

TRACK INJURY REBATE SCHEME (TIRS) POLICY

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Track Injury Rebate Scheme (**TIRS**, or the **Scheme**) is to ensure that greyhounds injured during meetings have every opportunity to be treated and recover, with euthanasia being the last resort. This policy prescribes the Scheme for financial contribution for the treatment and rehabilitation of the injured greyhound.

2. SCOPE

This Scheme applies to all registered persons and greyhounds, where that greyhound is injured at a meeting in South Australia, and the circumstances of the injury meet the eligibility criteria of the Scheme.

3. DEFINITIONS

Applicant means the owner, trainer or other responsible person of a greyhound that sustains an *Eligible Injury* and applies to Greyhound Racing SA (GRSA) for funding under the Scheme.

Event means the competitive pursuit by 1 or more greyhounds of a lure and includes a series, qualifying trial or in the case of a coursing meeting, a “*course*”.

Gap-fee means the monetary difference between the total invoice of fees and charges by a Veterinarian, for the Surgical Procedure or Off-Course Treatment for the Eligible Injury sustained by the greyhound, and the Scheme maximum of \$1,200.00 (or \$200.00 for Off-Course Treatment).

Example – the Veterinarian’s invoice for the Surgical Procedure is for \$1,800.00. The Gap-fee is then \$1,800.00 - \$1,200.00 = \$600.00.

Example – the Veterinarian’s invoice for the Off-Course Treatment is for \$300.00. The Gap-fee is then \$300.00 - \$200.00 = \$100.00.

GAR means the *Greyhounds Australasia Rules* (as may be amended from time to time).

LR means the Local Regulatory Rules (as may be amended from time to time).

Meeting means any occasion at which greyhound racing Events are scheduled to be conducted pursuant to the GAR.

Off-Course Treatment means post-injury investigation and/or treatment, by a veterinarian for the injured greyhound, that is not, or does not result in, a surgical procedure.

Satisfactory Trial has the meaning given to this term in Rule 72 [new-Rule 132] of the GAR.

Steward means a person appointed or approved by the Controlling Body to carry out such duties as pursuant to the GAR or as directed by the Controlling Body or the Chief Steward and includes the Steward in Charge of a Meeting.

Surgical Procedure means a procedure performed for the purpose of structurally altering the body by incision or destruction of tissues.

Veterinary Surgeon and **Veterinarian** means a qualified veterinary surgeon registered pursuant to the appropriate State or Territory legislation.

4. SCHEME DETAIL

4.1. Track Injury Rebate Scheme (TIRS)

The Scheme applies where all the following conditions are satisfied –

- (a) An on-course Veterinarian is on-duty at the Meeting; and,
- (b) The on-course Veterinarian determines that a greyhound has sustained an injury of the type specified in section 4.3; or other life-threatening injury (**Eligible Injury**) during the Meeting; and,
- (c) The on-course Veterinarian refers the greyhound to an off-course Veterinarian for further diagnosis; and, either -
 - (i) The off-course Veterinarian performs a Surgical Procedure; or,
 - (ii) The off-course Veterinarian performs Off-Course Treatment, for the Eligible Injury on the greyhound.

The Scheme does not apply to any injuries expressly excluded in section 4.4 or to any injuries that are sustained by greyhounds during training activities or trials (other than a Satisfactory Trial).

4.2. Scheme Funding

Where the Scheme applies, GRSA will pay the Applicant –

- (a) 100% of the reasonable treatment costs for the Surgical Procedure for the Eligible Injury up to a maximum GRSA payment of \$1200.00; and,
- (b) \$50.00 per week towards the rehabilitation of the greyhound for the duration of the rehabilitation period prescribed by the Veterinarian, up to a maximum of six (6) weeks (\$300.00); or,
- (c) 100% of the reasonable treatment costs for the Off-Course Treatment for the Eligible Injury up to a maximum GRSA payment of \$200.00. (*Note – the rehabilitation payment (in 4.2(b)) does not apply to Off-Course Treatment*).

Example – if the Off-Course Treatment results in a Surgical Procedure for the Eligible Injury, the entire claim is for a Surgical Procedure only (\$1,200.00 maximum), not both.

4.3. Injuries covered under this Scheme

The following types of injuries (**Eligible Injury**) are covered under the Scheme –

- (a) Bone fractures that are described in Schedule 1 of the Scheme policy as injuries that are covered by the Scheme, that are treated by Off-Course Treatment or a Surgical Procedure performed by a Veterinarian;
- (b) Tendon injuries that are treated by a Surgical Procedure performed by a Veterinarian;
- (c) Ligament injuries that are treated by a Surgical Procedure performed by a Veterinarian.

4.4. Injuries not covered by this Scheme

- (a) Muscle injuries are not covered under the Scheme unless the on-course Veterinarian determines that the muscle injury is a life-threatening injury;
- (b) Tendon injuries that are not treated by a Surgical Procedure;
- (c) Ligament injuries that are not treated by a Surgical Procedure.

4.5. Initial assessment

- (a) Where a greyhound is suspected of suffering an Eligible Injury, the on-course Veterinarian will provide immediate and appropriate first aid treatment to the greyhound (including by taking any necessary action to prevent and/or minimise the suffering of the greyhound).

