



Greyhound Animal Welfare Manual

(Effective from 30 April 2015)

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APPENDICES

REFERENCE AND SUPPORT DOCUMENTS



1. TASRACING'S AIM

To protect and enhance the welfare of racing animals in Tasmania.

The Greyhound Racing Industry

Man and dogs have lived together, successfully, for the past 6000 years. There is a long history of racing greyhounds both in Australia and internationally.

The racing industry is a significant employer and economic entity. It is well regulated with both national and local rules.

It is an industry that necessarily involves the breeding, rearing and management of a significant numbers of animals.

It is recognised that a successful racing industry depends upon the animals being physically sound and psychologically happy. Australian racing authorities have an excellent reputation for acting to protect the welfare of their animals.

2. SCOPE

Tasracing acknowledges that the greyhound racing industry, its promoters and regulators are collectively accountable for the welfare of all animals involved in greyhound racing in Australasia. Tasracing believes that this accountability covers the whole lifecycle of the greyhound from birth until the greyhound leaves the industry.

Tasracing also recognises the clubs and the owners and trainers of greyhounds each have distinct roles to play in relation to animal welfare. An effective animal welfare policy must recognise these respective roles and responsibilities.

Tasracing & Racing Services Tasmania

Have the primary responsibility for the control of greyhound racing and animal welfare in Tasmania through the implementation of relevant policies, rules and regulations as well as information and education programs.

Greyhound Racing Clubs

Tasracing expects all greyhound racing clubs to recognise the importance of animal and greyhound welfare in all aspects of their operations and adhere to all applicable state policies and regulations in this regard.

Greyhound Racing Participants

Tasracing expects every individual greyhound owner to take personal responsibility for the welfare of their greyhounds including ensuring that any trainers or other persons in control of their management strictly adhere to all animal welfare policies and regulations.

3. DEFINITIONS

Word/Term	Definition
GAP	Greyhound Adoption Programme
GAR	Greyhounds Australasia Rules
LR	Local Rules
OTV	Official Track Veterinarian
RP&RSC	Racing Policy & Rules Sub-Committee
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
RST	Racing Services Tasmania

4. TASRACINGS'S PRINCIPLES

Tasracing encourages those involved in racing to act responsibly towards the animals engaged in the sport. At all times the welfare of the animal remains paramount and should never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

These principles are based on the International Group of Specialist Racing Veterinarians Guidelines adopted in April 1998 – Welfare Guidelines for Horse Racing (April 1998).

4.1. Animal Welfare during Preparation and Presentation of Animals for Racing

At all stages during the preparation and presentation of animals for racing their welfare should take precedence over all other demands.

4.1.1. Good Management

The housing, feeding and training of animals should be compatible with good management and must not compromise their welfare. Any practices which cause physical or mental suffering, whether in housing, training or racing, should not be tolerated.

4.1.2. Training Methods

Training methods which cause fear or impose undue restrictions on the normal behaviour of animals should not be used. Animals should only be given training schedules which match their physical capabilities and level of maturity. They should not be subjected to programmes for which they have not been properly prepared.

4.1.3. Transport

During transport to and from training grounds and racecourse, full attention should be paid to protecting animals against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles should be well ventilated and regularly maintained and disinfected.

4.1.4. Rest Periods

Long journeys should be planned carefully and animals allowed regular rest periods and access to fresh water.

4.2. Condition of Animals prior to Competing

Animals should be in a fit and healthy condition before being allowed to compete.

4.2.1. Veterinary Inspections

No animal showing symptoms of disease, lameness or other ailment should be raced when to do so would be against its best interests. Whenever there is any doubt, a veterinary inspection should be requested and this should be undertaken before the animal is allowed to race.

4.2.2. Immaturity

Animals mature at widely different rates. Training and racing schedules should be carefully planned to minimise the risk of musculo-skeletal injuries.

4.2.3. Severe or Recurrent Clinical Conditions

Animals with severe or recurrent clinical conditions should, on veterinary advice, be temporarily or permanently excluded from racing.

4.3. Race Meeting Conditions

Conditions at race meetings should not prejudice animal welfare.

4.3.1. Surface Conditions

Race tracks and racing surfaces should be designed and maintained to reduce risk factors which lead to injuries. Particular attention should be paid to uneven racing surfaces and extremes of surface quality.

4.3.2. Extreme Weather

Common sense should be used when racing in extreme weather. Provision should be made to cool animals quickly after racing in hot and/or humid conditions.

4.3.3. Medication

After any veterinary treatment, time should be allowed for full recovery before competitions. The main purpose of rules controlling the use of drugs should be to protect the welfare of the animal. Additionally, these rules should prevent unfair competition and the masking of defects which might be passed on at stud.

