

Red Tape Review Rule Report

(Due: September 1, 20 26)

Department Name:	Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission	Date:	10/7/25	Total Rule Count:	15 rules in chapter 7
IAC #:	491	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	7	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	99D.7, 99D.9B(5), 99D.23(1), 99D.25
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

IRGC promulgated chapter 7 to regulate the conduct of live greyhound races and establish standards for greyhound racetracks. The chapter was originally promulgated in 1985.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

No racetrack in Iowa has offered live greyhound races since 2022. See "Greyhound racing comes to an end in Iowa," Radio Iowa (May 16, 2022), <https://www.radioiowa.com/2022/05/16/greyhound-racing-comes-to-an-end-in-iowa/>. Therefore, the chapter is no longer necessary.

What are the costs incurred by the public to comply with the rule?

Because live greyhound races have not taken place in Iowa since 2022, there are no current costs incurred by the public to comply with chapter 7.

What are the costs to the agency or any other agency to implement/enforce the rule?

Because live greyhound races have not taken place in Iowa since 2022, there are no current costs for the agency to implement and enforce chapter 7.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

Although there are no ongoing costs either for the public or for the agency, the rules are outdated because live greyhound races are no longer occurring in Iowa. Therefore, the chapter no longer necessary to include in the Iowa Administrative Code.

Are there less restrictive alternatives to accomplish the benefit? ☒ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please list alternative(s) and provide analysis of less restrictive alternatives from other states, if applicable. If NO, please explain.

With no live greyhound races occurring in Iowa since 2022, the rules in chapter 7 are no longer necessary. Greyhound racing is still authorized under Iowa Code chapter 99D but the Commission does not know of any plans by a racetrack licensee to resume live greyhound races in Iowa. If chapter 7 is repealed and an Iowa racetrack licensee expressed interest in resuming live greyhound races in Iowa, it would be necessary to enact regulations once again for the conduct of those races. But that need could be addressed if and when it occurs.

In October 2024, the Arkansas Racing Commission passed a motion repealing its rules and regulations for greyhound racing, noting there had been no greyhound racing in Arkansas since 2022. Minutes of that meeting are available at https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/RAC_10102024.pdf. A similar path is proposed for Iowa.

Does this chapter/rule(s) contain language that is obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant, or unnecessary language, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language? [list chapter/rule number(s) that fall under any of the above categories]

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The entirety of chapter 7 is now unnecessary. Live greyhound racing has not occurred in Iowa since 2022.

RULES PROPOSED FOR REPEAL (list rule number[s]):

491 IAC chapter 7—all rules.

RULES PROPOSED FOR RE-PROMULGATION (list rule number[s] or include rule text if available):

None located in 491 IAC chapter 7.

***For rules being re-promulgated with changes, you may attach a document with suggested changes.**

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	15
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	11,257
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	266 “shall”; 44 “must”; 10 “require”

ARE THERE ANY STATUTORY CHANGES YOU WOULD RECOMMEND INCLUDING CODIFYING ANY RULES?

Iowa Code chapter 99D contains over 180 instances of the word “dog.” This language in the Code reflects that greyhound racing is still legally authorized even though live greyhound races are no longer taking place in Iowa. Broad conforming changes to chapter 99D to remove many of the references to dogs—while continuing to authorize *horse* racing through chapter 99D and continuing to authorize simulcast wagering in Iowa on dog races taking place in other jurisdictions—would mean live greyhound racing could not resume in Iowa unless a future legislature decides to re-authorize it.

Additionally, Iowa Code section 99D.9A addresses dog racetrack licensure and a “live racing cessation date” of 2014 for Dubuque County and 2015 for Pottawattamie County. These live racing cessation dates have passed and live greyhound racing has indeed ceased. Thus, some of the provisions detailing live racing cessation and other events associated with live greyhound racing cessation may be outdated.

Finally, Iowa Code section 99D.9B establishes a greyhound pari-mutuel racing fund. The Commission has not made any distributions from this fund since 2022 and there are no further deposits being made into the fund under Iowa Code section 99D.9B(2). There is no money remaining in the fund. Thus, this fund could be repealed with no fiscal impact to the State.