- (b) After providing all required first aid treatment, the on-course Veterinarian will assess the greyhound suspected of suffering an Eligible Injury and determine whether –
 - (i) Immediate euthanasia is required (*on humane grounds and in the best interests of the greyhound*); or,
 - (ii) The greyhound has suffered an Eligible Injury and further investigation and diagnosis should be conducted on the greyhound.
- (c) Where the on-course Veterinarian determines that the greyhound –
 - (i) Has sustained an Eligible Injury; and,
 - (ii) Immediate euthanasia is not required,
 the greyhound is to be referred to an off-course Veterinarian selected in accordance with section 4.6 for further investigation and diagnosis within such period as may be prescribed by the on-course Veterinarian.

4.6. Diagnosis, Treatment and Recovery

- (a) The off-course Veterinarian will be required to investigate and diagnose the injury suffered by the greyhound and provide advice on treatment options.
- (b) If a Surgical Procedure is required, the off-course Veterinarian will provide –
 - (i) The appropriate veterinary care to ensure the wellbeing of the greyhound prior to the scheduling of a Surgical Procedure; or,
 - (ii) Direction as to the most suitable care required for the greyhound prior to the Surgical Procedure.
- (c) Following the Surgical Procedure or Off-Course Treatment, the Applicant is responsible for providing (or making arrangements to provide for) care for the greyhound and for ensuring that the greyhound is rehabilitated in accordance with the directions of the Veterinarian that performed the Surgical Procedure or Off-Course Treatment.
- (d) Any greyhound that undergoes a Surgical Procedure that is supported by the Scheme, where directed or ordered by Stewards, may only return to racing following –
 - (i) Production of a veterinary certificate that is satisfactory to the Stewards that states that at the time of examination the greyhound is fit to start; and/or,
 - (ii) Completion of a Satisfactory Trial as directed or ordered by the Stewards.
- (e) If the greyhound does not return to racing, it must be retired by the Applicant in accordance with Rule 114 of the LR and Rule 106 [new-Rules 22-23] of the GAR and any relevant policy or procedure on retirement and rehoming of GRSA.
- (f) Following the completion of the rehabilitation period specified in 4.5(c), the owner may enter the greyhound into the Greyhound Adoption Program SA (GAP SA) and GAP SA will grant the greyhound priority entry into the program.

4.7 Recommended Veterinary Clinics

- (a) Any veterinary treatment provided to a greyhound must be undertaken by a registered Veterinary Surgeon.
- (b) GRSA recommends that greyhounds are treated by a Veterinarian familiar with the greyhound breed.

4.8 Application Process

- (a) Applicants can apply to GRSA for funding by –
 - (i) *Fully completing* the TIRS Application Form; and,
 - (ii) Proving any supporting documentation required by GRSA including –
 - A. All clinical notes from the Veterinarian;
 - B. Itemised invoices for veterinary treatment, with receipts for either the full amount of the Veterinarian's invoice; or, (where applicable) the Gap-fee.
- (b) Application for funding under the Scheme must be submitted to GRSA by email or post at –

Email address – animalwelfare@grsa.com.au

Postal address – Animal Welfare (TIRS), Greyhound Racing SA, PO Box 2352 Regency Park SA 5942
 In person – 55 Cardigan St Angle Park

4.9 Consideration of the Application

- (a) Where GRSA is satisfied that –
- (i) The treatment and rehabilitation of the greyhound is eligible to be funded under the Scheme in accordance with section 4.1; and,
 - (ii) The Applicant has complied with the application process set out in 4.8, GRSA will notify the Applicant he/she is eligible to receive treatment and/or rehabilitation funding under the Scheme and will make a single lump sum payment of the treatment and rehabilitation funding either –
 - A. To the Applicant in full; or,
 - B. To the veterinary surgeon for treatment (up to \$1,200.00 for Surgical Procedures or \$200.00 for Off-Course Treatment) and to the Applicant for rehabilitation funding (where it relates to Surgical Procedures). *It is the responsibility of the Applicant to satisfy all costs due to the Veterinarian that are over \$1,200.00 for Surgical Procedures or \$200.00 for Off-Course Treatment (the Gap-fee).*
- (b) Where GRSA is not satisfied that either or both of the matters in 4.9(a)(i) or 4.9(a)(ii), GRSA will notify the Applicant he/she is not eligible to receive funding;
- (c) Once an application has been approved by GRSA and funding paid to the Applicant (and/or the Veterinarian); GRSA may place a penalty on the greyhound in the OzChase system that will prevent the greyhound from being nominated for meetings.