4.3.4. Racecourse Accommodation

Racecourse accommodation should be safe, hygienic, comfortable and well ventilated.

4.4. Post Race Care

Every effort should be made to ensure that animals receive proper attention after they have raced, and that they are treated humanely when their racing careers are over.

4.4.1. Veterinary Treatment

Veterinary expertise should always be available on the racecourse. If required the animal should be transported to the nearest referral centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured animals should be given full supportive treatment before transport.

4.4.2. Racing Injuries

The incidence of injuries sustained in racing and training should be monitored. Track conditions, frequency of racing, immaturity, and any other risk factors, should be carefully examined to indicate ways to minimise severe injuries.

4.4.3. Euthanasia

If injuries are sufficiently severe the animal may need to be euthanized on humane grounds. Euthanasia should be undertaken as soon as possible with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

Euthanasia of animals, for any other reason, should always be performed by a veterinarian.

4.4.4. Retirement

Owners are to make every effort to ensure that their animals are sympathetically and humanely treated when they leave racing. Animals should be identifiable so that their welfare in retirement can be monitored.

5. STATE LEGISLATION

5.1. Animal Welfare Act 1993

www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

5.2. Animal Health Act 1995

www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

5.3. Dog Control Act 2000

www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

6. RULES

6.1. Greyhounds Australasia Rules

www.tasracing.com.au/greyhounds

[RULES SPECIFIC TO ANIMAL WELFARE]

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6.2. Tasmanian Greyhound Local Rules of Racing

www.tasracing.com.au/greyhounds

[RULES SPECIFIC TO ANIMAL WELFARE]

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7. POLICIES

7.1. Greyhound Animal Welfare Policies - Refer APPENDIX

Policy Number	Policy Name
GPOL0065	Approved Lures
GPOL0016	Care during Training
GPOL0011	Euthanasia
GPOL0017	Food and Water
GPOL0018	Health and Veterinary Care
GPOL0023	Hot Weather
GPOL0019	Hygiene
GPOL0024	Hypoxia
GPOL0020	Kennels
GPOL0052	Microchip Implantation
GPOL0037	Muzzles
GPOL0066	Muzzles At Trials
GPOL0035	Muzzles In Kennels
GPOL0029	On Track Veterinary Protocols
GPOL0030	Post Mortem Examination (Autopsy)
GPOL0045	Prohibited Substances
GPOL0036	Retirement
GPOL0021	Transport
GPOL0042	Unclean or Contagious Condition
GPOL0022	Weight

8. FAQ's [Frequently Asked Questions]

Why should racing people 'use' animals?

Society permits people to eat cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens; wear animals – as leather; use animals for medical research, keep pets and race horses and greyhounds.

The role of animals in society is mentioned in the Bible – Genesis 1.28.

Society permits this use provided the animals are treated humanely.

Why should greyhounds be confined for long periods?

Greyhounds are relaxed animals that demonstrate this behaviour no matter how confined. Whether in kennels, yards or runs they mainly eat and rest.

Regular exercise is required but not for long periods.

Their temperament differs markedly to 'working' dogs like kelpies or border collies.

What about drugs in racing?

Australia has the toughest drug control rules in the world.

Since 2005 through to 2011 in Tasmania, there have been only 9 "positive" samples from almost 2,000 samples analysed, with only four of those being "positive" to a stimulant.

What happens to retired animals?

Tasracing rules and policies ensure that owners take responsibility for the fate of their animals. If euthanasia is necessary (due to physical or psychological unsoundness) it is administered humanely, by a veterinarian.

Tasracing manages and funds the Greyhound Adoption Program [GAP], Tasmania.

The mission of GAP is to find responsible permanent loving homes for retired racing greyhounds, to provide for their health and welfare and to educate people about the availability and absolute suitability of greyhounds as pets.

Greyhounds become available for adoption each year and because the public are largely unaware of the magnificent, warm and affectionate nature of these dogs they don't consider them as an alternative for a pet.

By generating a more positive perception of the breed, GAP aims to find responsible, caring and loving permanent homes for these greyhounds who have truly earned their retirement.

All GAP greyhounds are Temperament Tested, Sterilised, C5 Vaccinated, Wormed, Micro Chipped and come with a lead, collar, muzzle and plenty of support from GAP.

Various other sponsors together with profits generated from the sale of merchandise further supplement GAP funding.

How many greyhounds are injured in racing?

Like all sports involving elite athletes, greyhounds suffer from a range of injuries.

Tasracing records all injuries reported by the on track veterinarian and regularly reviews those statistics.

