

Stewards' Notice

Animal Welfare Policy

Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry

Amendment to Animal Welfare Policy from 4th April 2024

In furtherance to its commitment to reform following the Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry (**Inquiry**), the Board of Greyhound Racing SA Limited (GRSA), on 4th April 2024, resolved to amend the Animal Welfare Policy to include:

Tethering

Tethering refers to the practice of securing a greyhound to a stationary object or stake in the ground with a rope, chain, or similar restraint to restrict the greyhound's movement within a specified area. Tethering is sometimes used for various reasons, including temporary restraint during outdoor activities or as a part of training exercises.

The practice of tethering, generally, is not recommended. Where tethering of a greyhound is necessary:

- Greyhounds must be under continuous supervision by a registered person when tethered. This ensures that any distress or entanglement can be promptly addressed, minimising the risk of injury or discomfort to the greyhound.
- Greyhounds must not be tethered for more than two hours per day. This limitation is in place to prevent undue stress and to ensure that the greyhounds have ample opportunity for free movement, social interaction, and rest.

Greyhounds must not be tethered in any circumstances that could be detrimental to their health and welfare. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Extreme weather conditions (e.g., excessive heat, cold, or during severe weather events).
- Areas without access to adequate shelter, water, or shade.
- Surfaces that could cause injury to the dog (e.g., overly rough or hot surfaces).

Failure to adhere to this policy will result in disciplinary action, which may include proceedings for breach of L131 of the Local Rules.

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Pest Control

Safe and effective measures must be taken to control pests and vermin (including fleas, ticks, flies, mosquitoes, spiders, snakes, and rodents) in greyhound housing areas, prioritising the well-being of greyhounds and compliance with relevant health and safety regulations.

All pesticides must be kept in their original container and must be commercially available and registered by the *Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)*. The use and storage of pesticides must be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Pesticides are not to be stored in food preparation areas or in any circumstances whereby they could be consumed by greyhounds or people.

Greyhounds must be removed from any areas where and while noxious pesticides are being used to ensure their safety and welfare. Adequate ventilation must be ensured in areas recently treated with pesticides before allowing greyhounds to return.

Expert advice from a person holding a pesticide license should be sought before pest control operations are carried out to ensure that the chosen methods are safe, effective, and compliant with current regulations. A veterinarian should be consulted regarding the pesticides and their ingredients to ensure that none of the ingredients are prohibited or harmful to the greyhounds.

The use of traps for pest control must not contravene the *Animal Welfare Act 1985 (SA)*. Traps used must be humane and checked regularly to prevent unnecessary suffering to captured animals.

Regular monitoring of pest control measures must be conducted to assess their effectiveness and safety.

Greyhound Registration

ORDER

All greyhounds under the jurisdiction of GRSA, including those kept for racing and breeding purposes, must be registered with the Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB). This requirement applies to both newly acquired greyhounds and those already approved for breeding.

Owners, including breeders, must complete the registration process through the DCMB's established procedures. This includes the submission of necessary documentation and adherence to any additional requirements stipulated by the DCMB.

Proof of registration with the DCMB must be presented to GRSA upon request and during any inspections or audits conducted as part of GRSA's ongoing welfare and compliance checks.

Failure to comply with the mandatory registration requirement may result in disciplinary action, including fines, suspension of racing or breeding privileges, or any other sanctions deemed appropriate by GRSA.

The above amendments address Inquiry recommendations 40, 41 and GRSA-5.

Rules and policies of GRSA can be found [here](#).

For further advice, contact the General Manager, Integrity and Welfare, on 08 8243 7100 or admin@grsa.com.au.