4.10 Reimbursement of the funding

- (a) If a greyhound recovers from the Eligible Injury and the Applicant intends to return the greyhound to racing before any penalty period placed on the greyhound expires, the Applicant must –
- (i) Satisfy the requirements set out in clause 4.6(d);
 - (ii) Reimburse GRSA for that portion of the rehabilitation payment not intended to be relied on due to a return to racing,
- at which time GRSA will remove the penalty placed on the greyhound and allow the greyhound to be nominated for meetings.
- (b) The Applicant can only claim under the Scheme once and must not make a claim for the same Eligible Injury under a scheme provided for by any other Controlling Body; nor can the Applicant claim for both Surgical Procedure and Off-Course Treatment for the same Eligible Injury. Fraudulent claims will be deemed an offence under Rule 86(o) [new-Rule 156(f)] of the GAR, regardless of the jurisdiction the fraudulent claim is made.
- (c) The Applicant must not incur a debt to the Veterinarian that is reasonably considered to be unrecoverable by the Veterinarian (**bad debt**). A bad debt will be deemed to be an offence under Rule 86(q) [new-Rule 165(a)] of the GAR, regardless of the jurisdiction the bad debt exists in.

4.11 Right of review

- (a) If GRSA determines that the treatment of a greyhound is not an Eligible Injury for funding under the Scheme, the Applicant may apply to GRSA for a review of the decision.
- (b) An application for review must be made to GRSA in writing within ten (10) business days of GRSA notifying the Applicant that he/she is not eligible for funding under the Scheme.
- (c) The review will not be undertaken by the same GRSA officer who made the decision and will be undertaken by a GRSA officer of the same or higher level of seniority to that of the original decision-maker.

5. APPLICATION OF THIS SCHEME

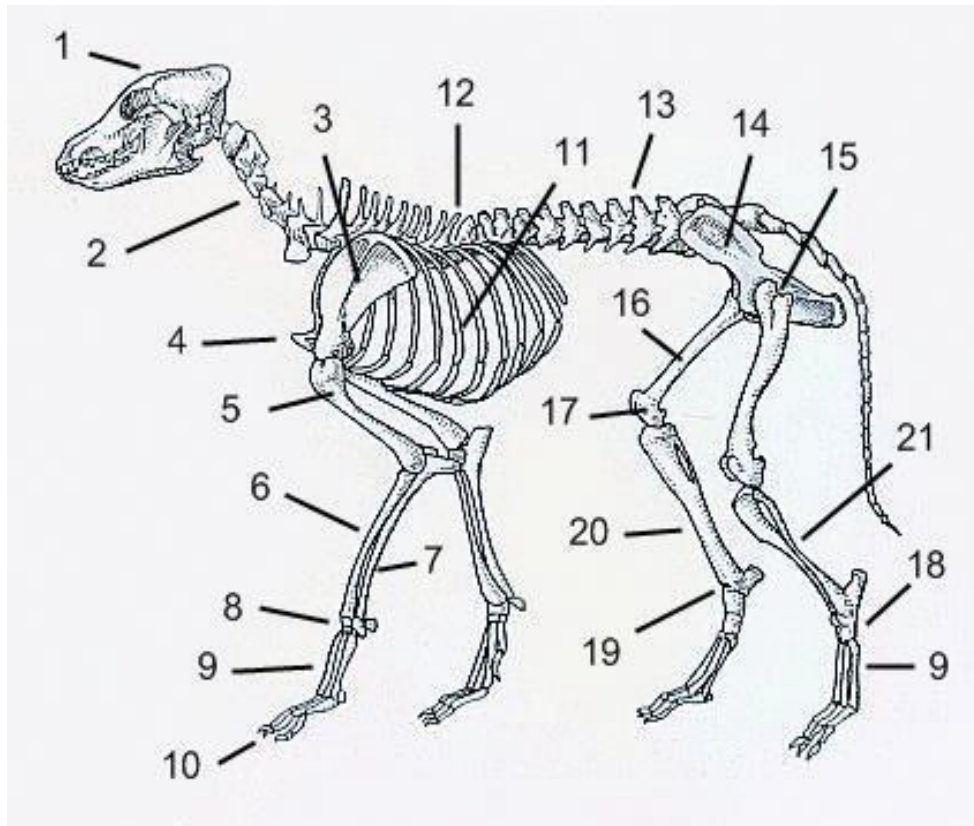
GRSA may review, amend or discontinue this scheme from time to time. GRSA will notify Industry of any changes by posting an updated version of the Scheme, or a Stewards Notice, on the GRSA website.

6. VERSION HISTORY

Current version:	3.0	Old version:	2.0	Date made:	26/11/2021	Effective date:	26/11/2021
Scheme owner:	RCM	Enquiries to:	Derek Kordick	Review due:	31/05/2022		

SCHEDULE 1

ELIGIBLE INJURIES – BONE FRACTURES



Injuries Covered by the Scheme
5 - Humerus
6 - Radius
7 - Ulna
9 - Metacarpus/Metatarsus (singular and multiple)
15/16 - Femur (Thigh Bone)
18/19 - Hocks
20 - Tibia

Injuries NOT Covered by the Scheme
1 - Cranium
2 - Vertebrae (Cervical)
3 - Scapula
4 - Sternum (Breast Bone)
8 - Carpus
10 - Phalanges (Toes)
11 - Thorax (Ribcage)
12 - Thoracic Vertebrae
13 - Lumbar Vertebrae
14 - Pelvis
17 - Patella (Knee Cap)
21 - Fibula