

**491—7.8(99D) Withdrawals and scratches.**

**7.8(1)** The withdrawal of a greyhound from an engagement is irrevocable.

**7.8(2)** Withdrawals from sweepstakes shall be made to the racing secretary in the same manner as for making entries. The racing secretary shall record the day and hour of receipt and give early publicity thereto.

**7.8(3)** Withdrawals from official races must be made by the owner, trainer, or authorized agent to the racing secretary or assistant racing secretary at least one-half hour before the time designated for the drawing of post positions on the day prior to the day on which the greyhound is to race, or at the time the racing secretary may appoint.

**7.8(4)** Any greyhound that is withdrawn from a race after the overnight entries are closed shall be deemed a scratch. Such a greyhound shall lose all preference accrued up to that date unless excused by the stewards.

*a.* In order to scratch a greyhound entered in a race, sufficient cause must be given to satisfy the stewards, and the cause must be reported immediately.

*b.* Any scratches that occur as the result of a violation of a commission rule must carry a penalty, or a suspension of the greyhound for a period of six racing days, or both. Scratches for other causes shall be disciplined at the discretion of the stewards.

*c.* If any owner or trainer fails to have the greyhound entered at the appointed time for weigh in and as a result the greyhound is scratched, the stewards shall impose a fine, suspension, or both, on the person or persons responsible.

*d.* The stewards may for sufficient cause scratch a greyhound entered in a race.

**7.8(5)** All greyhounds scratched from a race because of overweight or underweight shall receive a suspension of six racing days and must school back before starting in an official race. Greyhounds so scratched may school during their suspension.