The track curators have a documented schedule for the preparation and maintenance of all tracks; however whenever the injury report suggests that the racing surface may be a contributor to the injuries, action is taken to correct any anomalies.

What action is taken upon evidence of cruelty?

Tasracing and Racing Services Tasmania have a good cooperative relationship with the RSPCA.

Racing Services Tasmania Stewards treat all animal welfare issues seriously.

Acts of cruelty, neglect or abuse result in a prompt and thorough investigation with considerable penalties being applied to any person found guilty of a breach of any of a wide array of rules and policies.

Regular and unannounced inspections are conducted at properties of licensed persons, racecourses and training centres to ensure strict adherence to animal welfare requirements and regulations.

Records held by Racing Services Tasmania reveal considerable penalties to have been applied for breaches of the rules in relation to animal welfare. A number of people have been disqualified for lengthy periods. This means they cannot participate in the industry in any form.

Racing Services Tasmania officials will continue their vigilance in regard to the welfare of greyhounds and will act decisively when issues arise.

To enhance this commitment, Racing Services Tasmania has developed a professional and close working relationship with the RSPCA.

Racing Services Tasmania is ever mindful of its obligations and responsibilities in ensuring the promotion and welfare of animals involved within the racing industry and guarantees swift and decisive action will result should this expectation be compromised.

9. RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

9.1. Information on Breeding a Litter of Greyhounds

www.tasracing.com.au/greyhounds

9.2. Management and Care for each Stage in the Lifecycle of a Greyhound

www.tasracing.com.au/greyhounds

9.3. Recommended Standards for the Care of Greyhounds

www.tasracing.com.au/greyhounds

APPENDIX

1. OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this policy is to detail the materials permitted to be used as an approved lure in connection with greyhound training, education or preparation to race, racing and trialling.

2. POLICY:

- 2.1 No person shall use anything apart from a tanned and professionally processed sheep skin or a synthetic material as a lure in connection with greyhound training, education or preparation to race, racing and trialling
- 2.2 Tasracing shall provide the material to be used as a lure in races in Tasmania which shall be a tanned and professionally processed sheep skin or a synthetic material.
- 2.3 Clubs/Associations shall provide the material to be attached to the arm for run-on trials and normal trial sessions.
- 2.4 The material which clubs can attach to the arm and be/or be used as a lure at trials shall be either a tanned sheep skin provided by Tasracing or a synthetic material.
- 2.5 Each Club/Association shall provide a drag lure (used to drag pups into the catching pen) which shall be made from a tanned sheep skin provided by Tasracing or a synthetic material provided by the Club. This lure may be enhanced with the inclusion of a squeaker or rattle at the entire discretion of the club.
- 2.6 The only material permitted to be attached to the drag at straight tracks is a sheep skin provided by Tasracing or other item approved by Tasracing or a synthetic material provided by the Club/Association conducting the trials.
- 2.7 Trainers are not permitted to interfere with the material provided by the Club/Association as a lure in any way (including scenting the material).

GPOL0016

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards of care during training for greyhounds.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. Exercise designed to prepare the greyhound for racing should be regular and incremental and not excessive.
- 2.2. A competent person should carefully examine greyhounds after fast exercise for any signs of injury or physical stress.
- 2.3. Public trialling should only be carried out at tracks licensed for the purpose.
- 2.4. Greyhounds found to be injured must not be exercised or galloped in a manner that may aggravate such injury.
- 2.5. Injury sustained through exercise shall be treated in accordance with accepted veterinary practice, which may include resting or spelling in order to facilitate recovery.
- 2.6. Prohibited substances as defined by the racing authority shall not be administered to a greyhound for any purpose unless by, or under the instructions of, a veterinary surgeon and only in accordance with the regulations relevant to racing.



The only acceptable method of euthanasia for racing and retired greyhounds is by an intravenous lethal injection of Pentobarbitone.

No other method of euthanasia is condoned.

All other methods of euthanasia have an inherent risk of not being carried out quickly and efficiently and so leaving the dog in a stressful and painful situation.

No other methods of euthanasia have any support based on current public and social standards.

This policy is consistent with Greyhounds Australasia's Rule 106 (3) regarding euthanasia of greyhounds.

This policy has the full support of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) and the Australian Greyhound Veterinary Association (AGVA).

