

Policy Background

Greyhound Racing SA (GRSA) is committed to ensuring the best animal welfare outcomes at all stages of every greyhound's lifecycle. As such, this policy outlines the minimum requirements which must be satisfied in the event that an owner of a retired greyhound intends to return it to racing.

Application of the Policy

A "retired greyhound" refers to a greyhound which has had its registration to race relinquished. The description incorporates both unraced and raced dogs and applies to locally bred and imported greyhounds. A greyhound is deemed 'retired' if the below Rule has been satisfied:

R106 Proper care (welfare) of greyhounds

- (3) At any time after the notification of the result of service pursuant to Rule 136, the last registered owner of the greyhound at the relevant time, shall notify the Controlling Body by lodging the prescribed form:
- (a) within ten working days, if that greyhound has transferred ownership, been retired as a pet or a breeding greyhound, been transferred to an adoption program, exported or surrendered to another agency;

(amended – 01.09.15)

Where an owner intends to return a retired greyhound to racing, an application must be made to GRSA, consisting of the following:

1. A letter from the last registered owner of the greyhound outlining to the satisfaction of Stewards the reasons why the greyhound should be allowed to return to racing; and
2. A Veterinary Certificate of Fitness for the greyhound signed by a Veterinarian registered with the Veterinary Surgeons Board of South Australia

Factors considered by Stewards in relation unretiring a greyhound include (by are not limited to):

- Whether the greyhound has been in the care of a third party or unregistered person since retirement;
- The veterinary history for the greyhound;
- Previous performance history;
- The previous reasons declared for retirement

Stewards will then consider suitability to continue the application. If approved to continue:

3. The greyhound must complete a Satisfactory Trial in accordance with the GRSA Satisfactory Trial policy (if the greyhound is unraced for more than six (6) months it must comply with the provisions of GAR 77A regardless).

At this point, Stewards will approve or deny the application. If approved, the greyhound's status will be returned to 'named' allowing the trainer to nominate the greyhound. A greyhound will only be approved (if at all) for a return to racing on one (1) occasion. Any subsequent application for a greyhound that has already returned to racing on one (previous) occasion will not be considered.

GRSA reserves the right to request further information if required.

GRSA reserves the right to alter or amend this policy at any time.

This policy is effective as at 1 March 2020