

National greyhound breeding White paper 2025



Prepared by
Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds



About the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds

The Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds ([CPG](#)) is a not-for-profit committed to ending greyhound suffering by exposing the cruelty and corruption of the greyhound racing industry and lobbying for law reform. All our members are volunteers.

We call on Australia's state governments to:

End taxpayer funding. A national survey on attitudes towards dog racing revealed that 69% of Australians oppose the use of taxpayer funds to prop up the greyhound racing industry. State and territory governments must listen to their constituents and stop diverting funds from education, healthcare and employment programs to support this archaic and callous industry.

Stop unsustainable breeding. The greyhound racing industry breeds many more dogs than can be rehomed. Caps on breeding must be introduced to ensure that all dogs bred by the industry are able to live out their lives as pets at the end of their racing career.

Implement whole-of-life tracking. Greyhounds in the racing industry are vulnerable to unnecessary euthanasia, particularly those puppies who do not race and dogs who are rehomed by industry participants. A system must be implemented to monitor the welfare of each greyhound for their entire life.

Establish independent regulators in all jurisdictions. Most jurisdictions rely on self-regulation by the industry, which has been shown again and again to be corrupted by conflicts of interest. Governments benefiting from betting tax revenue must establish independent regulators that prioritise the welfare of greyhounds.

Stop building new tracks. Attempts by the industry to build 'safe' tracks have failed. The evidence shows that greyhounds continue to be injured and killed on all track designs currently in operation, including straight tracks. There is no such thing as a safe dog racing track.

Note re front cover image: An E for euthanasia was chalked on the head of this greyhound so no mistakes were made.

*The only difference between puppy farming and greyhound racing is that greyhound puppies are exploited for several years in an activity that puts them at tremendous risk of injury and death BEFORE they get a chance to find a forever family. Greyhound racing is nothing but a glorified, state-sanctioned puppy mill - **CPG volunteer***



Executive summary

This paper makes eight recommendations (p20) which would address overbreeding by the greyhound racing industry and its related animal welfare consequences.

Change is urgently needed because:

- the big reduction in breeding after the [live baiting scandal](#) broke in 2015 has now stabilised and is slowly trending up (see the data on pp7-11),
- breeding caps do not yet exist anywhere in Australia, so there is nothing to halt this upwards trend if it continues,
- overbreeding is the main reason for the significant number of greyhounds discarded by the industry and in need of a home - this is causing a [rehoming crisis](#) around Australia,
- overbreeding is also the main reason for the euthanasia of young and healthy greyhounds throughout Australia (although some states have reduced euthanasia rates, none of them have reached the racing industry's professed target of zero euthanasia).

Despite the animal cruelty that results from this situation, there is no breeding plan in place at either a national or state level. Incredibly, when quizzed by government inquiries, the racing industry has never been able to provide an answer on how many annual whelpings are needed (p5-8).

Meanwhile, every inquiry held into the industry has recommended limits (caps) on breeding. Some inquiries have also recommended a puppy bond (which was implemented in the UK in 2020) and is urgently needed in Australia.

The national industry peak body, Greyhounds Australasia (GA), was responsible for developing breeding caps,¹ but this effort failed. Yet, the dog racing industry breeds six times more greyhounds than its rehoming arm in each state – Greyhounds As Pets (GAP) - can rehome.²

As a result, an impoverished community-run rescue effort continues to rehome more greyhounds than the racing industry in most states (see CPG's latest [annual rehoming update](#)). Meanwhile, the racing industry has millions but won't fund a proper rehoming effort. This irresponsible approach must stop and to achieve this, it's up to state governments to take action. In particular:



¹ [Greyhounds Australasia Strategic Plan](#) 2020-2022, p10 – "Agreement of nationally sustainable quality breeding targets as part of a strategy to manage the national greyhound racing population".

² CPG white paper - [A GAPing hole in the industry](#) - FY2021-22 update.

- government regulators should be empowered to set breeding caps urgently - incredibly, the NSW regulator is empowered to set caps³, but has failed to do so,
- where there is no such body and self-regulation exists in a given jurisdiction, state governments will have to find a mechanism to ensure caps are set, such as including this in a racing body's licence conditions, in order to reduce breeding numbers to a level that will end unnecessary euthanasia,
- the greyhound racing industry must be transparent about its utilisation rate (the number of pups bred that end up racing), so that poorer operators are weeded out and better owners/trainers are recognised for their skills.

While Australia's state governments continue to reward the racing industry's irresponsible breeding with [millions of taxpayer dollars](#) in subsidies, industry change is unlikely. Consequently, this paper reviews the glaring lack of industry and government response to the oversupply of greyhounds and recommends a way forward in line with the principle of extended producer responsibility (EPR).

EPR is a policy approach to waste management whereby the producer is responsible for the costs associated not only with the production of a product, but also the management and disposal of a post-consumer product.⁴ In terms of the greyhound racing industry, EPR principles would place responsibility upon the commercial racing operator so they cover the costs associated with a greyhound throughout its entire lifespan, from birth to natural death (unless specified otherwise by a registered vet).

CPG also recommends stringent enforcement of existing rules through regular, unannounced inspection of greyhound establishments and transparency in public reporting. To guarantee the safety of each dog, every unnamed⁵ pup must be accounted for and tracked for its entire life. Currently, [no Australian jurisdiction](#) provides for birth to death tracking.

Archaic breeding practices such as [surgical artificial insemination](#) (SAI) must be urgently banned in line with longstanding animal welfare practices in the UK and Europe. Alternative methods that are less invasive and produce the same breeding results are readily available.⁶

Irresponsible breeding practices in the greyhound racing industry raise serious concerns about dogs' health and genetic diversity. Diseases such as pannus and osteosarcoma

³ "...the NSW regulator (GWIC - Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission) still retains the ability to impose a breeding cap, but the NSW greyhound breeding industry wants GWIC's ability to impose a cap removed." - NSW GBOTA submission to statutory review of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 (NSW), p15. Also, see the [Greyhound Racing Act 2017](#) - s55, (1) The Commission may make rules, not inconsistent with this Act or the regulations, for or with respect to any matter relating to greyhound racing...[including] (2)(e) the breeding of greyhounds.

⁴ [Analytical Framework for Evaluating the Costs and Benefits of Extended Producer Responsibility Programmes](#), March 2005, p7, OECD.

⁵ The term 'un-named pup' is an industry term for greyhounds that have been bred for racing but then discarded for various reasons, i.e., they have not been given a racing name because they are not deemed to be promising racers.

⁶ [This surgical procedure to impregnate greyhounds in Australia is a major animal welfare issue](#), The Conversation, August 4, 2022.

don't emerge until after a dog's racing years end, so the greyhound industry breeds from such dogs if they are champion stock regardless of the consequences.

Greyhound industry figures discuss more breeding to keep industry going, SA parliamentary committee hears

9NEWS

Exclusive by Leah MacLennan

Posted Sat 25 May 2024 at 2:07pm, updated Sat 25 May 2024 at 2:54pm



The greyhound industry in South Australia is undergoing reforms. (Pixabay: herbert2512)

Greyhound industry figures discussed breeding so many dogs it would become impossible to shut down the industry due to welfare issues, in secret recordings tabled in South Australia's Parliament. Read story [here](#)

Discussion

Dog racing's core problem - over-breeding

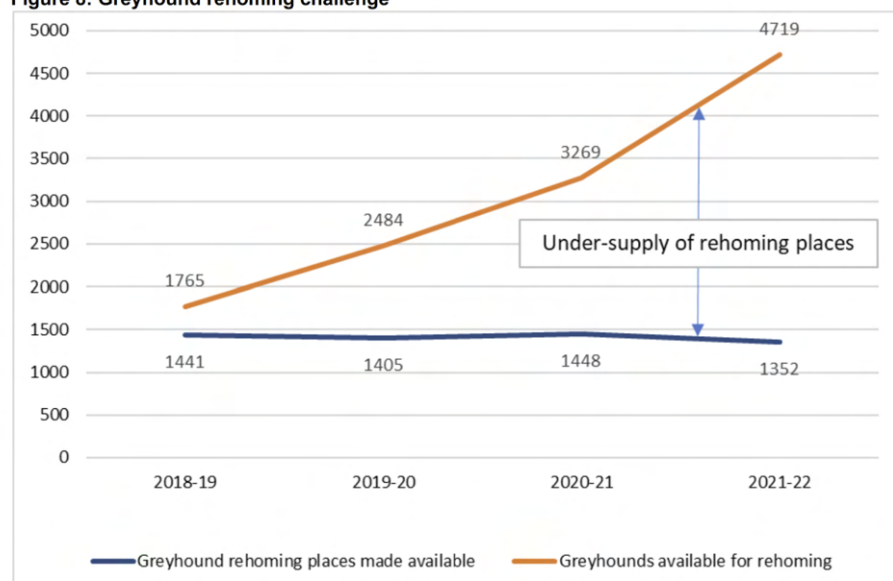
Every year the greyhound racing industry breeds more dogs than necessary in the hope of fluking a champion and to ensure sufficient suitable dogs are available for racing. This continually results in excess dogs that are considered unsuitable for racing - deemed as 'wastage' by the industry.

Due to this approach, rehoming supply is outstripping demand. This leaves more dogs at risk of euthanasia because there are simply not enough adopters and foster carers available.

The only racing authority which has been transparent about the consequences of this oversupply has provided a stark estimate of the shortfall in NSW rehoming places -

[GWIC Lifecycle Report.](#)

Figure 8: Greyhound rehoming challenge



Consequently, further restrictions are immediately needed and must be introduced as per Recommendation 7 of *"Issues paper on overbreeding and wastage: submission from the Australian Veterinary Association to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in NSW (2015)"*.⁷

Recently, the South Australian Government's 2023 inquiry into the greyhound racing industry recommended breeding caps -

"there is a need for greater controls over the number of greyhounds being bred. To address this, GRSA as the controlling body, should set a maximum number of greyhounds which can be bred each year. This number should be informed by the backlog of greyhounds awaiting re-homing."⁸

CPG supports this approach because the dog racing industry must take responsibility for the greyhounds it breeds. Also, if there was more pressure on owners and trainers to use best practices in developing their racing greyhounds, more would make it to the track, i.e., utilization rates need to be published for each state and for each trainer and owner.

Breeding data

The raw data released annually by the greyhound racing industry shows breeding is slowly trending back up, but doesn't include pups that are not named. This occurs when a trainer or owner decides a young dog has no racing potential.

⁷ [AVA issues paper on overbreeding and wastage](#), submitted to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in NSW, 2015.

⁸ [Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry](#), Graham Ashton, 30 November 2023, p8.

Greyhounds Australasia Stud Book #71

Year	Litter	Named
2011	2814	12882
2012	2783	12823
2013	2985	13010
2014	3029	12249
2015	2867	12480
2016	1788	12623
2017	1270	8890
2018	1737	7428
2019	1785	9603
2020	1752	9582
2021	2024	9561
2022	2037	9947
2023	1627	10451

The greyhound racing industry's Stud Book shows the Australian dog racing industry named 10,451 pups in 2023⁹, up from a low in 2017. This followed the fall-out from the live baiting scandal in 2015 and the McHugh inquiry in 2016.

State racing authority data

Unlike the Stud Book, each state and territory racing authority releases more accurate whelping data that sometimes includes un-named pups.

When collated, this data shows the actual number of pups bred over the last several years as significantly higher than the figures listed in the racing industry's Stud Book.

Following is data collected by CPG from each jurisdiction's racing authority - some being independent regulators and some being self-regulatory bodies.

⁹ [Australasian Stud Book #71](#), p9.

State breeding statistics

National: Pups whelped

Year	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	Total
2022/23	3756	4000	1176	516	520	210	10178
2021/22	4450	4886	1469	752	502	294	12353
2020/21	4567	4570	1301	732	691	283	12144
2019/20	3935	4264	838	513	582	203	10335
2018/19	3747	4533	1155	569	461	248	10749

NSW

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23	559	3756	3630 ¹⁰	126
2021/22	680	4450 ¹¹	3396 ¹²	1054
2020/21	709	4567 ¹³	3169 ¹⁴	1398
2019/20	625	3935 ¹⁵	3335 ¹⁶	600
2018/19	563	3747 ¹⁷	3223 ¹⁸	524
Total	3136	20455	16753	3702

¹⁰ GWIC 2022/23 [Annual report](#), p.10 - named and whelped figures.

¹¹ Ibid, p.28 - whelped figures only.

¹² GWIC 2021-22 [Annual report](#), p.25 - named figures only.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

Victoria

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23 ¹⁹	640	4000	Data not collected	
2021/22 ²⁰	750	4886		
2020/21 ²¹	705	4570		
2019/20 ²²	635	4264		
2018/19 ²³	698	4533		
Total	3428	22253		

Queensland

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23 ²⁴	168	1176	1324	**
2021/22 ²⁵	Data not collected	1469	1134	335
2020/21 ²⁶		1301	1058	243
2019/20 ²⁷		838	841	***
2018/19 ²⁸		1155	673	482
Total		168	9365	5030

¹⁹ GRV 2022/23 [Annual report](#), p. 7

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ GRV 2018/19 [Annual report](#), p. 25

²⁴ QRIC 2022/23 [Q1 report](#) p. 3-4; 22/23 [Q2 report](#), p. 3-4; 22/23 [Q3 report](#), p. 3; 22/23 [Q4 report](#), p. 4

²⁵ QRIC 2021/22 [Q4 report](#), p. 3-4

²⁶ QRIC 2020/21 [Q4 report](#), p. 3-4

²⁷ QRIC 2019/20 [Q4 report](#), p. 2-3

²⁸ QRIC 2018/19 [Q4 report](#), p. 2-3

** The unnamed dogs figure is not available - more dogs are named (1324) than whelped (1176), so this data reflects the usual lag six to 12 months between whelping and naming.