GPOL0017

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards for the food and water requirements for greyhounds.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. Greyhounds must receive appropriate and sufficient food and water at all times to maintain good health and growth, recognising the special needs of differing ages.
- 2.2. Food must be stored in a manner that best prevents its deterioration.
- 2.3. Feeding
 - 2.3.1. All greyhounds must receive appropriate, uncontaminated and nutritionally adequate food according to the accepted requirements for their activity levels and age.
 - 2.3.2. A variety of foods should be supplied. Fresh meat and quality dry foods will form the staple diet in most cases.
 - 2.3.3. Food should be prepared hygienically
 - 2.3.4. Food should be stored appropriately, i.e. dry food kept in a rodent-free place and fresh meat kept refrigerated.
 - 2.3.5. One feeding container should be provided for each greyhound or puppy.
 - 2.3.6. Healthy mature greyhounds in race training must be fed at least once each day so as to provide adequate nutrition for their race training needs.
 - 2.3.7. Trainers should exercise extreme caution in feeding meat to racing greyhounds to ensure the meat is not contaminated. Meat from animals which have knowingly been treated with prohibited substances should not be fed under any circumstances.
 - 2.3.8. Puppies should be fed at least twice each day or more frequently.
 - 2.3.9. All healthy greyhounds should be fed at least once each day, or more frequently if pregnant or nursing puppies.
 - 2.3.10. Sick greyhounds should be fed in accordance with veterinary advice.
- 2.4. Containers
 - 2.4.1. Food and water containers must be stable, non-toxic, and easily cleaned/disinfected. Containers should be readily accessible to greyhounds, and be positioned to avoid spillage or contamination by urine or faeces.
 - 2.4.2. Spoiled food must be removed.
 - 2.4.3. Fresh water must be available at all times.

GPOL0018

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards of health and veterinary care for greyhounds.

2. POLICY

2.1. Health Checks

- 2.1.1. All greyhounds should be inspected at least once daily to monitor their health and well-being.
- 2.1.2. The person checking greyhounds should note if each greyhound is:
- 2.1.2.1. Eating
 - 2.1.2.2. Drinking
 - 2.1.2.3. Defecating
 - 2.1.2.4. Urinating
 - 2.1.2.5. Behaving normally
 - 2.1.2.6. Showing any obvious signs of illness or distress
 - 2.1.2.7. Is free from injury and able to move about freely.
- 2.1.3. Any changes in health status must be promptly reported to the person responsible for appropriate action

2.2. Veterinary care

- 2.2.1. The responsible registered person should establish liaison with a veterinary surgeon that is able to attend to greyhounds in his or her care, and is also able to advise on disease prevention measures.
- 2.2.2. The manager and staff should be familiar with the signs of common diseases and injury of the greyhound.
- 2.2.3. When signs of disease or injury are observed, action must be promptly taken to protect the well-being of individual greyhounds and prevent the spread of disease.
- 2.2.4. Appropriate veterinary care must be provided for sick greyhounds.
- 2.2.5. Greyhounds suspected of being injured or diseased should not be allowed to race, be overworked or offered for sale.
- 2.2.6. Sick or injured greyhounds should be kept isolated from healthy greyhounds.
- 2.2.7. Veterinary advice should be obtained in the event of unexplained illness or deaths.
- 2.2.8. Internal and external parasites should be controlled in accordance with veterinary advice.

GPOL0018

- 2.2.9. Under Local rule 36.9 medical records detailing all vaccinations, worming and medicinal treatment must be maintained on each greyhound and be produced for inspection when requested by the Stewards. The following illustration details an example of the minimum acceptable detail of records required to be kept.

MEDICATION LOG			
Date	Greyhound	Treatment (name, dose, route)	Administered by

2.3. Euthanasia

- 2.3.1. Where, as the result of injury or sickness or age, treatment to restore the health or physical wellbeing of a greyhound is impractical or unsuccessful, greyhounds must have the benefit of humane euthanasia.
- 2.3.2. Euthanasia must be performed in accordance with the Euthanasia policy (GPOL 0011).

Each morning during the period of daylight saving when a race meeting is scheduled, the Racing Operations Section of Racing Services Tasmania will log on to the Bureau of Meteorology website, which gives the most up-to-date temperature forecasts for each centre in the State.

The forecast temperature is then ascertained for the racing venue for that day.

Applications for scratchings without penalty due to the heat will only be approved if the official Bureau of Meteorology predicted temperature is 30° Celsius or above at the venue where the meeting is to be conducted and the journey required for reaching the track exceeds eighty kilometres one way.

The application must be made prior to the official scratching time for the meeting.

Trainers cannot pick and choose which greyhounds to scratch. If the Trainer applies to scratch a greyhound from a race meeting under this policy ALL of his/her greyhounds must be scratched from that race meeting.

The Stewards will maintain records of the Trainers applying to scratch and greyhounds scratched due to the heat.

If the temperature at the venue reaches 33° Celsius during the course of the meeting, the Stewards may abandon the race meeting.

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards of hygiene for greyhound kennels and enclosures.

