



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

RWWA Greyhound Vaccination Guidelines (as at 14/6/19)

The rules of greyhound racing detail the minimum vaccination requirements of racing greyhounds at various stages of their life.

In summary the minimum vaccination requirements for pups and racing greyhounds are:

- (a) C3 Vaccination between 6 and 8 weeks of age and prior to registration of the litter;
- (b) C5 Vaccination between 10 and 16 weeks of age and prior to registration of the litter;
- (c) C5 Vaccination at between 12 [and 16] months of age and prior to naming.

C3 Vaccination means a vaccination administered to a greyhound by a veterinarian to provide appropriate protection against canine parvovirus, canine distemper virus and canine adenovirus (hepatitis).

C5 Vaccination means a vaccination administered to a greyhound by a veterinarian that provides appropriate protection against canine parvovirus, canine distemper virus, canine adenovirus (hepatitis), parainfluenza virus and bordetella bronchiseptica.

Breeding bitches

In order to satisfy the annual breeding bitch registration renewal requirements all breeding bitches must have; R127 (c) evidence of a current vaccination status against parvovirus, hepatitis, canine distemper, parainfluenza virus and bordetella bronchiseptica (C5) issued by a veterinary surgeon identifying the greyhound by reference to its sex, colour, ear branding and/or microchip identifications and stating the next vaccination/booster due date.

A C5 is essentially made up of 2 separate components;

- A C3 which provides protection against canine parvovirus, canine distemper virus and canine adenovirus (hepatitis) and;
- A kennel cough vaccine which provides protection against parainfluenza virus and bordetella bronchiseptica

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) current vaccination guidelines state that; (*see footnote*)

- In an animal over 12 months of age a C3 vaccination is only required to be administered every 3 years to be “current”
- A kennel cough vaccine (parainfluenza and Bordatella bronchiseptica) is required to be administered every 12 months to be “current”

In order to renew the annual registration for a breeding bitch the owner must supply evidence of a “current” vaccination certificate – to this extent the certificate can provide evidence that the C3 component of the vaccination is considered current for a 3 year period – however the kennel cough component (parainfluenza and bordetella bronchiseptica) of the vaccine is required to be re-administered by a veterinary surgeon every 12 months for the vaccination certificate to be current. RWWA therefore advises that a vaccination certificate can only be considered current if both the C3 and the kennel cough components of the C5 vaccination are current and neither component is overdue for re-vaccination.

Footnote

The standard vaccine administered in Australia is the C3 vaccine which provides protection against canine parvovirus, canine hepatitis and canine distemper virus (Day, Horzinek, & Schultz, 2010). The inclusion of the canine parainfluenza vaccine upgrades the vaccine to a C4 and the inclusion of the B. bronchiseptica vaccine upgrades the vaccine to a C5 (Day, Horzinek, & Schultz, 2010).

When referring to the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) guidelines for canine vaccination against CIRDC pathogens, they recommend that should intranasal or oral live attenuated vaccines be used that dogs are revaccinated every 12 months as IgA antibodies are reduced in circulation after 12 months (Day, Horzinek, & Schultz, 2010).