an

opportunity to make a written or oral presentation to the panel or Board, whichever is relevant, as to why the GOTY Award should not be revoked.

27. In making its decision the Board may consider any information including recommendations of the GOTY voting panel, if any, and any information provided by the recipient. The decision of the Board is final.
28. If the Board revokes an award of a GOTY Award, the recipient will be notified and must return the GOTY Award (including all components) as soon as practicable and not more than 30 days after receiving the notification.