2. POLICY

2.1. Cleaning and disinfection

- 2.1.1. Greyhound enclosures, their surrounds and enclosed equipment must be kept clean to assist with disease prevention and to ensure the well being of greyhounds.
- 2.1.2. Greyhound enclosures should be managed to minimise the risk of cross-infection.
- 2.1.3. All internal greyhound enclosures should be treated with appropriate disinfectants once a week or more frequently as necessary.
- 2.1.4. Cleaning and disinfection chemicals and materials should be chosen on the basis of their suitability, safety and effectiveness. They must only be used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.

2.2. Pest control

- 2.2.1. Pests, including external parasites and rodents, must be controlled.
- 2.2.2. Specialist advice should be sought before pest control operations are conducted, in order to protect the health and safety of the staff and the greyhounds.
- 2.2.3. Chemicals used for pest control should be registered under the Pesticides Act and only used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.

2.3. Waste disposal

- 2.3.1. Droppings, bedding and food wastes must be disposed of promptly and hygienically, in accordance with the requirements of the local government authority.

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the strategy of action for greyhounds that suffer hypoxic ataxia and collapse.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. A greyhound deemed by the On Track Veterinarian to have “mild” hypoxia, post race (i.e. Greyhound does not collapse), the Owner/Trainer/Attendant would be cautioned and this would subsequently be recorded in the Steward’s report and on the bandages list. Greyhounds continuously displaying symptoms shall be monitored visually, after each race, by the On Track Veterinarian.
- 2.2. Should a greyhound exhibit signs of a more serious state of hypoxia, post race (i.e. Defined as significant – greyhound collapsing or would collapse if not supported by handler), the greyhound shall be stood down for 6 days and placed on one satisfactory solo trial under GAR74 to be conducted in the presence of the On Track Veterinarian. At completion of the trial the greyhound shall be examined by On Track Veterinarian for any signs of hypoxia. Should the On Track Veterinarian report any signs of hypoxia being present then trial will not be considered to have been completed to the satisfaction of the Stewards.
- 2.3. Should the same greyhound be deemed by the On Track Veterinarian to have significant hypoxia, post race on a second occasion that greyhound shall be stood down for 14 days and placed on one satisfactory solo trial under GAR74 to be conducted in the presence of the On Track Veterinarian. At completion of the trial the greyhound shall be examined by On Track Veterinarian for any signs of hypoxia. Should the On Track Veterinarian report any signs of hypoxia being present then trial will not be considered to have been completed to the satisfaction of the Stewards.
- 2.4. Should the same greyhound be deemed by the On Track Veterinarian to have significant hypoxia, post race on a third occasion that greyhound shall be stood down for 21 days and placed on one satisfactory solo trial under GAR74 to be conducted in the presence of the On Track Veterinarian. At completion of the trial the greyhound shall be examined by On Track Veterinarian for any signs of hypoxia. Should the On Track Veterinarian report any signs of hypoxia being present then trial will not be considered to have been completed to the satisfaction of the Stewards.
- 2.5. Diagnosis by the On Track Veterinarian of a fourth post race, significant hypoxia, shall result in consideration as to the suitability of the greyhound’s racing future.

1 OBJECTIVE

- 1.1. The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards for kennels for greyhounds.

2 POLICY

2.1 Location of kennels

- 2.1.1. Greyhound kennels should be located away from sources of excessive noise or pollution that could stress or injure greyhounds and positioned in a shaded area where possible.

2.2. Construction of kennels

- 2.2.1. Greyhound enclosures must be designed and maintained to minimise the risk of injury, disease, theft or escape.
- 2.2.2. Greyhound enclosures should prevent interference to greyhounds by unauthorised people.
- 2.2.3. Greyhound enclosures must be designed for ease of cleaning, feeding, watering and the regular inspection of greyhounds kept.
- 2.2.4. All solid surfaces of greyhound enclosures must be impervious or painted, to facilitate cleaning and disinfection. Only non-toxic paint should be used in greyhound enclosures.

2.3. Temperature

- 2.3.1. Environmental temperature should be controlled to minimise distress to greyhounds. Heating or cooling should be provided for young greyhounds as necessary.
- 2.3.2. Greyhound enclosures should have adequate shade when exposed to direct sunlight.
- 2.3.3. Greyhound enclosures should be free from draughts.

2.4. Noise

- 2.4.1. Loud or sudden noise, which may distress greyhounds, should be avoided.

2.5. Lighting

- 2.5.1. The duration and intensity of internal lighting should be as close as possible to natural conditions.
- 2.5.2. Lighting must be sufficient to enable thorough inspection of greyhounds.
- 2.5.3. Care must be taken to ensure that lights do not generate excessive heat.