*** Ditto - so an unnamed dogs figure is not available.

SA

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23 ²⁹	Data not collected	516	Data not collected	Data not collected
2021/22 ³⁰	Data not collected	752	Data not collected	Data not collected
2020/21 ³¹		732		
2019/20		513		
2018/19 ³²		569		
Total		3082		

WA

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23 ³³	Data not collected	520	Data not collected	Data not collected
2021/22 ³⁴		502		
2020/21 ³⁵		691		
2019/20 ³⁶		582		
2018/19 ³⁷		461		
Total		2756		

²⁹ GRSA 2022/23 [Annual report](#), p.13

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² GRSA 2018/19 [Annual report](#), p. 15

³³ RWWA 2022/23 [Status report](#), p. 40

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

Tasmania

Year	Litters	Whelped	Named	Un-named
2022/23 ³⁸	34	210	Data not collected	
2021/22 ³⁹	44	294		
2020/21 ⁴⁰	40	283		
2019/20 ⁴¹	32	203		
2018/19 ⁴²	40	248		
Total	190	1238		

Note - state and territory racing authority data does not include:

- the ACT, where the territory government has confirmed no known breeding takes place,
- the NT, where no registered breeding takes place.

³⁸ Tasracing 2022/23 [Annual report](#), p. 17

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

Current situation without breeding caps

Because breeding caps do not yet exist anywhere in Australia, there's nothing to halt this trend indicated above if it continues.

This then overloads public and charity-run animal shelters, as well as community-run animal rescue groups. With only [one in every six ex-racing dogs](#) being rehomed by the industry, breeding caps are desperately needed to relieve this worsening crisis for the community and taxpayers.

The situation is now so bad that over the last five years, Queensland racing owners have sent [908 greyhounds to a grisly end](#) in labs (where some are killed and used for dissection) and to vet practices (where

How many dogs does the racing industry need?

After so many exposés and taxpayer-funded, government inquiries, the industry nationally still has no unified position on how many greyhounds it requires, nor does it have systems in place to control the number of whelpings conducted by industry participants.

Most importantly, nationally the industry also has no arrangements in place to rehome the number of greyhounds it breeds. This results in the unnecessary euthanasia of thousands of young, healthy greyhounds each year across Australia.

As the RSPCA [says](#) - "Unwanted greyhounds may be euthanased despite being otherwise healthy. There is an ongoing lack of transparency from much of the greyhound racing industry with incomplete and inconsistent reporting on the outcomes for greyhounds. However, from the statistics available, it

they are ['bled out'](#) and used their blood used for transfusions).

See the related media coverage:

- November 24, 2023 – Crikey – [\\$20,000 a dog: dodgy greyhound industry rehoming can't keep up with overbreeding](#), Bernard Keane
- January 29, 2023 – Sydney Morning Herald/Sun-Herald; Age/Sunday Age; Brisbane Times; WA Today, [Online gambling driving surge in greyhound breeding, rescues inundated](#), Mary Ward
- February 12, 2023 – The Guardian Australia – ['Ethical conundrum': sending retired Australian greyhounds to US rescues some – but at what cost?](#), Jordan Beazley
- August 27, 2022 – The Guardian (AUS), Taipei Times (Taiwan) – [Australian racing industry 'failing miserably to rehome greyhounds as adoption flatlines](#), Donna Lu.

is clear that many greyhounds are still euthanased by the greyhound racing industry in Australia every year."

Worse still, is the situation in Queensland documented by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC), the government regulator. The [data](#) reveal that one in five of this state's retired greyhounds has been sent to a grisly end in labs and universities for experiments, as well as to vet practices for [terminal blood donation](#). There's every



State-funded greyhound rescue program failing dogs

Greyhound rescue groups have hit crisis levels amid claims the racing industry is breeding too many dogs, before discarding them at "alarming rates".

possibility this occurs in many other parts of Australia.

Also of great concern are the hundreds of greyhounds discarded by the racing industry via Gumtree for free in every state - see [here](#) for example just in Victoria. As the RSPCA [points out](#) - *Third party adoptions (i.e. those not through organisations like GAP) should be verified and followed up to ensure they are genuine.*

There is no public data available in any state on whether greyhounds discarded in this way actually find a reliable home.

This is of great concern because there have been instances of criminals taking greyhounds offered in this way and using them as bait dogs in illegal fighting rings.

THE GREYHOUND RECORDER

GRNSW Puppy Auction Reaches \$1.27m In Sales

THE highly anticipated GRNSW Puppy Auction at Richmond on Sunday demonstrated a growing and renewed interest in greyhound racing ownership.

Michael Cowley 27 May 2024



"The total pool was \$1.277 million which was absolutely fantastic and we're extremely happy about that result," GRNSW's Deputy Chief Executive Wayne Billett said.

"The She's A Pearl pups were the sale toppers but there was also very good money for the French Martinis and Jackpot Josies and the Keeping pups. The depth of the catalogue is really important and today's depth was fantastic."

The sale topper was as expected one of the four pups being offered out of Million Dollar Chase champion She's A Pearl. By super sire Fernando Bale, the last of the four pups in the auction, lot 127, the only bitch offered, reached \$60,000.

In total the four She's A Pearl pups were collectively knocked down for \$207,000 (\$60,000, \$52,000, \$50,000 and \$45,000).



The NSW McHugh inquiry - whelping numbers

Back in 2015 when required to answer how many greyhounds needed to be bred each year to fuel racing, the NSW arm was unable to respond to Justice McHugh's questions during the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry.

Instead, the Australian Veterinary Association recommended this formula for NSW in 2015 in its submission to the inquiry -

"What numbers of greyhounds are required to be in training to maintain fields of 8 runners per race each year, for example the meetings held or to be held in New South Wales for the year 2015?"

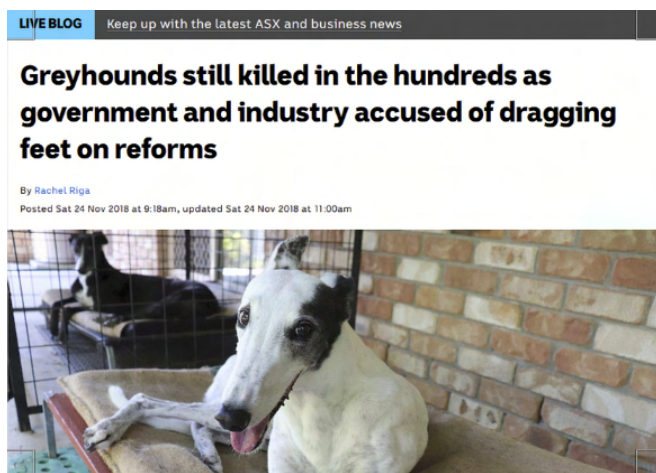
We estimate that in one year if the average number of starts is 17, then 7,228 dogs are required.

Greyhound Racing NSW has 33 clubs. Sixteen are TAB clubs which hold 925 meetings each year in total. Non-TAB clubs hold 355 meetings each year, making a total of 1,280 meetings each year

We assume an average of 10 races per meeting, with 8 dogs per race, and 20% of the total number of dogs are either injured or being rested at any given time.

1280 meetings x 10 races x 8 starters per race plus 20% of dogs spelled or injured equals 122,880 starters required each year. Assuming the average number of starts is 17, then 7,228 dogs are required each year [for racing].⁴³

This total could easily be reduced if six-dog racing was introduced by the industry, given its own research shows this is much safer for greyhounds⁴⁴ (verified by the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds⁴⁵). A six-dog racing approach would require approximately 5,421 dogs actively racing each year in NSW.



What the industry itself recommended - promises, promises, promises

Even NSW industry insiders recommended the implementation of a state-wide breeding quota and annual breeding volume limits to address the issues of over-production and unnecessary euthanasia of greyhounds.

Formed in November 2015 by GRNSW, the Joint Working Group (JWG) embarked on an investigation of various reform options

⁴³ AVA, [Issues paper on overbreeding and wastage](#), p3.

⁴⁴ Prof David Eager et al, [Identifying Optimal Greyhound Track Design for Greyhound Safety and Welfare - Phase I](#), Greyhound Racing NSW, 10 May 2018, page 229.

⁴⁵ CPG white paper, [The case for six-dog races](#), 2020.

in response to the evolving landscape of greyhound racing in New South Wales.

The JWG's recommendations⁴⁶ not only outlined the actionable steps needed to achieve the objectives of the Greyhound Racing NSW Strategic Plan⁴⁷, but also provided an indicative timeline for their implementation. It was noted that 'GRNSW should move to identify indicative breeding targets immediately'.⁴⁸

Also, the suggestions included obtaining legal advice in the first quarter of 2016 to determine the enforceability of a breeding quota under existing NSW and Commonwealth Government legislation. Additionally, it was recommended to identify a state-wide breeding quota, an appropriate phase-in period, and to evaluate allocation approaches by the second quarter of 2016.⁴⁹ This never happened.

In addition to the introduction of a state-wide breeding quota (Recommendation 4), the industry recommended other measures to enhance transparency, accountability, and the overall well-being of greyhounds. These included expanding greyhound registration and monitoring to cover their entire lifecycle (Recommendation 1), implementing licensing for greyhound handlers to establish consistent standards and qualifications (Recommendation 2), introducing minimum standards to ensure proper care (Recommendation 3), and

⁴⁶ Report to the interim Chief Executive of Greyhound Racing NSW from the Joint Working Group, '[Implementing reform in the New South Wales greyhound racing industry](#)' 29 January 2016.

⁴⁷ Greyhound Racing NSW, [Annual Report 2015](#), p.10.

⁴⁸ JWG's Report, '[Implementing reform in the New South Wales greyhound racing industry](#)' P.39.

⁴⁹ JWG's Report, '[Implementing reform in the New South Wales greyhound racing industry](#)' P.22.

supporting greyhound adoption and rehoming initiatives (Recommendation 5).

A common thread underpinning these measures, aimed at improving animal welfare practices and cultural change, was the expansion of public reporting, education of the industry and the promotion of public awareness about industry reforms.

Despite this, state governments and the dog racing industry failed to take action⁵⁰ on caps.

This has allowed the over-breeding of greyhounds to continue along with the inevitable problem of how to rehome so many dogs after they are retired from racing.

The SA inquiry 2023 - whelping numbers

The racing industry's incompetence when it comes to forecasts of annual whelpings needed was revealed most recently by last year's South Australian inquiry -

"... there does not appear to be a firm number in this regard. Greyhound Racing SA currently states that sustainable breeding levels are approximately 500 greyhounds per year. Based on the current pressure being experienced by GAP, this Review considers that this GRSA assessment may be too high.

There has been no evidence produced to the Review that any mathematical rigour has gone into this calculation. Rather, it

⁵⁰ Greyhound Australasia (GA) [2020-22 strategic plan](#) (p14) - "Agreement of nationally sustainable quality breeding targets as part of a strategy to manage the national greyhound racing population" - but agreement among the state member bodies of GA was never reached.

appears to be an assessment based on the experience of GRSA.⁵¹

So, no surprises there - this has been the case every single time the racing industry has been asked to specify the number of annual whelpings needed.



The screenshot shows a news article from The Sydney Morning Herald. The title is "Online gambling driving surge in greyhound breeding, rescues inundated". The author is Mary Ward, and the article was published on January 29, 2023, at 5:00am. The article text states: "Community greyhound rescues are struggling to keep up with the number of dogs coming out of the racing industry, as welfare advocates say a revival of the sport through record online gambling income is driving unsustainable breeding."

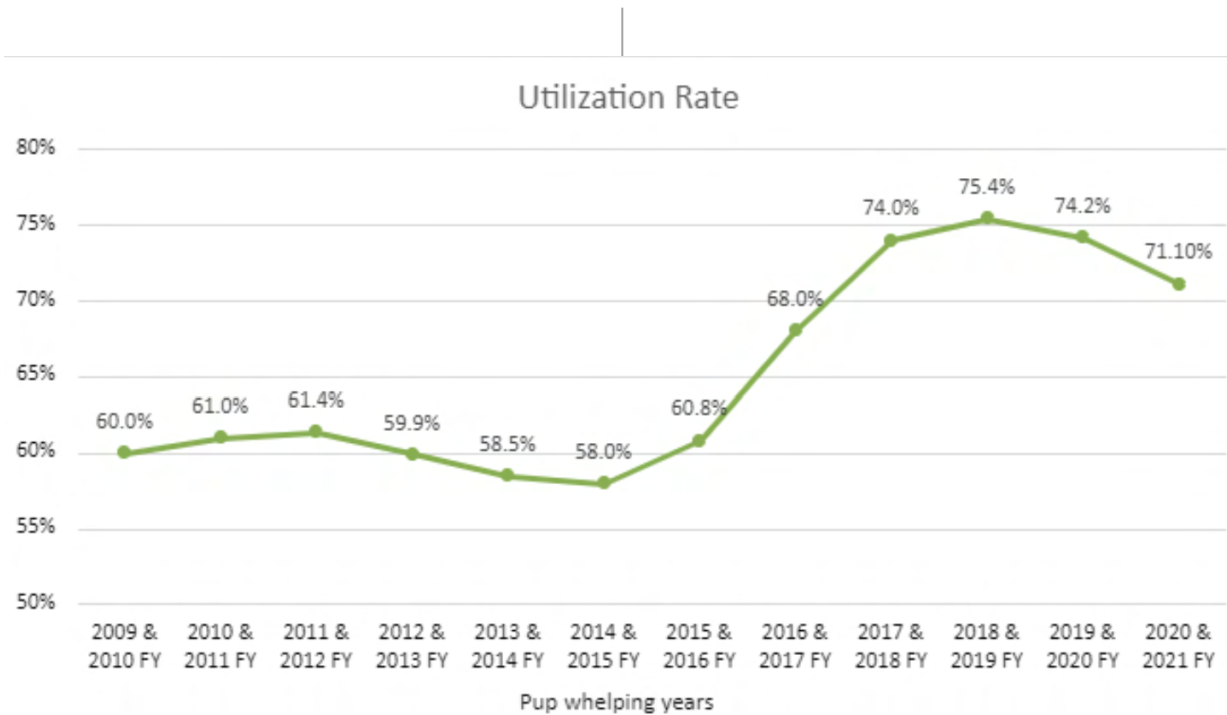
Looking ahead - whelping numbers

With national breeding data showing an increase overall, there's no room for complacency.