2.6. Ventilation

- 2.6.1. Ventilation must be sufficient to avoid excessive heat or cold, dampness and draughts, and minimise noxious odours.

2.7. Security

- 2.7.1. Premises must be secure. Outside greyhound enclosures must be fitted with secure doors or gates.
- 2.7.2. All external openings should be screened to prevent escape of greyhounds and where possible minimise the entry of insects.
- 2.7.3. All greyhound enclosures must be able to be securely fastened or locked.
- 2.7.4. Appropriate fire fighting equipment must be readily available and staff trained and practised in its use.
- 2.7.5. Emergency procedures should be developed for the safe evacuation of both humans and greyhounds from a kennel block in case of an emergency.

GAR 111A(1) states that a greyhound whelped on or after 1 January 2011 must be ear branded and micro-chipped in accordance with the requirements of the Controlling Body.

This policy outlines the procedures determined by Racing Services Tasmania (RST) (the integrity Controlling Body) as applicable to meeting the requirements of GAR 111A.

Litters whelped in Tasmania must be implanted in accordance with the following –

- Breeders must arrange to have their litters marked up and ear branded between 8 to 10 weeks of age by an RST Marking Official prior to having the pups micro-chipped.
- Pups must have an RST approved and supplied microchip implanted by an RST Approved Implanter and this must occur between 10 to 16 weeks of age.
- Vaccination must also be completed in accordance with GAR 135(1)(b) between 10 to 16 weeks of age.
- A fully completed litter registration application must be submitted to RST within 4 months from the date of whelping, unless approval for an extension of this time is sought and granted by RST.

The Tasmanian Director of Racing has determined that all greyhounds which are used for breeding purposes in Tasmania must be micro-chipped in accordance with the following procedure.

- Racing Services Tasmania will provide the owners of stud dogs and breeding bitches with a letter of authority to allow the implantation of an RST supplied and approved microchip by an RST Approved Implanter.
- This letter of authority will be issued following the receipt by RST of –
 - an application to register a stud sire; or
 - notification that a bitch has been served, if RST records indicate that the greyhound does not already have a microchip implanted.
- The implantation of stud dogs must be completed prior to the registration as a Stud Sire being approved.
- Breeding bitches should be implanted prior to whelping but must be implanted prior to the first resultant litter being registered.
- RST will maintain microchip records.

A greyhound which is not implanted in accordance with the above requirements will only be registered if exceptional circumstances are proven. Such exceptional circumstances will generally relate to matters outside the control of the breeder.

An approved type of muzzle is one that is of standard design, is of wire and includes a strap behind the ears and a nose band, and enables the greyhound to open its mouth without hindrance.

Trainers may make application to the Stewards to include a guard of clear plastic designed to prevent flying sand from entering the nose and mouth of the greyhound. Stewards will give consideration to approve once they have inspected the muzzle.

GPOL0066

1. OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this policy is to detail the permissible removal of a muzzle when a greyhound is competing in a run-on trial.

2. POLICY:

2.1 A greyhound participating in a run-on trial may have its muzzle removed, however in all other trials a muzzle must be worn.



Providing a trainer has notified Stewards in advance the trainer can determine whether the greyhound will wear a muzzle while it is secured in the kennel bay, based on his or her knowledge of the manners of the individual greyhound. Pursuant to Greyhounds Australasia Rules before the greyhound is removed, for any reason from the kennel bays, the greyhound must be wearing a metal wire racing muzzle. *(Please note: Plastic muzzles will not suffice)*



The document titled “A Protocol for the Veterinary Surgeon Officiating at Greyhound Race Meetings” as published by the Australian Greyhound Veterinary Association and adopted by Tasracing shall form the On Track Veterinary Protocols.

The current version of the adopted document is April 2010.

This document shall be distributed to all Clubs, Stewards and Veterinary Surgeons officiating at greyhound race meetings.

This policy documents the procedure to be followed when the Stewards may request the On Track Veterinarian to conduct or organise an off track post mortem examination of a greyhound