Given this, it's incredible that there is no mention of responsible breeding - let alone the idea of breeding only the number of dogs that can be rehomed - in the NSW Greyhound Breeders, Owners & Trainers Association's [strategic plan for 2023-25](#), nor is greyhound welfare mentioned once. This is typical of the industry's irresponsible approach.

The only forward-looking approach comes from one of Australia's well-known greyhound breeders who suggested revoking the licence of breeders whose activities result in wastage -

⁵¹ [Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry](#), Graham Ashton, 30 November 2023, p8.



"...if they couldn't get a certain percentage of what they bred on an annual basis to the track, then their licence should be revoked...it's the people with the greyhounds which are why they don't make it to the races."⁵²

This is an excellent idea as long as the training methods used are humane, but has never been taken up by the dog racing industry.

It's only recently that a government regulator has put this issue on the public record -

"it is necessary to examine ways to increase the percentage of greyhound pups bred that go on to race".⁵³

If the utilisation rate for each owner or owner/trainer of racing greyhounds was made public, it would be a great step

⁵² ["Australia's largest breeder fears no industry in a decade"](#), *Australian Racing Greyhound*, Friday, 10th November 2017."

⁵³ GWIC [Industry revitalisation plan 2024](#), p2.

forward for greyhound welfare in each jurisdiction across Australia. So far, as per the graph above,⁵⁴ the only rate available publicly has been state-wide data released by the NSW government regulator.

New South Wales

The Guardian

"They couldn't care less": fears for dogs' welfare as Greyhound Racing NSW axes one of two adoption centres

Staff raise concerns as Wyee rehoming centre abruptly closed after steep drop in gambling revenue for governing body

Get our morning and afternoon news emails, free app or daily news podcast

Catie McLeod

Sat 25 May 2024 10:00 AEST



Greyhound Racing NSW CEO says there will be 'no negative impact on animal welfare' as a result of the cuts but staff disagree. Photograph: Jeremy Ng/AAP

⁵⁴ Provided by GWIC 2024.

Greyhound breeding controls - Furious agreement

CPG's review of past state government inquiries into the greyhound racing industry in Appendix 1 shows virtually **every single one has recommended the introduction of breeding caps** (or controls in some other form). However, no action has ever been taken by governments or the racing industry. The public has had enough and research shows Australians [want more action on animal welfare](#) in general, let alone in dog racing. Moreover, [they do not support greyhound racing](#). It's time for politicians to listen. A puppy bond would be a good place to start.

A puppy bond is urgently needed

A puppy bond was recommended by the McHugh Inquiry, but never implemented due to pushback from the dog racing industry. Yet this vital measure is urgently needed.

The Greyhound Board of Great Britain (GBGB) implemented a bond in 2020.⁵⁵ and phased in upfront payment.⁵⁶ Owners must pay a £200 Greyhound Retirement Scheme (GRS) payment at the same time as registering their greyhound with GBGB. This is in addition to the GBGB registration fee.

This contribution is matched by GBGB who contribute £200 on the greyhound's retirement to create a £400 bond that follows the greyhound throughout its career.

⁵⁵ Greyhound Board of Great Britain [web page](#).

⁵⁶ Greyhound Board of Great Britain [news release](#).

The bond assists with associated homing costs when the greyhound moves to a homing centre upon its retirement. Without such payment, a greyhound is not registered and therefore not permitted to trial or race. The remaining £100 GRS fee can be paid any time up to and including on retirement.

The GBGB claims the bond has resulted in over £3.6M in funds being distributed to a network of GRS approved homing centres. The reality is that each rescue centre receives £400 per dog to assist with homing. This money covers kennelling and care. It does not cover veterinary fees.

The Scottish advocacy group Abolish All Greyhound Racing says -

"The rescue centre must make up the difference with its own funds because this multi million pound industry is not taking full responsibility for the redundant dogs. The families adopting ex-racing greyhounds are often left to pick up vet bills for dentals and old racing injuries."⁵⁷

While the GRS is clearly no panacea, at least it has resulted in more money going to rescue groups. This is desperately needed in Australia. Also, one might expect that the GRS would have an impact on overall greyhound breeding numbers in the UK, however, as the GBGB says -

⁵⁷ Abolish All Greyhound Racing, [Petition to the Scottish Parliament](#), 2020, p8.

"...a considerable volume of greyhound breeding currently takes place outside GBGB's scope of regulation, in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland..."⁵⁸

Ultimately, if a puppy bond can be introduced in the UK, it can be introduced in each state in Australia (given the dog racing industry in this country is state based). In fact, the NSW greyhound industry regulator already has the power to introduce a puppy bond, but has failed to do so.⁵⁹ It said in 2018 that it didn't have sufficient data yet to make a decision about caps and stated "The Commission was also concerned that a bond would discourage industry participation". Clearly, for the regulator, animal welfare comes a long way behind ensuring the dog racing industry's welfare.

This is not surprising given how the former Liberal/National NSW Government skewed the objects of the NSW *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* in favour of racing vs. animal welfare -

(a) to provide for the efficient and effective regulation of the greyhound racing industry,

(b) to protect the interests of the greyhound racing industry and its stakeholders,

(c) to facilitate the development and operation of a sustainable and viable greyhound racing industry,

⁵⁸ GBGB, [A good life for every greyhound](#), p25.

⁵⁹ "The Act ... provides for regulations to be made for a greyhound bond." - p22, [Greyhound Racing Act 2017 Statutory Review Report April 2021](#), Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (GWIC).

(d) to ensure the integrity of greyhound racing and associated betting in the public interest,

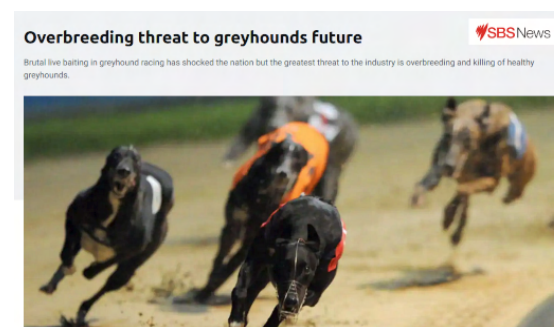
(e) to provide for the functions of regulatory bodies,

(f) to provide for the protection and promotion of the welfare of greyhounds.⁶⁰

Meanwhile, the industry often repeats its mantra that - *We love our dogs*. If this has any hope of being believed by the Australian public, accepting a puppy bond would be the clearest way to demonstrate this claim. Instead, in Australia, the community has had to fill the gap in rehoming due to overbreeding.

The Australian community effort

Compassionate [members of the community](#) stepped in to rescue greyhounds from inevitable euthanasia or worse, while [industry rehoming](#) is generally poor and little more than a PR smokescreen. To make matters worse, the dog racing industry dumps greyhounds in poor condition on the community rescues as per CPG's [national survey](#) of these groups. It also dumps greyhounds at public pounds and shelters where they are sometimes rehomed or euthanised at public expense.



⁶⁰ Section 3A, [Greyhound Racing Act 2017](#) (NSW).

Breeding incentives and rules - industry fails again

While there is no effective national approach to breeding controls, the industry has long provided incentives for breeding. See Appendix 2 for an overview of how extensive these are.

CPG's analysis shows that even after the dog racing industry almost collapsed in Australia during 2015-16, it has since continued to pursue breeding without any strategy to prevent overbreeding or to rehome the resulting oversupply of retired racers.

As part of the National Greyhound Welfare Strategy (brokered by Greyhounds



Australasia), national breeding rules were introduced in July 2015 and were adopted by all states.⁶¹

These rules merely cleaned up the worst excesses of the industry and included:

1. the licensing of all breeders
2. registration of all dams
3. breeding females over the age of eight years must obtain a veterinary

⁶¹ [Issues paper on overbreeding and wastage](#), Submission from the Australian Veterinary Association Ltd, Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in NSW, 23 November 2015.

certificate of breeding soundness, and obtain permission from the relevant authority to breed the dog

4. a maximum of three litters can be bred from any one bitch and permission to breed a fourth litter must be obtained from the state racing authority

5. no breeding females may have more than two litters in any 18 month period

6. all pups have a compulsory C3 (distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus) and C5 (distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and two types of canine cough) vaccinations

7. all dogs must receive C5 vaccination prior to being named or starting to race.

It is unclear how, and if, the above rules are enforced because of the general lack of data transparency across the dog racing industry in Australia.

Meanwhile, Greyhound Racing SA [announced a \\$5500 rebate](#) in June 2024 to stimulate local breeding. It rightly drew sharp criticism.

Prominent breeder Ray Borda [questioned](#) the effectiveness of the scheme, highlighting the lack of commercial rearing facilities in SA and arguing that the rebate may encourage irresponsible breeding without improving overall breeding quality. Additionally, there was no consultation with major industry figures, raising concerns about the transparency and strategic planning behind the initiative.

Surgical artificial insemination (SAI) - inhumane breeding

In their 2022 Policy, The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) emphasised the importance of a shift in the use of artificial insemination nation-wide:

'Surgical AI must not be performed in dogs due to ethical and welfare considerations, given the suitable alternative of TCI;...Veterinarians should phase-out the use of surgical AI by 1 January 2024;...Training for veterinarians in the TCI technique may be required, and there needs to be increased access to appropriate education;...Dog breeders and breed clubs should be educated on the welfare issues associated with surgical AI in dogs, and the benefits of TCI.'⁶²

This policy provided a path towards eliminating the practice of subjecting dogs to the painful procedure of SAI, prioritising their welfare and minimising unnecessary suffering. Despite this, in the same year, the NSW dog racing regulator estimated that 80 percent of greyhound breeding involves surgical artificial insemination (SAI).⁶³

"Highly invasive"⁶⁴ and causing "significant pain to the female dog",⁶⁵ SAI requires an incision into the abdomen through all muscle layers to allow semen to be injected directly into the uterine horns of a female dog. The female dog must then carry pups to full term while healing. Given this, SAI is unjustifiable ethically.

SAI also requires general anaesthesia which not only illustrates the degree of intrusion that is necessary for this procedure, but

⁶² Australian Veterinary Association, [Surgical artificial insemination in dogs](#), ratified on 08 December 2022.

⁶³ [Letter](#) from the NSW Minister for Agriculture to the CEO/Greyhound Racing NSW, July 2022 (exact date missing from correspondence provided to CPG).

⁶⁴ What are the animal welfare issues with greyhound racing?, [RSPCA](#), February 1 2022

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

also adds the risks of delayed wound healing and infection. Further, greyhounds are often at slightly more risk for general anaesthetic than most other dog breeds, as the anaesthetic effects last longer. They are also at a greater risk of [blood clotting failure](#) if there's a minor surgical bleed related to the procedure. This is due to a breed-related tendency to break down clots quickly in the body.⁶⁶

The problems with SAI have been reflected under UK animal welfare legislation which restricts mutilations to animals (i.e., procedures which interfere with sensitive tissue or bone structure).⁶⁷ It is unacceptable that a procedure condemned as mutilation by UK law⁶⁸ and which is banned in the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway is allowed to continue in Australia. Incredibly, the national industry body - Greyhounds Australasia - proposed this year to delay [a ban](#) on SAI until 2026. This disregards the South Australian greyhound racing inquiry having recommended that the procedure be banned immediately.⁶⁹

⁶⁶ [This surgical procedure to impregnate greyhounds in Australia is a major animal welfare issue](#), 4 August 2022,

⁶⁷ Animal Welfare Act 2006, UK, Section 5(3); [Standards & advice update: January 2019](#),

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁹ [Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry](#), Graham Ashton, 30 November 2023, Recommendation 47, p17.


The Guardian

Painful and invasive racing greyhound breeding technique should be banned, vets say

'Horrific' technique which involves removing the uterus is unnecessary and outdated, animal welfare activists say

- Follow our Australia news live blog for the latest updates
- Get our morning and afternoon news emails, free app or daily news podcast

Tory Shepherd
Mon 16 Jan 2023 01:00 AEDT



About 80% of racing greyhounds in NSW are bred using surgical artificial insemination, a technique the Australian Veterinary Association says 'must not be performed in dogs'. Photograph: Jonny Weeks/The Guardian

Vets want an invasive and painful greyhound breeding technique, which involves removing the uterus, banned across Australia.

Conversely, non-surgical methods of artificial insemination (AI), which typically involve the use of a catheter to administer semen, have "far smaller welfare risks"⁷⁰ than SAI. These alternatives produce the same, if not better results, especially when using thawed semen.⁷¹

Given the ready availability of these alternative procedures, it's not surprising that both the RSPCA and the independent Australian veterinary association Sentient⁷² (a registered charity dedicated to promoting animal welfare and ethics) condemn SAI. In late 2022, the Australian Veterinary Association also issued its [policy](#) against SAI which said - "All states and territories in Australia should adopt the prohibition of surgical AI in dogs, in their respective Animal Welfare Acts."

⁷⁰ England, G. and Millar, K. (2008), [The Ethics and Role of AI with Fresh and Frozen Semen in Dogs](#).

Reproduction in Domestic Animals, 43: 165-171., page 168

⁷¹ Gunn A, Hyatt J, Annandale A, Annandale H, Heil B, Joone C, Ontiveros M, Ruiz A, Krekeler N, Tazawa P, McGowan M. [The animal welfare aspects of surgical artificial insemination in the canine](#). Aust Vet J. 2021 April;99(4):137, page 137

⁷² Sentient [policy](#) on SAI.

Instead of SAI, many specialists in veterinary reproduction advocate for transcervical insemination (TCI) as the most effective way of inseminating a greyhound. TCI is used worldwide and occurs via a vaginal and cervical catheter. In a study by Hollinshead et al, only seven of 1,103 intrauterine inseminations were not possible via TCI.⁷³

The Monash Veterinary Clinic, one of the biggest reproductive veterinary clinics in Victoria, says: "TCI is as close as we can get to a natural mating artificially". Studies undertaken at Monash show "a greater success rate by more than 20% with the use of transcervical insemination of frozen thawed semen compared to surgical insemination".⁷⁴

Even some dog racing industry bodies recognise that "done by an experienced and proficient person, this method can be completed quite quickly, and the results are better than or equal to the surgical method".⁷⁵ So what then are the motives behind those who still insist on using SAI? Human history is replete with resistance to change by conservative forces, even when scientific evidence shows change is justified. Also, it's clear that the demand for frozen semen has spawned a huge international industry.

This industry exists despite biosecurity concerns raised in the EU about the risks of the unregulated frozen semen trade spreading disease agents or genetic diseases from one country to another.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ S.J. Mason, N.R. Rous, [Comparison of endoscopic-assisted transcervical and laparotomy insemination with frozen-thawed dog semen: A retrospective clinical study](#), 18 June 2014,

⁷⁵ Greyhound Racing SA [Breeding Education Pack](#).

Indeed, “diseases may be transmitted via AI, given that some organisms may infect the male reproductive system and may pass into semen”.⁷⁶

The bottom line is always that ‘money talks’. Dog racing participants will pay large sums of money for champion dogs and hence want to buy their frozen sperm (and use SAI in the often mistaken belief that it results in larger litters). In late 2021, the last 10 vials of semen from a champion Australian stud dog were offered for sale at \$14,000 per vial.⁷⁷ Sadly, some sellers of greyhound semen actually require the use of SAI if dog racing participants wish to seek a refund as a result of their dog not becoming pregnant after being inseminated. This is evident in the terms and conditions listed on their websites.

Just as a ban on SAI in Australia is urgent, so too the trade in greyhound semen requires government regulation to force the market to be ethical in its approach to greyhound insemination.

Exported greyhounds to China

According to the volunteers who save dogs at the Chinese meat markets, the greyhound breed has now become the third most popular breed found at the slaughterhouses - CAGED Nationwide - see [here](#).

⁷⁶ Marco Quartuccio, Vito Biondi, Luigi Liotta & Annamaria Passantino (2020), Legislative and ethical aspects on use of canine artificial insemination in the 21st century, *Italian Journal of Animal Science*, 19:1, 630-643, DOI: 10.1080/1828051X.2020.1775503

⁷⁷ David Brasch, Last Vials Available To Stud Dog Great, [Chase News](#), 29 August 2021.



Above: Australian born greyhound girl 'Private Notes' (left) & Irish born champion 'Rayvin Giovanni' (Right) being used for breeding in mainland China, note how the female has her mouth taped closed.

Pups by champion greyhound She's A Pearl to be up for grabs at GRNSW Puppy Auction in May

The first pups by champion racer She's A Pearl will be available at the highly anticipated GRNSW Puppy Auction to be staged at Richmond in May.

Gerard Guthrie

less than 2 min read February 7, 2024 - 2:49PM [racenet](#)

0 comments



Osteosarcoma and pannus - irresponsible breeding

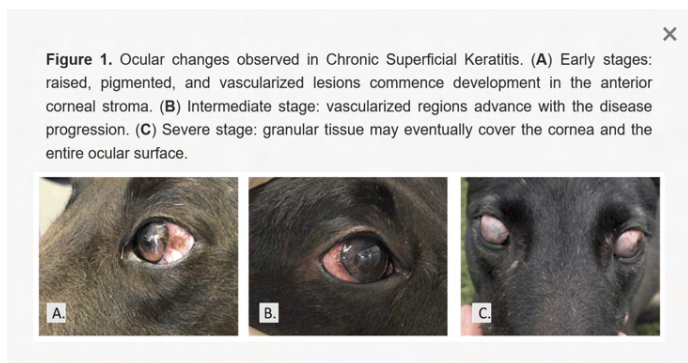
One of the greatest miseries for compassionate members of the community who adopt rescue greyhounds is the discovery that their beloved pet has osteosarcoma, an aggressive, painful and fatal cancer. The first sign is a sudden limp for no apparent reason, usually in middle age.

The long term prognosis after a diagnosis of osteosarcoma is very poor. This is largely due to the fact that the cancer spreads aggressively; even if a tumour is investigated straight away, there is already a 90% chance it will have started to spread throughout the body, usually first to the lungs.⁷⁸

As it's extremely painful when a bone finally fractures due to this type of cancer, there's usually little option but to euthanise a greyhound before subjecting it to this suffering.

According to vet Dr Belinda Oppenheimer, studies have shown that greyhounds are up to 17x more likely than crossbreed dogs to develop osteosarcoma, and, approximately 50% of all cancer diagnoses in greyhounds will be bone tumours.

Pannus is an auto-immune disorder also known as superficial keratitis. It is an eye condition that is more common in greyhounds than other breeds. In extreme cases, if pannus is left untreated, it can lead to blindness.



<https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4425/13/8/1328>

The good news is that Pannus can typically be easily managed with daily drops. If caught early the progression of the disease can be slowed dramatically, however, it's

⁷⁸ Dr Belinda Oppenheimer, [blog on osteosarcoma](#), Free the Hounds website.

not uncommon for greyhounds to arrive at community-run rescues with untreated Pannus.

The fact that these gentle hounds suffer such afflictions is due to irresponsible breeding practices on the part of the racing industry -

"As greyhounds are bred for use in racing, with their 'useful' life usually over within five years, there is no breeding focus on reducing longer term health issues with a potential genetic link such as osteosarcoma...Alarmingly, the racing industry does not appear to be prioritising or even attempting to breed out osteosarcoma among greyhounds, instead focusing on breeding dogs with short-term physical attributes desirable for racing."⁷⁹

This occurs because genetically similar individuals are intentionally mated, increasing the concentration of disease genes. This can happen when the gene for a desired trait is genetically linked with another gene that causes disease, and sometimes the desired trait can directly lead to disease.

Given this, the NSW greyhound industry regulator lists the following disorders as heritable defects and advises participants not to breed from affected greyhounds:

- greyhound polyneuropathy (GP),
- von Willebrands Disease (vWD) - a clotting factor disorder which causes serious bleeding,
- Haemophilia a - an X-chromosome-linked bleeding disorder, caused by a Factor VIII clotting.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

Overall, there are four main factors that inevitably lead to an increase in the level of inbreeding in dogs:

- genetic drift in small and genetically isolated populations,
- intentional inbreeding strategies by breeders who focus on fast improvement of desirable traits,
- intensive selection in favour of desirable traits or against undesirable traits,
- overuse of special sires (popular sires).⁸⁰

The last point is a constant feature of breeding in the Australian greyhound racing industry which doesn't even describe itself as highly knowledgeable.

With the availability of online tools that measure the relatedness of potential mates to avoid the worst excesses of inbreeding, it should be possible for the industry to reduce and avoid excessive inbreeding. The industry should also be thinking about reducing breeding related harm by limiting the number of offspring of any one sire.

The cruel and selfish approach taken by the racing industry to the breeding of its dogs is part of the wider disregard humans have displayed for many kinds of dogs, as well as many other animals. Inbreeding of animals to select for desirable characteristics has led to extensive suffering, e.g., brachycephalic dogs have breathing problems because of their set-back noses and shortened air passages, bloodhounds suffer chronic eye irritation and infection, chickens with

⁸⁰ Irene Sommerfeld-Stur, "Infertility and Inbreeding: How Veterinarians Should Tell What Breeders Do Not Want To Hear", World Small Animal Veterinary Association World Congress Proceedings, 2006.

such large breasts that they can't walk without toppling over, etc.

Greyhound breeder requirements and dog welfare

The potential consequences of irresponsible breeding practices that have plagued the greyhound racing industry raise questions about the qualifications required to be licensed as a breeder.

Appendix 5 provides CPG's examination of the varying requirements and divergences in breeding qualifications across jurisdictions.

The specific requirements for becoming a qualified greyhound breeder throughout Australia also have potential implications for the health of the breed, genetic diversity, and overall welfare of greyhounds.

For example, in some jurisdictions, individuals can become licensed greyhound breeders without even understanding the risks and benefits of selective breeding. This lack of oversight can lead to a higher prevalence of genetic disorders and inbreeding within the greyhound breeding community.

While some steps are being taken to promote basic genetic education,⁸¹ social factors such as demand for racing dogs or ownership laws can negatively affect greyhound welfare. This impact is

⁸¹ For example, Greyhound Racing Victoria, [Developing a breeding program - understanding genetics](#); GWIC, [Being a Greyhound Breeder: Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission handbook](#), p.10.

exemplified by the recent revival of the sport driven by a surge in online gambling revenue, which has contributed to an unsustainable breeding cycle.⁸²

Finally, age requirements for breeders are set in SA, NSW, VIC, WA, and TAS, but should be set in all jurisdictions. A National Police Certificate is required in NSW and SA, but should be a requirement in each state.

—

⁸² Sydney Morning Herald, [Online gambling driving surge in greyhound breeding, rescues inundated](#).

Recommendations

1. Each state government must set strict breeding caps on its greyhound racing industry⁸³. These caps should be based on the dog racing industry's capacity to rehome through each state's GAP.
2. Government regulators must be empowered to monitor and enforce breeding numbers. NSW's regulator already has the power to set a cap⁸⁴ and the NSW Minister should urgently direct it to take this action.
3. All state governments must require transparent reporting by racing bodies on breeding, while utilisation rates must be published by all jurisdictions and used to weed out underperforming industry participants.
4. Each GAP must fund a rehoming place for every greyhound whelped in its state or whelped elsewhere, but retired in its state.
5. Each state government must implement a puppy bond. The bond must be transferable and recoverable

⁸³ This is consistent with Recommendation 7 of "[Issues paper on overbreeding and wastage: submission from the Australian Veterinary Association to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in NSW](#) (2015)". Moreover, the South Australian Government's 2023 inquiry into the greyhound racing industry recommended breeding caps.

⁸⁴ GWIC's [enabling legislation](#) - s.55e empowers GWIC to make rules with respect to the breeding of greyhounds.

by the last person who has the care and control of the greyhound before it is rehomed or has been retired as a pet of an industry participant. In the latter case the fee should not be recoverable for a period of two years.

6. All state governments must act on the Australian Veterinary Association's recommendations regarding surgical artificial insemination (SAI) by urgently amending animal welfare laws to prohibit the practice.
7. Each jurisdiction that allows greyhound racing must establish nationally consistent breeding qualifications for breeders (encompassing competency assessment (both pre-licensing and on a regular basis, say every two years) age restrictions, educational prerequisites, criminal background checks⁸⁵, health and safety standards, as well as genetic education programs).
8. State governments must implement processes and systems to identify and prevent the use of breeding lines with a history of pannus and/or osteosarcoma in order to reduce greyhound suffering and support rehoming efforts.

⁸⁵ This is particularly urgent because a National Police Certificate should be required in every state. This would ensure breeders have a clean criminal record, relevant for industry reputation and dog safety.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Inquiries into the
greyhound racing industry -
recommendations on breeding controls

Appendix 2 - Evidence - Breeding
incentives

Appendix 3 - A short history of
greyhound breeding in Australia

Appendix 4 - Qualifications per
jurisdiction to be a greyhound breeder

Appendix 5 - Foreign jurisdictions and
overbreeding

Appendix 6 - Breeding/Greyhound
codes

Appendix 7 - Breeding/Genetic choices

Appendix 1 - Inquiries into the greyhound racing industry - recommendations on breeding controls

NT and ACT

There is no official breeding by the racing industry in the Northern Territory.

In the ACT, greyhound racing is banned, but breeding is still allowed. It is regulated under the ACT *Animal Welfare Act 1992* and the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*.⁸⁶ The relevant ACT Minister [confirmed in 2023](#) that for the last three years:

- no breeding licences were issued for racing greyhounds (and non-racing greyhounds) in the ACT, and, there are no known racing greyhounds being bred within the ACT for the last three years,
- there are no known training facilities for racing greyhounds in the ACT,
- there are no known facilities for breeding racing greyhounds in the ACT for the last three years.

NSW

The McHugh Report addressed the issue of wastage and found that:

*"...by any measure, the most significant contributor to immediate wastage is the number of greyhound pups whelped each year that are simply uncompetitive...[and] unless the number of greyhounds being bred in this State is reduced by a very large number, the greyhound racing industry in NSW cannot solve its problem of the mass slaughtering of healthy greyhounds."*⁸⁷

In response to the McHugh Report, the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel (2017) stated that:

*"The industry should continue to advocate for a national approach to breeding controls for greyhounds...[and]...Additional options for breeding controls and other total life cycle management initiatives, including target date for achieving zero unnecessary euthanasia, should be considered in two years informed by more robust data."*⁸⁸

Action on this is now long overdue and the NSW Government is avoiding taking action on breeding caps, despite its regulator GWIC having been empowered to make this decision.