- 1 Each Club shall purchase a body bag (cremation type) and store it in the Veterinary Room at the track. This is in addition to a body bag provided by the On Track Veterinarian as part of the “drugs and supplies” required to be provided by the On Track Veterinarian and shall only be used when an off track post mortem examination has been requested.
- 2 Clubs shall ensure the freezer contains an ample number of snap freeze packs that can be utilised for transport of the carcass to the laboratory if an off track post mortem examination is requested.
- 3 All off track post mortem examinations shall be carried out by the Mt. Pleasant Laboratory at Prospect or a Veterinarian approved by the Steward in charge of the meeting and the following details the procedures required:
- 4 A Laboratory Advice Note, completed as demonstrated below, shall accompany the carcass. On the “Test Required” section please reference any special or specific tests that are agreed upon by the Stewards in consultation with the On Track Veterinarian.
- 5 The carcass should be placed in a body bag together with freezer packs and the bag then sealed in the presence of the Trainer (or Owner), the On Track Veterinarian and Stewards in accordance with the drug sampling procedures.
- 6 The Seal Number is to be recorded on the Laboratory Advice Note.
- 7 Chain of custody is important in the case of any subsequent inquiry, and therefore the Stewards shall arrange for transport and delivery of the carcass to the laboratory or approved Veterinarian together with the Laboratory Advice Note at the earliest available opportunity.
- 8 If the carcass cannot be delivered on the same day, it should be kept chilled overnight. An “esky” type container into which the body bag containing the carcass can be placed and then filled with ice is suitable for this purpose.
- 9 The cost of an off track post mortem examination shall be borne by Racing Services Tasmania.
- 10 Guidelines for Requesting a Post Mortem Examination

If a greyhound dies, either before, during or after an Event and the cause of death cannot be determined by the On Track Veterinarian and/or the Stewards wish to verify the death is not related to external influences, they may order an autopsy to be conducted.

GPOL0045

1. OBJECTIVE:

To provide guidance to trainers in respect to treatments and medications for greyhounds

2. BACKGROUND:

All greyhound races in Tasmania are subject to the Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR) and the Tasmanian Greyhound Local Rules of Racing. Both sets of Rules are available from Tasracing or Racing Services Tasmania (RST) and may be downloaded from the websites at www.tasracing.com.au or www.dier.tas.gov.au/racing.

All participants in the industry do so subject to and take full responsibility for their compliance with the Rules which contain, amongst other things, regulations regarding prohibited substances and penalties for the greyhounds that have received them and the persons who administer them.

Prohibited substances are defined in GAR 1 under “Prohibited Substance”.

Substances exempt from being prohibited substances are defined in GAR 1 under “Exempt Substance”.

Permanently Banned Prohibited Substances are defined in GAR 79A (2).

3. POLICY:

Participants should also be aware that the detection times of many medications can be prolonged and are unpredictable when medications are administered concomitantly (concurrently) or given for an extended time. Detection times may also be prolonged by many factors including, but not limited to: dose rate, drug preparation, route of administration, training status and health status of the greyhound.

Herbal remedies and medicines, including those obtained over-the-counter, may contain prohibited substances. Participants are advised to avoid their use because the constituents of many of these preparations are unlisted or unknown.

Participants should be aware that any drug treatment could potentially cause contamination of kennel areas. Strategies to minimise the risk of contamination include:

- Secure storage of all therapeutic preparations
- Therapeutic preparations should be administered by a responsible person and should be recorded in the greyhound’s medication record as required under Local Rule 36.9
- Personnel handling therapeutic substances should use disposable gloves and wash their hand between administrations

RST offers the service of pre-race elective sample testing which allows licensed Tasmanian trainers to determine the suitability for racing of greyhounds that have been treated with therapeutic medications. Information related to the format, timeframe and cost of the procedure is available from RST. All costs for the testing are the responsibility of the trainer.

GPOL0045

Trainers should be aware that advice that a sample for which pre-race elective testing was requested is clear of any substance(s) will not absolve trainers of their responsibility to present their greyhounds to race free of any prohibited or permanently banned prohibited substance(s).

The Local Rules require that the person in charge of a greyhound shall maintain records detailing all vaccinations, worming and medical treatments administered to a greyhound from the time the greyhound enters his/her care until the greyhound leaves his/her care and produce such records for inspection when requested by a Steward or authorised officer.

The following illustration details an example of the minimum acceptable detail of records required to be kept.

Illustration 1

MEDICATION LOG			
Date	Greyhound	Treatment (name, dose, route)	Administered by

1. OBJECTIVE:

To provide guidance and recommendations to owners on the permitted options for retirement of racing greyhounds.

2. BACKGROUND:

Greyhound racing is an industry which specifically breeds greyhounds for the purpose of racing which takes advantage of selective breeding and artificial breeding techniques to improve the stamina, speed, health and temperament of the racing stock.

There will always be a number of greyhounds that have finished their racing career, either through injury or age and are retired from racing. There are also animals that, for whatever reason, cannot meet the expectations or requirements of training and racing and are retired from the industry.

3. POLICY

The last registered owner of any racing greyhound is deemed responsible for the welfare of that greyhound until such time as they advise Racing Services Tasmania (RST) that the greyhound has:

- (a) been retired as a pet;
- (b) been surrendered to an approved adoption program;
- (c) been humanely euthanased; or
- (d) died for any other reason.