Meanwhile, when it comes to breeding, the NSW racing industry media does little more than complain and [rewrite the history](#) of how and why breeding rates dropped.

The facts are that after the NSW Government announced it was going to ban greyhound racing, many industry participants decided to reduce their own breeding and/or exit the industry.

⁸⁶ [Greyhound Welfare and Management](#), Transport Canberra and City Services, p1.

⁸⁷ [Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in New South Wales](#) July 2016, Vol2, p39 - Government of New South Wales-

⁸⁸ [Greyhound Industry Reform Panel](#) February 2017, Recommendations 63 & 64, p41

This led to a nearly 50% drop in breeding numbers from FY15/16 to FY21/22. Sadly, the ban never went ahead, with both leaders at the time (the Nationals and the Liberals) being threatened with the loss of their position (see Appendix 4).

As a result of this reduced breeding, the Greyhound Breeders Owners & Trainers Association (GBOTA) have raised concerns around the reduced racing pool and continue to oppose further controls on breeding and lifecycle management.

The McHugh report triggered most other states to instigate their own inquiries.

Tasmania

The Inquiry into Greyhound Racing in Tasmania (2016) found a strong correlation between the high number of pups whelped and the high rates of wastage. The report found that out of greyhounds that were retired, rehomed, euthanised or died from natural causes in the 2013/14 racing season, 76% met premature deaths, while 68% of these dogs met premature deaths in the 2014/15 racing season.⁸⁹

However, these numbers should be viewed as a baseline as they depend on the owner informing the regulator of a greyhound's death, and ultimately, wastage rates in Tasmania are likely far higher than what they appear on paper. This illustrates a flawed tracking system and poor transparency within the racing industry, perpetuating the attitudes and actions that deem greyhounds as disposable.

In response to overbreeding and wastage rates, the report makes the following recommendation:

That the Government supports the Office of Racing Integrity and Tasracing's stated commitment to Greyhounds Australasia's "Towards Zero Euthanasia" framework and to actively monitor progress towards this goal.⁹⁰

Further, Recommendation 7 advises the Office of Racing Integrity to be responsible for the development and regulation of a comprehensive database tracing all greyhounds (both whelped in Tasmania and imported) throughout their lifecycle. And, in line with Recommendation 8, a person must be licensed to possess a greyhound.⁹¹

Queensland

The Minister for Sport and Racing in Queensland instigated a three-month investigation and review on 2 March 2015. The Queensland Racing Industry Commission of Inquiry report (MacSporran Report) highlighted:

- the lack of industry transparency tied to insufficient licensing and greyhound registration,
- along with the commercial focus that tends to override animal welfare standards while perpetuating overbreeding, and thus, wastage.

The Commission said the following about Queensland's GAP rehoming attempts:

"the number of dogs successfully rehomed was wholly inadequate to deal with all of those available."⁹²

⁸⁹ [Report - Joint Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in Tasmania](#), p46.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² (need to complete ref from Darwin report, p207)

Racing QLD and the RSPCA joined forces to increase the number of greyhounds being rehomed. However, poor socialisation of greyhound pups is detrimental to their already slight chances of being rehomed once they are no longer required for racing.

The critical socialisation period that shapes the lifelong nature of the dog occurs between three to 17 weeks of age. Yet, in most racing settings, greyhounds are placed in small kennels and endure highly strenuous training, creating a stressful environment. If issues such as these are left unaddressed, these joint efforts to rehome are undermined.



Meanwhile, the inquiry's report called for several key changes, including:

- the licensing and ongoing monitoring of participants and registration of all greyhounds as soon as they are microchipped or receive ear branding,
- that all information regarding whelping, injuries, and death should be available on a public database to ensure the dog is traceable throughout its life.
- that when a greyhound pup is registered, the required registration fee should include a component for the future welfare of the dog and stated -

"It is clearly unacceptable to breed dogs for racing and not take responsibility for the welfare of dogs which are bred, irrespective of their racing ability."

It was anticipated that this fee would induce breeders to limit breeding numbers.⁹³

The Queensland Government accepted this recommendation and reported that the working party to review the greyhound registration fee structure should be completed by March 2016.

⁹³ Recommendation 10, p8 in [Queensland Greyhound Racing Industry Commission of Inquiry Final Report](#) - 1 June 2015

As of the publication of this paper, charges relating to pups and whelping are as follows:

- there is no charge for an application to renew a breeders' licence,
- no charge for an application for authority to breed, and
- no charge for a whelping where the whelping has been notified within 14 days. The charge for naming a pup is \$66.⁹⁴

Finally, the report stated:

"The breeding incentive program, QGreys, be discontinued and that the money currently funding the program be redirected to the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) or similar".⁹⁵

Victoria

In 2015, Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) assumed responsibility for implementing the animal welfare reform recommendations, published in the reports by the Racing Integrity Commissioner Mr. Sal Perna⁹⁶ and Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Charles Milne.⁹⁷ Issues with regulation of a greyhound's life cycle was a common subject in these papers.

In Victoria, greyhounds must be managed and cared for in compliance with a complex regulatory framework, including the Domestic Animals Act 1994's (DAA)⁹⁸ and *Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments (COPG)*.⁹⁹

After detailed examination of the code, the Chief Veterinary Officer's Report found that:

the COPG does not include critical standards that address a greyhound's exercise, socialisation, handling, transportation and enrichment needs at all stages of the dog's life. The COPG also does not include policies to guide greyhound management and care after they retire from racing. The animal welfare standards embodied in the COPG are considered to fall short of contemporary community expectations.¹⁰⁰

The Report highlights how the insufficient application and regulation of animal welfare frameworks is in part due to a narrow focus that disregards a greyhound's welfare post-racing. Lack of regulation is also attributable to the GRV's clash of interest being the regulator of animal welfare affairs and the commercial industry body.

South Australia

There are no breeding caps on greyhounds in South Australia (SA) and the state never held a parliamentary inquiry into its greyhound racing industry until 2023. There are no breeding statistics to be found in the dog racing industry's annual report 2019/20.

⁹⁴ [Schedule of Fees and Charges – Queensland Racing Integrity Commission](#) (QRIC)- 2013-2017

⁹⁵ (need to complete ref, Darwin Report, p213)

⁹⁶ Racing Integrity Commissioner Mr. Sal Perna, *2015 Own Motion Inquiry into Live Baiting in Greyhound Racing in Victoria*.

⁹⁷ Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Charles Milne, *Investigation into animal welfare and cruelty in the Victorian Greyhound industry* (30 April 2015).

⁹⁸ [Domestic Animals Act 1994 \(Vic\)](#)

⁹⁹ [Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments](#). Department of Primary Industries, Victoria, 2006.

¹⁰⁰ Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Charles Milne, *Investigation into animal welfare and cruelty in the Victorian Greyhound industry* (30 April 2015) p.18- 19.

After pressure from CPG, Greyhound Racing South Australia (GRSA) released information regarding greyhound welfare (including breeding). The data released for the 2022 financial year reveals that 752 greyhounds were bred for racing purposes.¹⁰¹

Subsequently, according to the annual report published by GRSA, the amount of greyhounds bred increased in 2020/21 by 219, compared to 2019/20.¹⁰² This is a startling thirty percent increase, with the increasing trend continuing.

Western Australia

The WA Greyhound racing industry vehemently claimed it was 'wrongly tarnished'¹⁰³ by the exposure of greyhound cruelty practices in New South Wales. Despite discussions in the WA Parliament, the proposal for a governmental inquiry into the matter was regrettably rejected.¹⁰⁴

Instead, the collaborative efforts of Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA) and the RSPCA were employed to conduct an investigation.¹⁰⁵ While several inquiries were made into animal welfare,¹⁰⁶ none of them specifically addressed concerns surrounding the welfare of racing greyhounds.

Meanwhile, the welfare of all animals, including greyhounds, is covered by the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*, while codes of practice regulate the care and management of certain groups of animals.¹⁰⁷ Several inquiries¹⁰⁸ prompted revisions of the regulatory and legislative framework. In May 2019, an independent review commissioned by the McGowan Government revised the Act for efficacy. In the 2020 Report¹⁰⁹ 52 suggestions were made by the Panel, which was chaired by regulatory law expert and Western Australian attorney Linda Black. The Government launched five major reform initiatives to protect animal welfare on June 2, 2021.¹¹⁰

Even though the McGowan Government's Stop Puppy Farming legislation has passed WA Parliament and the Dog Amendment (Stop Puppy Farming) Bill 2021¹¹¹ has set additional rules for keeping and breeding dogs, racing greyhounds are not included. Retired racing (pet) greyhounds are subject to the *Dog Act 1976*, but not to Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA) rules and restrictions, while racing greyhounds are exempt from some *Dog Act 1976* laws due to RWWA requirements.¹¹²

¹⁰¹ GRSA [FY22 Statistical Overview](#), last updated on 11 August 2022.

¹⁰² GRSA 2020/21 [Annual report](#), page 14.

¹⁰³ ABC, [No proof of live baiting in WA greyhound racing industry, RWWA says](#).

¹⁰⁴ [Western Australia, Parliamentary Debates, Legislative Assembly, 18 Mar 2015, 1688](#).

¹⁰⁵ ABC, [No proof of live baiting in WA greyhound racing industry, RWWA says](#)

¹⁰⁶ For example, [Inquiry into the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts \(2010\)](#), [Easton Review \(2015\)](#), [The Report of the Select Committee into the Operations of The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Western Australia \(Inc\) \(2016\)](#), [Report of the Independent Review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 of Western Australia \(2020\)](#).

¹⁰⁷ [Animal Welfare: Animals for Entertainment](#), Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's Agriculture and Food division, Government of Western Australia.

¹⁰⁸ For example, [Inquiry into the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts \(2010\)](#), [Easton Review \(2015\)](#), [The Report of the Select Committee into the Operations of The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Western Australia \(Inc\) \(2016\)](#).

¹⁰⁹ [Report of the Independent Review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 of Western Australia \(2020\)](#).

¹¹⁰ [Government Response to the Report of the Independent Review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 \(2021\)](#).

¹¹¹ [Dog Amendment \(Stop Puppy Farming\) Bill 2021](#).

¹¹² [Greyhounds](#), Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Government of Western Australia.

For example, the owners of greyhounds registered with RWWA are free from the obligation to obtain a breeding permit. This is because RWWA already oversees greyhound breeding.¹¹³ Also, despite the fact that the *Dog Act's* modifications seek to reduce "the number of pups and dogs that are bred indiscriminately"¹¹⁴ the [Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds](#)¹¹⁵ does not adequately address the issue of overbreeding.

¹¹³ [Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds](#) (2019), RWWA.

¹¹⁴ [Stop Puppy Farming](#), Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Government of Western Australia.

¹¹⁵ [Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds](#) (2019), RWWA.

Appendix 2 - Evidence - Breeding incentives

NSW

The Blue Paws scheme¹¹⁶ was discontinued from 1 July 2015. Its aim had been to promote investment in the NSW breeding industry. It was discontinued “after an internal review” found that it was inconsistent with the National Greyhound Welfare Strategy.¹¹⁷ A breeding incentive scheme has not been reintroduced. However, large financial rewards have been offered in the form of increased prize money.

In particular, the introduction of the Million Dollar Chase in 2018, an annual event billed as the “richest greyhound racing event in the world” gave breeders from all over NSW the chance to win one million dollars in prize money.

Greyhounds throughout regional NSW were able to qualify for semifinals which were run in Sydney at Wentworth Park, and from there eight qualified for the grand final.¹¹⁸

Unnamed
(Zipping Garth x Rainbow Wish) \$4,000
Listing updated on: 21/01/23

7 Quality Pups. 4 dogs, 3 bitches.
Zipping Garth X Rainbow Wish
Seven quality pups (4 dogs, 3 bitches) bred for speed and priced to sell by Zipping Garth x Rainbow Wish. Rainbow Wish won 7 races from just 26 races before her career was cut shor...read more

Type New Litters
Age/Gender < 6 Months, Both

☆ SAVE VIEW Butterwick, NSW

In June 2019 the biggest prize money increase in NSW greyhound racing history was announced by Greyhound Racing New South Wales (GRNSW)¹¹⁹ as part of a record \$33M to be paid to participants over the next 12 months, the majority going to regional participants.

In Sep 2021 a 23% increase in prize money and returns for participants in 2021/22 – “double the amount paid just six years ago”, was announced.¹²⁰ Total prize money now reached a record \$47M, up from \$33M two years prior.

Fees associated with breeding were reduced or waived over the last three years.

In July 2019, the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (GWIC) announced that it would be decreasing fees for greyhound naming applications and litter registrations, \$80 and \$150 respectively, to \$50 each from 1 July 2019.¹²¹ In June 2020, it was announced that registration fees paid to GWIC would be waived for “another 12 months”.¹²² In August 2021, a \$1,500 rebate of registration fees for owners who operate as a small business was announced.¹²³

¹¹⁶ [Closure of Blue Paws Scheme](#) from 1 July 2015/ GRNSW

¹¹⁷ [Greyhound Welfare Strategy](#) 2021/ Greyhounds Australasia

¹¹⁸ [GRNSW + Ladbrokes' Million Dollar Chase](#), September 2018.

¹¹⁹ [Biggest Prize Money Increase in NSW Greyhound Racing History](#), 21 June 2019 / GRNSW

¹²⁰ [Record greyhound prizemoney earns praise from trainer Andy Lord in Port Macquarie News](#) 4 October, 2021

¹²¹ [GWIC announces fee reduction from 1 July 2019 | Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission](#)

¹²² [Registration fees waived for greyhound owners, 15 June 2020 - NSW Nationals](#)

¹²³ [Fee relief for greyhound owners Fee rebate for greyhound industry | Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission ; Registration Fees | Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission](#)

The results of the above policy decisions can clearly be seen in breeding statistics at Appendix 1.

Finally in 2023, GWIC announced that after four years of no increases, there would be changes to some fees and the introduction of new fees for some services.¹²⁴

Victoria

In July 2015 Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) announced that it would suspend the state's Greyhound Owners and Breeders Incentive Scheme (GOBIS) as it was deemed



inconsistent with the recommendations made by the Chief Veterinary Officer and the Racing Integrity Commissioner in relation to live baiting in the greyhound industry.¹²⁵

In 2016, the Board of GRV appointed an Industry Consultative Group to discuss major issues facing the industry. Just short of two years after the suspension of GOBIS, at an Industry Consultative Group meeting in April 2017, it was stated that "the introduction of breeding incentive and reward schemes were seen as crucial to restoring industry

confidence".¹²⁶

In March 2021, GRV announced that total prize money in the state had risen to \$52M annually and that Victoria hosts the most prestigious greyhound race in the world, the \$630,000 Group 1 Melbourne Cup at Sandown Park.¹²⁷

In May 2021, GRV announced the VicBred Pink Diamond series to be conducted in June each year throughout regional Victoria and offer top prize money of \$105,000 including \$750,000 to the winner.¹²⁸

18 June 2021, GRV announced record prize money increases for 2021/22 financial year of \$58M. The increase included the continuation of the "Pink Diamond Series breeding incentive payments" of \$790,000.¹²⁹

In August 2021, the GRV Board approved \$5.3M additional prize money for the current financial year. It was seen as "a significant boost" to participants in the running of their business and our racing calendar.¹³⁰

¹²⁴ GWIC announces fee changes, July 2023, Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission.

<https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/registration/registration/1-july-2023-registration-fee-changes>

¹²⁵ [Greyhound Racing Announces End To GOBIS \(Greyhound Owners and Breeders Incentive Scheme 9 July 2015\)](#) Premier of Victoria

¹²⁶ "[Breeding incentives crucial for industry confidence](#)", 11 April 2017, Greyhound Racing Victoria

¹²⁷ "[How much prize money is on offer in Victoria](#)" 11 March 2012 in Greyhound Racing Victoria

¹²⁸ "[Vics strike it rich with new Pink Diamond series](#)"; [Victorian Bred Greyhounds Now Race For \\$900,000 Pink Diamond Series](#), 9 February 2012 - Greyhound Racing Victoria update

¹²⁹ "[GRV announces record prize money pool for 2021-22](#)", 18 June 2021 - Greyhound Racing Victoria update

¹³⁰ "[GRV Chair statement on Board's 5.3 million decision](#)", 27 August 2021 in Greyhound Racing Victoria

On 30 September 2021, GRV announced a new prize money structure “which will see the largest prize pool in the world – more than \$63.3M – being offered by GRV across the state this financial year.” “The new initiatives will be implemented across more than 950 race meetings over the remainder of the final year at the state’s 13 race clubs in metropolitan and provincial areas...Further increases in prize money will be considered by the Board at its November and December meetings with its commitment to sustain confidence and re-invest in the industry.”¹³¹

In October 2021, the Australian Racing Greyhound reported “All metropolitan and provincial class standards races will receive a 12% increase in prize money. Potentially the biggest change is that GRV will now pay fourth place prize money for all races.”¹³² Finally, in 2022, Greyhound Racing Victoria announced an \$8.85M increase in funding for its participants for the 2022/23 greyhound racing calendar.¹³³



Queensland

In 2018, Racing Queensland’s Sustainability Reimbursement Scheme allowed for a full rebate of the cost of a breeding female registration, a full rebate to the cost of DNA analysis for named female greyhounds and a full rebate to the cost of litter registrations made within four months of whelping.

Additionally, on top of the \$40 fee paid to trainers for each appearance in a Queensland race, the payments also include \$500 sustainability payment for a Queensland bred greyhound having its first race start, split 50/50 between owner and breeder; \$500 sustainability payment for a Queensland bred greyhound that wins a maiden race, payment split 50/50 between owner and breeder; and \$500 sustainability payment for a Queensland bred greyhound that wins a novice race, payment split 50/50 between owner and breeder.¹³⁴

In 2019, it was reported by Racing Queensland that 1208 pups had been whelped in Queensland, an increase of over 30% on the previous financial year. The number of pups whelped were said to have exceeded the number of greyhounds retired, indicating a “sustainable level of breeding had been established”. Consequently, the Sustainability Reimbursement Scheme was discontinued as of 30 June 2019.¹³⁵

However, In December 2020 it was reported by Racing Queensland that from 1 January 2021 money bonuses for Queensland bred dogs will increase to \$1,000 per race, up from

¹³¹ [“New prize money structure comes into effect”](#), 30 September 2021 - Greyhound Racing Victoria update

¹³² [“New Victorian greyhound racing prize money now pays to fourth place”](#), Australian Racing Greyhound, 1 October 2021.

¹³³ Greyhound Recorder [article](#), 14 July, 2022.

¹³⁴ [“Racing Queensland extends Greyhound sustainability payments”](#), June 2018 - Racing Queensland

¹³⁵ [“Greyhound Breeding Reimbursements Discontinued”](#), June 2019 - Racing Queensland

\$500, spread over a suitably qualified greyhound's first start, its first win, its second win and its master's win.¹³⁶

In 2022, Queensland Racing announced yet another breeding bonus, with the distribution of more than \$75,000 during the month of June. Payments of \$200 would be paid for each winning dog that was bred in Queensland. The money would be shared between the breeder, owner and trainer.¹³⁷


The aim of the bonus was to encourage "local chasers" to compete throughout the month of June, and especially in the Queensland Winter Greyhound Racing Carnival.

South Australia

Greyhound Racing South Australia (GRSA) Breeders Rebate Scheme information sheet provides for a number of rebates including a litter registration fee of \$38.50 and SA Bred Payment Scheme of \$27.50 per pup to be rebated up to a claim limit of \$1,000.¹³⁸

Lend The Moose
(Fernando bale x Belmont Belle)

Listing updated on: 19/05/23




Pays for himself
Lend The Moose is a fast beginner whose next win is right around the corner and a breeding career after that he is the perfect buy for any racing kennel. His full brother from the [...read more](#)

Type: Racing Dogs
Age/Gender: 3yo, Dog

Record				Prize Money Won
Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	
38	4	4	5	\$7,460

\$100-\$500



The SA Bred Payment Scheme provides for a pool of money. Every SA Bred Greyhound that wins a SKY Racing meeting in SA receives \$100 from this pool, which is divided between the owner and the breeder. If they happen to be the same person then they will receive the full \$100. If, at the end of, a given month there are 100 SA Bred winners throughout the month then \$10,000 is paid out of the \$30,000.

The remaining \$20,000 will then be divided between the 100 winners and then paid to both the owner and the breeder. The figure will vary each month depending on SKY Racing winners, however Greyhound Racing SA (GRSA) will pay \$30,000 each month to SA Bred greyhounds on top of prize money. GRSA increased the monthly bonus to now include the Breeders.¹³⁹

Western Australia

Racing and Wagering Western Australia funds [Westchase](#), an industry breeding incentive scheme, whereby all WA bred greyhounds are eligible for a significant initial reward for winning their first ever race, and all WA bred greyhounds winning provincial or country class maiden, juvenile and novice events are eligible for smaller bonuses.

Tasmania

From 1 July 2020 the Tasmanian Government announced that prize money would increase by three percent at a cost of \$660,000 in the new financial year "giving industry participants confidence to invest in their racing animals." across the three codes.

¹³⁶ ["Industry grassroots applauds RQ's funding boost", 24 December 2020 | Chase News](#)

¹³⁷ ["Queensland Greyhound Breeders Bonuses are Back" in Australian Racing Greyhound, 27 May 2022](#)

¹³⁸ [Greyhound Racing SA Limited. Breeders Rebate Scheme Information sheet](#) from 1 November 2011

¹³⁹ [Industry - SA Bred Payment Scheme](#) from 1 July 2011, in Greyhound Racing SA

On 30 Sep 2021, the Minister for Racing announced that greyhound code funding would increase by 7.7 per cent.¹⁴⁰



Australian Capital Territory

Greyhound racing is banned in the ACT.

According to the Minister for Transport and City Services “there are no breeding licences issued for racing greyhounds (and non-racing greyhounds) in the ACT. There are no known training facilities for racing greyhounds in the ACT.”¹⁴¹

Regarding the number of racing greyhounds that are being bred annually in the ACT in the last three years, the Minister for Transport and City Services replied that “there are no known racing greyhounds being bred within the ACT for the last three years.” Moreover, “there are no known facilities breeding racing greyhounds in the ACT for the last three years.”

With regard to the questions how many times the same greyhound can be used for whelping in the ACT, at what age this ceases, how it is monitored and enforced and where the resulting data is published, the Minister for Transport and City Services stated that:

“Section 15B (1) of the *Animal Welfare Act* 1992, determines the breeding standards for all dogs and cats. Dogs can only be bred between the age of 18 months and 6 years, have no more than four litters in their lifetime and have at least 18 months between each litter.

Prior to obtaining a breeding licence, the register must consider a number of factors as prescribed under section 72B of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*. Such factors include, number of animals, suitability of facilities, safety to public, potential impact to neighbours, and the size and nature of the premises.

A licence is only valid for two years once issued. Under section 72M of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*, if there was a breeder of greyhounds in the ACT, they must inform Domestic Animal Services within seven days of the puppies being bred, the number of puppies and the sex of each puppy.”

¹⁴⁰ “[Increased funding for racing industry confirmed by Tasracing Board](#)”, 30 September 2021, Media release from Department of Premier and Cabinet, Tasmania

¹⁴¹ [Domestic Animal Services](#)

Appendix 3 - A short history of greyhound breeding in Australia

Extract from [AVA submission to NSW McHugh Inquiry](#) (pages 1-2)

"Greyhound racing has evolved over time from coursing to mechanical lure racing on circuit tracks. In the period 1960 – 1980 the industry largely consisted of many owners each with a few dogs, with a few professional trainers starting to become prominent. Owners with better dogs sent their dogs to the successful professional trainers.



As time progressed smaller trainers continued to exist but their chance of success became lessened as owners and breeders selected their better dogs to be trained by the more professional trainers.

Before 1990 breeding was carried out using natural matings. The bitches were taken to the males for mating. Timing of matings was not precise and so not all bitches conceived at each mating.

In 1990 technology using hormone measurements became available to accurately determine the time of ovulation and so pregnancy rates increased. Concurrently technology to use frozen semen was adopted by the greyhound industry. This meant bitches did not have to be transported to the stud dogs.

Currently a large percentage of all breeding is done by surgical insemination of frozen semen. Stud dog owners have a considerable market for the frozen semen and large amounts of frozen greyhound semen are stored ready for use as needed.

From the later part of the 1990's drug sampling and general integrity in greyhound racing increased to the point where it became difficult to cheat. Gambling turnover increased and so more money became available to distribute as prize money. Most greyhounds are trained on the basis that the trainer trains the dog at no cost or at a low retainer, but receives 50% of the prize money.

As a result of the increased prize money, increased earnings to be made from selling frozen semen, the relative ease of breeding more dogs and the low cost of rearing lots of dogs, there developed a culture of high

levels of breeding, selecting the best to train and euthanizing the unwanted ones.

At the same time, there are smaller breeders who breed responsibly and who look after their dogs for life. These people contribute very little to the wastage issue.

National breeding strategy

"As part of the national greyhound welfare strategy, national breeding rules were introduced in July 2015.¹

All state jurisdictions have adopted these rules...The new rules involve:

1. The licensing of all breeders. Breeders are to comply with a code of practice.
2. All dams to be registered with their state racing authority as a breeding female.
3. Breeding females over the age of 8 must
 - a. Obtain a veterinary certificate of breeding soundness
 - b. Obtain permission to breed the dog.
4. A maximum of 3 litters can be bred from any one bitch and permission to breed a 4th litter must be obtained from the state racing authority. A certificate of breeding soundness must be obtained before the 4th breeding can occur.
5. No breeding female may have more than 2 litters in any 18 month period,
6. All pups have a compulsory C3 (distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus) vaccination at 6-8 weeks and C5 (distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and two types of canine cough) vaccination at 10-16 weeks.
7. All dogs must receive a C5 vaccination before being named and commencing racing.

The licensing of breeders will allow each state racing authority to assess the performance of breeders and as a result will be able to place further limits on the number of litters a breeder may produce...

The national approach has been adopted by all state racing authorities and the rates of breeding and the number of pups born are reducing as a result of this.

The national approach will prevent breeders moving over state borders to breed more dogs.

As part of the national greyhound welfare strategy, national grading rules to clearly define the racing ability of dogs are being developed so as to stop greyhounds moving from stronger racing states to weaker racing states. This movement causes wastage issues in the weaker states.

The national licensing project has been approved by all state racing authorities. It comes into effect on 1 July 2016.

Under this project all trainers and breeders will be licensed and there will be a tiered structure for the licences. New and novice trainers and breeders will have limits on the number of dogs they may have in their possession and the number of litters they may train or breed in any one year."

Extract from the CPG's white paper [Setting and enforcing breeding targets](#) about the **NSW puppy bond proposal** -

"The Report produced by the Special Commission found that 'the most significant contributor to immediate wastage is the number of greyhound pups whelped each year that are simply uncompetitive. Some of these greyhounds are discarded by the industry without having any racing careers. Additional greyhounds are discarded following a racing career of short duration.'¹

To deter overbreeding, Recommendation 48 of the Report stated that 'A significant fee should be imposed upon the breeder of any greyhound which is transferrable and recoverable by the last person who has the care and control of the greyhound before it is rehomed or has been retired as a pet of an industry participant. In the latter case the fee should not be recoverable for a period of two years.'