4. GUIDELINES:

The Rules provide options for the retirement of greyhounds including transfer to the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP), sale as a pet or humane euthanasia by a registered veterinary surgeon.

Tasracing recognises that not all animals are suited to lives as a pet.

Some greyhounds may be suitable to be pets and it is for this reason Tasracing supports GAP which rehabilitates, assesses and re-homes greyhounds that are deemed suited to be part of the community.

GAP operates under strict guidelines and has adopted the National Testing Protocol for the assessment of greyhounds to go into the community. This Protocol has been developed by animal behaviourists for GAP and has been adopted by GAP nationwide. GAP is the only organisation to conduct this assessment.



GPOL0036

In some States of Australia the National Testing Protocol allows GAP graduates to be granted special exemption from the Dog Control Act, allowing them to be walked on a leash in public without a muzzle, provided they are identified by their special numbered green GAP collar (at present this not the case in Tasmania).

The Dog Control Act requires that all other greyhounds must be muzzled and on a leash at all times while in a public place. This includes non-GAP pet greyhounds that have been adopted from the RSPCA, Lost Dog's Home or other animal shelters and those given away or sold as pets by their owners and trainers.

Tasracing urges all owners retiring greyhounds as pets to transfer them to Tasracing's GAP program for rehabilitation and assessment.

Owners are advised not to give away or sell a greyhound to any party that wants to introduce the greyhound into the community but is not registered as a GAP provider who adheres to the National Testing Protocol. These people and/or organisations usually have no responsibility to the industry and the greyhounds are very rarely temperament-matched to their new home and owners.

More details and information on GAP is available at www.gaptas.org.au or contact the GAP Co-ordinator on 0427 045 433.

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to outline the recommended standards for the transport of greyhounds.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. Transport should only be in motor vehicles or containers or trailers suitable for the purpose of transporting animals of greyhound size.
- 2.2. All greyhounds transported within motor vehicles should be suitably restrained to ensure security and protection for the driver and passengers of the vehicle as well as that of the greyhound.
- 2.3. Motor vehicles and trailers must be clean, registered, secure and roadworthy. Containers must be clean and secure.
- 2.4. Internal areas in the mode of transport should permit a greyhound sufficient room to enable it to sit, lie down or stand in a natural position without restriction and also be of appropriate size to avoid trauma during transport.
- 2.5. Greyhounds must be protected from extremes of temperature and must be provided with adequate light and ventilation.
- 2.6. Greyhounds must be given regular opportunity to “empty out” outside the mode of transport and to consume food/fluids during long periods of transportation.
- 2.7. Greyhounds must not be left unattended in a vehicle, trailer or container for any extended period.
- 2.8. Transport by air should be conducted in accordance with International Air Transport Association Live Animals Regulations as amended from time to time. (www.iata.org)

If a greyhound is presented to the Stewards and found to have fleas (as opposed to being declared “infested”, “unclean” or “contagious”) then the handler/trainer is given one opportunity to remove the fleas. This will also apply to any greyhound that appears to have had an application of any flea preparation prior to entering the kennels.

- No flea sprays or treatments are to be applied to the greyhound.
- The Club’s Veterinary Surgeon will then re-inspect the greyhound before it is allowed to enter the kennels.
- Upon second examination if the Veterinary Surgeon is not satisfied that the greyhound is flea free then the Stewards will automatically withdraw the greyhound from its event in accordance with GAR 37(4).

For the purpose of clarity:

- Flea and flea infestations are determined by the presence of flea dirt and/or fleas.
- “Unclean” is a greyhound that is dirty or requires grooming and also includes a greyhound that has an offensive odour.
- All bedding brought into the kennel block must be clean and tidy and Stewards will also monitor this area.
- No trainer shall be granted permission to remove their greyhounds from the kennels for treatment with flea sprays and powders.
- No preparation shall be applied to any greyhound before entering the kennels.

Where a greyhound is brought to a track and upon presentation at the kennels the weight of a greyhound varies by more than 1 kilogram from the weight recorded in an Event or satisfactory weight trial in which it last performed the greyhound shall not be permitted to compete in the Event unless:

- Where a greyhound is presented for an Event and the greyhound has not competed in an Event for more than 28 days, the Stewards may, provided they have received notification in writing at the time of kennelling, and are satisfied with the reason stated, permit a variance of not more than 2 kilograms from the weight recorded at the greyhound's last Event.

There will not be any opportunity for a trainer to endeavour to amend the weight of the greyhound (ie emptying out or feeding) once the greyhound has been presented at the kennels.