Greyhound Industry Reform Panel

The Greyhound Industry Reform Panel also addressed the issue of overbreeding. The Reform Panel response to the Special Commission's recommendation was that 'The panel recommends a modest fee on the owner, followed by annual payments for each year the greyhound is still registered with the industry. The bond would be held by the integrity commission. The accumulated funds will incentivise whole of lifecycle management and care.'²

The Reform Panel recommendations of February 2017 and the NSW Government response are as follows:

Recommendation

63. Industry should continue to advocate a national approach to breeding controls for greyhounds.

64. Additional options for breeding controls and other total lifecycle management initiatives, including a target date for achieving zero unnecessary euthanasia, should be considered in two years informed by more robust data.

The NSW Government accepted both these recommendations.

Despite the NSW Government accepting this recommendation for breeding controls, it was never implemented. Meanwhile, the NSW regulator (GWIC - Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission) still retains the ability to impose a breeding cap, but the NSW greyhound breeding industry wants GWIC's ability to impose a cap removed.¹⁴²



¹⁴² NSW GBOTA submission to statutory review of the *Greyhound Racing Act 2017* (NSW), p15.

Appendix 4 - Qualifications per jurisdiction to be a greyhound breeder

South Australia

- A national police certificate.
- Breeders must be familiar and comply with the greyhound racing rule book and industry animal welfare policies.

New South Wales

- be 18 or older
- hold a current National Police History Check
- have a certificate of completion for the [registration knowledge check](#)
- This involves reading the [Being a Greyhound Breeder Handbook](#) and completing the online Registration Knowledge Test ([see here](#))

Victoria

- be at least 18 years old
- read through the education package (available directly from the Agency at a cost or on their website - [Greyhound Racing Victoria](#) - free of charge) and complete and submit the assessment forms directly to the Agency
- register as a member of Greyhound Racing Victoria (if you are not already registered).

Northern Territory -

- There is no breeding in the NT.

Western Australia

- be at least 18 years old
- hold a current National Police Certificate
- provide a statement of assets and liabilities that demonstrates you have sufficient financial means to conduct greyhound breeding
- submit the completed modules of the [Breeders Education Package](#) -
 - the requirements outlined in this package document expect only the bare minimum for maintaining the greyhound's health and safety such as logging and investigating medical concerns.

- obtain and submit a copy of your local council or shire approval if you are accommodating more than two adult greyhounds or keeping puppies after they attain 16 weeks of age.

Tasmania

To be eligible for registration as an owner, attendant or trainer one must:

- be at least 18 years of age
- satisfy any accreditation or other specified requirements.
- for a breeder licence, hold a current licence with ownership privileges in the greyhound industry in Tasmania,
- completed and lodge the relevant application form with the prescribed fee (if a fee is applicable).
- submit a current National Police Record Check if required,
- submit and successfully complete the [Breeder's Education Package Questionnaire Units](#) - see the <https://nre.tas.gov.au> website,
- Have a suitable property for the breeding and housing of greyhounds as applicable,
- if required, have a satisfactory inspection of their property by stewards, once application is of an appropriate level for approval by the Director,
- meet all relevant local government (council) and state government regulations and can provide evidence of the same if requested.

Queensland

Those seeking to become Greyhound Breeders will require one of the following:

- pay a fee and register as a chosen category of breeder between categories 1 & 4
 - Category 1 – Breeder, Whelping, Rearer and Pre-Educator
 - Category 2 – Breeder, Rearer and Pre-Educator
 - Category 3 – Breeder, Whelping
 - Category 4 – Breeder,
- the remaining requirements are:
 - 6 – 8 week Vaccination Record
 - 10 – 16 week Vaccination Record
 - Request for Replacement Breeding Application for Breeding Female Registration
 - Greyhound Breeding Lease Application.

ACT

Racing greyhound controller licence

Any person who has control of a racing greyhound (for training, handling or rearing purposes) must obtain a racing greyhound controller licence.

The holder of a racing greyhound controller licence is responsible for the welfare of the greyhound registered on their licence, regardless of whether the greyhound is owned by that person, owned by a syndicate, or kept under a leasing arrangement.

Breeders

Racing greyhounds are automatically exempt from de-sexing requirements under the DA Act but the breeding of greyhounds in the ACT is specifically prohibited unless an ACT breeding licence is held.

Owners of racing greyhounds who wish to breed from their own greyhounds must therefore apply for a standard breeding licence under the DA Act. As part of the application process it is taken into consideration that the greyhound is registered as a racing greyhound.

A person will require a breeding licence from Domestic Animal Services in order to undertake the following activities:

- Arrange for the service or artificial insemination of a female greyhound
- Care for a female greyhound and her litter during whelping and rearing

References

Qualifications & requirement of Greyhound Breeding by state & territory

- Registration as a Greyhound Breeder - [South Australia](#)
- Registration as a Greyhound Breeder - [New South Wales](#)
- Registration as a Greyhound Breeder - [Victoria](#)
- Registration as a Greyhound Breeder - [Western Australia](#):
- Greyhound Racing Registrations - [Tasmania](#)
 - [Fact Sheet](#) - Greyhound Breeding Activity Licensing:
- Greyhound racing - NT/ACT - no breeding in these jurisdictions.
- Greyhound racing licences and registrations - [Queensland](#)
 - Greyhound breeder [licence categories](#) - Qld.

Appendix 5 - Foreign jurisdictions and overbreeding

In the small number of countries that still permit greyhound racing, there are recurring themes. Animal rights groups and others outside the racing industry continue to express concerns about the welfare of greyhounds, including

over-breeding. Those within the industry hide the truth, with obfuscation and lack of transparency.

Great Britain

In Great Britain, an article posted by Alliance Against Greyhound Racing (AAGR) in 2020 explains how greyhound racing is a cruel industry because of the way it permits overbreeding, then culls dogs that are no longer needed.¹⁴³ It refers to greyhounds as “victims”. In Great Britain there are more unwanted dogs than can possibly be rehomed, but the racing industry escapes scrutiny by being self-regulatory and importing many dogs from Ireland.

Although the industry in Ireland is regulated by government mandated bodies, the separation of powers between the Irish Coursing Club (responsible for breeding regulation) and the Irish Greyhound Board make it easy for people in the racing industry to hide the facts about over-breeding.

In conclusion, the AAGR claims, despite having decades to impose good practices, both the self regulated industry in the UK, and the government legislated industry in Ireland, have failed. Over-breeding continues, placing an impossible burden on rescue operations.

Ireland

In 2019, The Irish Times and Irish broadcaster Raidio Teilifis Eireann (RTE) commented on a report by consultant group Preferred Results about over-breeding in the greyhound racing industry. The report, which had previously been hidden by the Irish Greyhound Board (IGB), claimed over-breeding was occurring “by 1000 per cent.”¹⁴⁴

The report also expressed concern about rates of euthanasia and unlawful killings simply because dogs were deemed not fast enough.

The IGB claimed they had cleaned up their act and disputed the latest findings. However RTE carried out its own investigation which supported the findings about over-breeding.

In previous years there had been reports about over-breeding and the unlawful disposing of dogs, including exporting them to places with terrible animal welfare records, such as Macau in China.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴³ [“Disappearing dogs”, 7 September 2020 in Alliance Against Greyhound Racing](#)

¹⁴⁴ [“Whereabouts of 6,000 greyhound pups a year unknown, IGB told”](#), 27 June 2019 in The Irish Times ; [“Greyhound industry over-breeding by 1,000 per cent”](#), 17 December 2019 in RTE (Irish broadcaster);

¹⁴⁵ [“38 greyhounds are being put down a month in Ireland”](#), 23 May 2016 in [TheJournal.ie](#)

New Zealand

The Review into Greyhound Racing in New Zealand presented by the Hon. Sir Bruce Robertson on 30 July 2021, reported on progress being made with the recommendations that came out of the earlier 2017 Hansen Report.¹⁴⁶ This latter report addressed the need to improve the standards of greyhound racing.

Greyhound Racing New Zealand (GRNZ) claimed it had implemented all recommendations of the 2017 Hansen Report. However, the 2021 Review found that it was difficult to draw definitive conclusions about current practices because GRNZ failed to keep adequate or transparent records.

Instead, the 2021 Review found sufficient evidence to raise concern that many recommendations of the 2017 Hansen Report had not been honoured.

Some practices that had not improved included handlers not receiving adequate training in animal welfare; incomplete and unclear auditing of the greyhound database; unacceptable rates and reasons for euthanasia etc.

The Review also found that the racing industry in New Zealand is dominated by a small group of people who are both influential and uncooperative with authorities. These people own dogs in such large numbers it is unlikely the animals would receive good care.

It is hoped that the newly established Racing Integrity Board may be able to step up and improve conditions.

¹⁴⁶ "[Review into Greyhound Racing in New Zealand](#)" by Hon Sir Bruce Robertson, 30 July 2021 - see p15 for Conclusion; "[Greyhound Racing Industry 'on notice' over transparency, animal welfare - Minister](#)", [2 September 2021 | RNZ \(Radio New Zealand\) News](#)

Appendix 6 - Breeding/Greyhound codes

Extract from [NSW Greyhound Code](#)

Greyhound Breeding

OBJECTIVE: *To ensure that greyhounds are bred in a safe and responsible manner, resulting in healthy greyhounds and puppies.*

Suitability for breeding

4.1 Participants must obtain from a veterinarian a written certification that a greyhound is fit to breed before the greyhound may be registered for breeding.

4.2 Participants must not allow breeding between greyhounds that are closely related to each other, such as father-daughter, mother-son, or brother-sister. Second degree matings (for example, grandfather and granddaughter) are not recommended without appropriate prior expert advice.

4.3 A greyhound must not be involved in breeding if it has been diagnosed by a veterinarian as having a heritable disease or defect, or there is a reason to believe that the greyhound has a heritable disease or defect.

4.4 Where a greyhound is suspected of having a heritable disease or defect, the participant must seek veterinary advice to:

- diagnose the disease or defect and provide any required treatment;
- protect the on-going welfare of the affected greyhound;
- prevent further propagation of the heritable disease or defect in the greyhound population.

4.5 Neither male nor female greyhounds are to be registered for breeding before they are at least 18 months of age.

4.6 A female greyhound must not be caused or allowed to have more than two litters in any 18-month period.

4.7 A female greyhound must not be caused or allowed to have more than three litters, without the prior approval of the Commission.

Extract from [Victorian code](#)

6.3 Breeding

Breeding mates must not be closely related, for example, father and daughter; brother and sister; mother and son. Second degree matings (for example, grandfather and granddaughter) are not recommended without appropriate prior expert advice.

6.3.1 Heritable defects

All breeders must comply with POCTAA and the Code of Practice for the Responsible Breeding of Animals with Heritable Defects that Cause Disease.

It is strongly recommended that all breeding greyhounds are genetically tested for any heritable defect before being bred with, where an effective and reliable test is commercially available. It is also recommended that a greyhound should not breed if a heritable defect is detected or known, including heritable defects not listed under POCTAA.

If a Person in Charge or GRV registered owner (if not the Person in Charge) is notified that a greyhound sold by them has been diagnosed by a veterinary practitioner as having a heritable defect, the establishment's Person in Charge or GRV registered owner (if not the Person in Charge) must stop breeding from that greyhound's parents until:

- at least one of the parents has been tested for the heritable defect, if that parent is still used for breeding and an acceptable test is available. If an acceptable test is not available, a veterinary practitioner must assess at least one of the parents for the heritable defect
- Other offspring of those parents still residing at the establishment have been tested for the heritable defect, where an acceptable test is available.

If one or both parents have the heritable defect, then that pair must not be mated in future and genetic counselling must be obtained from a veterinary practitioner before continuing to breed those greyhounds with other greyhounds.

If any offspring have the heritable defect, then the Person in Charge of those offspring must develop a sale or euthanasia plan in conjunction with a veterinary practitioner, and all details about the heritable defect and likely outcomes for the greyhounds must be fully disclosed to their GRV registered owners and any prospective purchasers.

Any greyhounds in the establishment who carry recessive genes for any heritable defect that causes a disease or defect must not be bred together.

Extract from [Western Australian code](#)

6.3 Breeding

A greyhound Breeder or Rearer must first obtain a Breeding License with RWWA before any breeding or rearing activities take place. All pre requirements for such a licence must be completed and assessed by RWWA Stewards.

RWWA Greyhound Breeders Educational packages must be completed by all new applicants before any Breeders licence will be granted.

All licensed Breeders must comply with all relevant rules of racing where registration and recording of breeding sires, breeding bitches and whelping/litter notifications/records are concerned.

Breeding mates must not be closely related, for example, father and daughter; brother and sister; mother and son. Second degree mating's (for example, grandfather and granddaughter) are not recommended without appropriate prior expert advice.

6.3.1 Breeding males

Male greyhounds must be at least 12 months of age prior to their first service.

A male greyhound must be registered by RWWA as a Registered Sire, including provision of DNA analysis on a sample taken by a RWWA Approved Veterinarian and fertility test no less than 30 days prior to application, before being bred.

A male greyhound must have a general health check by a veterinary surgeon prior to first service to determine whether the greyhound is suitable for breeding purposes. The Person in Charge must obtain a certificate from the veterinary surgeon to state that the greyhound, at the time of examination, was suitable to breed.

6.3.2 Breeding females

Female greyhounds must be at least 12 months of age prior to their first service.

A female greyhound must have a general health check by a veterinary surgeon:

- prior to first service to assess whether the greyhound is physically mature enough to breed, and
- within 8 weeks of whelping.

A female greyhound must be registered by RWWA as a 'Breeding Female', including provision of a current vaccination certificate, before being bred.

A female greyhound is not allowed to be bred after the age of eight years unless she meets certain criteria, including a veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness, as well as the approval of RWWA, which includes an assessment of the racing success/ability of her progeny. On assessment the greyhound's progeny must meet key metric data indicating success before approval to continue breeding is granted. However, this approval only allows the greyhound to be bred on one more occasion.

A female greyhound is only allowed to have a maximum of three litters unless she meets certain criteria, including a veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness, as well as the approval of RWWA, which includes an assessment of the racing success/ability of her progeny. However, once again this approval only allows the greyhound to be bred on one more occasion.

A female greyhound is not allowed to breed more than two litters in any 18 month period. This ensures the greyhound's body has sufficient time to recover and allows the pups to reach an age where their ability can be assessed.

6.3.3 Natural mating

Natural mating pairs must be supervised during mating and physically separated from other greyhounds. Dog breeding stands must not be used.

If the female greyhound is being unduly harassed by the male greyhound, she must be removed and the advice of a veterinary surgeon sought:

- if there is a risk of injury to either greyhound, or
- for any other concern.

6.3.4 Artificial Insemination

Artificial insemination procedures must be conducted by a RWWA approved veterinary surgeon. The Person in Charge must seek veterinary advice regarding greyhound after-care including advice on exercise post-surgery and during pregnancy.

6.3.5 Whelping

At least seven days before her due date, unless there is a likelihood of stress or injury, a pregnant greyhound must be moved to a whelping housing area that complies with this Code.

As soon as the greyhound shows signs of whelping, fresh bedding material must be provided and the female greyhound must be regularly monitored (in person or remotely) until whelping is complete.

If there are any abnormalities observed or concerns for the welfare of the female greyhound or puppies during the whelping process, the advice of a veterinary surgeon must be immediately sought.

After whelping is complete, the Person in Charge or other staff must:

- monitor the female greyhound and her puppies six hourly until the puppies are feeding and maternal acceptance has been firmly established
- conduct a puppy health check within 12 hours of whelping
- within 24 hours, clean the whelping area and change all bedding material.

Oxytocin must only be administered by, or under the direction of, a veterinary surgeon.

6.3.6 Caesarean section

After a caesarean section appropriate wound care and pain relief, as directed by a veterinary surgeon, must be provided for the bitch.

The Person in Charge must obtain veterinary advice regarding greyhound after care including exercise post-surgery.

6.3.7 Lactating greyhounds

Monitoring of lactating greyhounds must include observation of:

- all puppies feeding
- the greyhound lactating
- if applicable, monitoring of caesarean wounds for redness, swelling and discharge.

If puppies do not gain weight, the Person in Charge must seek the advice of a veterinary surgeon and act as directed by that veterinary surgeon.

For the first week post-whelp, greyhounds must be examined twice daily for mastitis and veterinary attention provided immediately upon diagnosis.

Soiled bedding material must be removed and clean bedding material must be provided daily during lactation.

Lactating greyhounds must be exercised as per the EHMP or Table 1. of this Code.

6.3.8 Rearing

Rearing requirements reflect the aim for greyhounds to become successful racing greyhounds and then transition to companion animals, following appropriate preparation for retirement and rehoming as outlined in this Code or the approved EHMP.

During rearing, greyhounds must:

- not be permanently separated from their mother before eight weeks of age unless the health of the puppies is at risk or the female is showing signs of stress. Advice from a veterinary surgeon must be sought if there are any concerns for the welfare of the puppies or female
- be housed in accordance with Section 4. of this Code
- be handled, exercised, socialised and trained in accordance with the approved EHMP or Table 1. of this Code
- be provided with exercise options that encourage chasing behaviour such as chasing games
- be actively monitored when housed together and if fighting, bullying or other adverse welfare outcomes are identified, they must be separated
- not be muzzled at any time, except as part of the education process, when in public, under the direction of a veterinary surgeon during treatment for an injury or illness or as part of a housing acclimatisation program as detailed in the establishment's EHMP.

From three to 16 weeks of age is the critical socialisation period for puppies. During this period, greyhounds must:

- be provided with access to different surfaces in their pen or kennel environment (e.g. bed and bedding material, concrete, grass, carpet etc.)
- be taught to wear a collar and walk on a lead
- have multiple opportunities for isolation from their litter (in the company of a handler) or complete isolation to acclimatise them to periods of separation from their litter
- be exposed to standard racing and training facilities as outlined in the approved EHMP
- be brushed or bathed in warm water and towel dried once a month (or more frequently as required)
- be exposed to people other than their usual handlers and other dogs or domestic pets (e.g. GAP dogs) that do not pose a disease risk to the puppies (e.g. have been suitably vaccinated).

Note

Isolation is an important practice because greyhounds adopted to a home or residential household are likely to spend time alone. This situation may cause anxiety if the greyhound has not been exposed to isolation during its critical socialisation period.

In addition to the above requirements, greyhounds aged between 16 and 24 weeks must be exposed to:

- different environmental landscapes, that are available locally (e.g. reserves, parks, shopping strips, local sporting grounds) and socialised with other dogs or domestic pets as appropriate
- being walked on a lead.

It is recommended that greyhounds older than 16 weeks are exposed to the following as often as possible:

- starting boxes
- travelling in cars and trailers
- circular training facilities
- race track environments.

Before a greyhound enters its education phase, it must undergo a housing acclimatisation program.

The program must:

- provide increased exposure to housing equivalent in size and design to common racing kennels of between 3 sqm and 10 sqm
- be incorporated into the EHMP
- provide the greyhound with positive reinforcement and enrichment, such as toys, bones or other activities
- provide the greyhound with opportunities to toilet to help build familiarity with race kennel routine
- teach the greyhound to walk by their collar
- walk the greyhound by their collar.

Extract from Tasmanian [racing rules](#)

PART 6: BREEDING AND IDENTITY

[Note to Part 6: Sufficient regulation of breeding is central to *Greyhounds Australasia's* focus on *greyhound* welfare, and the sustainability of *greyhound racing*. Those permitted to breed *greyhounds* must seek to understand the rules, regulations, and policies that relate to breeding, and must comply with them. Those rules include but are not limited to the rules in this Part 6 of *these Rules*.]

Division 1: Rules in relation to *breeding females, sires, and litters* (including registration requirements)

55 Authority for breeding purposes

If the *owner* of a *greyhound* consents to another *person* using the *greyhound* for breeding purposes, either as a *sire* or *breeding female*:

- (a) a prescribed form must be lodged by the *owner* with a *Controlling Body* confirming the authority of the *owner* for the *person* to use the *greyhound* for breeding purposes; or
- (b) if the *Controlling Body* requires, a lease pursuant to rule 52 must be lodged and registered with a *Controlling Body* prior to *service*.

56 Registration of *sires* and *breeding females*

- (1) A male *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with the *Controlling Body* as a *sire*.
 - (2) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *sire* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *sire* is domiciled.
 - (3) Application for registration as a *sire* may be made by the *owner* of a *greyhound* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other *authorised person* and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) a fertility test which is acceptable to the relevant *Controlling Body* and is carried out no less than 30 days prior to the application for registration as a *sire*.
 - (4) The granting of registration of a *sire* is conditional on the *greyhound* being in the control of the applicant or other *approved person*.
 - (5) If an application for registration of a *sire* is accepted, a unique identification number will be issued in relation to the *sire* and provided to the *owner* for use by the *sire's studmaster*.
 - (6) A female *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with a *Controlling Body* as a *breeding female*.
 - (7) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *breeding female* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *breeding female* is domiciled.
 - (8) Application for registration as a *breeding female* may be made by the *owner* of a *breeding female* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other *authorised person* and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.
- L56.1 A *person* may not apply for the registration of a *breeding female* unless they are registered as a *breeder*.
- (9) The period of registration for a *breeding female* is to be one year from the current vaccination date pursuant to subrule (8)(c) of this rule.

- (10) The granting of registration of a *breeding female* is conditional on the *greyhound* being in the control of the applicant or other *person* approved by a *Controlling Body*.

L56.2 The registration of a *breeding female* shall be cancelled should the *greyhound* be transferred to, sold to or be under the care or custody of a *person* who does not hold registration as a *breeder*.

57 Limit on the age at which a *breeding female* can be serviced

- (1) The *owner* of a *breeding female*, or *person* with authority to breed that female, must not cause any *breeding female* to be *serviced* if she is over eight years of age, except if, prior to each *service*:
 - (a) veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the *breeding female* which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further *service*); and
 - (b) the written approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained.
- (2) If any approval is granted by a *Controlling Body* under subrule (1) of this rule, one further *service* only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that *service*.

58 Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a breeding female

- (1) The owner of a *breeding female*, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any *breeding female* to whelp more than three litters, except if, prior to each *service*:
 - (a) veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the *breeding female* which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further *service*); and
 - (b) the written approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained.
- (2) If any approval is granted by a *Controlling Body* under subrule (1) of this rule, one further *service* only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that *service*.

59 Limit on number of litters that can be whelped in an 18 month period

The owner of a *breeding female*, or the person with authority to breed that female, must not cause her to whelp more than two litters in any 18 month period.

60 Identity confirmation

- (1) Prior to any *service* the *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must, positively identify the *breeding female* presented for *service*, and that can be done with reference to the *Greyhound Breeding Identification Card*. The *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must also, prior to any *service*, confirm that the *breeding female* is currently eligible for breeding. If there is any doubt about the identity of the *breeding female* or her eligibility for breeding, the person carrying out the identity examination must immediately inform the *Controlling Body* of the doubt and ensure that the *breeding female* is not *serviced* until the doubt has been resolved.
- (2) A person presenting a *breeding female* for *service* may:
 - (a) positively identify the *sire* by reference to the *greyhound identification card* for the *sire*, or
 - (b) positively identify the *breeding unit of semen* by the certification of it.
- (3) If there is any doubt over the identity of the *sire* or the *breeding unit of semen*, the person carrying out the identity examination must immediately inform the relevant *Controlling Body* of the doubt and ensure that the *breeding female* is not *serviced* until the doubt has been resolved.

61 Registration of service

- (1) A natural *service* must not be permitted other than in the jurisdiction of the *Controlling Body* in which the *sire* is domiciled.
- (2) A *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must, within 14 days of the first *service* of a *breeding female*, lodge with a *Controlling Body* a completed prescribed form to register the *service*, together with the prescribed *fee*.
- (3) A *breeding unit of semen* must only be used to inseminate one *breeding female*. The empty phial of the used *breeding unit of semen* must be forwarded to *Greyhounds Australasia* within 14 days of an *artificial insemination* taking place.

62 Restrictions and quotas on services

- (1) (a) Subject to subrule (2) of this rule the total number of:
 - (i) complete ejaculate produced by a *sire*, either by way of natural *service*, or collection for *artificial insemination* must not exceed 14 in any one month.
 - (ii) *services* by natural or *artificial insemination* with fresh semen and registered *breeding units of semen* collected for use in Australia or New Zealand must not exceed 54 in any one *quarter*.
- (b) The total number of permitted *services* as set out in this rule shall include natural *services*, *services* by means of *artificial insemination* with fresh semen (where permitted) and each occasion when semen is collected from the greyhound for the purpose of freezing (where permitted).
- (2) In respect of the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1), the 54 shall not include:
 - (a) a return *service* to a *breeding female* (including a replacement *breeding unit of semen*) which at its previous *service* to that *sire*, being the last *service* of any type to the *breeding female*, failed to conceive to that *sire* (this situation being known as a 'miss'); and
 - (b) a *breeding unit of semen* collected for storage:
 - (i) for future use in Australia or New Zealand, which can only be released to the Australian or New Zealand market such that it doesn't count in the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1) if the relevant *sire* dies, or if the relevant *sire* becomes infertile; or
 - (ii) for export to a country other than Australia or New Zealand.
- (3) A *Controlling Body* may determine whether or not a *service* or *breeding unit of semen* is to be included for the purpose of assessing the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1) of this rule.
- (4) A *Controlling Body* may in extraordinary circumstances resolve that a return *service* to a *sire* other than the *sire* from which the *breeding female* failed to conceive be approved and that the *service* be deemed to be a return *service* for the replacement *sire*.

63 Multiple sired litters

- (1) If the prior approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained before any *service* is conducted, a *service* may involve more than one *sire* being used on the *breeding female* during the same cycle, but only if:
 - (a) the *owner/s* of the *breeding female*, or a *person* authorised pursuant to *these Rules*, makes written application to a *Controlling Body* seeking approval to use multiple *sires* and provides the following information to a *Controlling Body*:
 - (i) the names of all intended *sires* including acknowledgement from the *studmasters* of the intent for the *breeding female* to be serviced by the listed multiple *sires*;
 - (ii) the name of the *breeding female*;
 - (iii) the anticipated time, place and method of the *services*, and any other details the *Controlling Body* requires;
 - (iv) if not the registered *owner* of the *breeding female*, a fully completed consent form (in a form prescribed by a *Controlling Body*) which records the consent of the registered *owner* that multiple *sires* will be used for any *service*; and
 - (v) the *person* in charge of the *breeding female* provides an undertaking to the relevant *Controlling Body* prior to the registration of the litter that all *greyhounds* resulting from a whelping by the *breeding female* shall, at the breeder's sole cost, be subject to *DNA fingerprint analysis*.
- (2) A *Controlling Body* in its absolute discretion may approve, refuse or impose other conditions as it sees fit on any application made in accordance with this rule.
- (3) In relation to each *sire* used for breeding, a prescribed form must be lodged by a *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* with a *Controlling Body* in accordance with rule 61.
- (4) Pursuant to rule 71 a prescribed form notifying the result of *service* must be submitted and in it all *sires* used are to be listed as the *sire*.
- (5) Upon a litter being microchipped and/or ear tattooed and prior to registration of a litter in accordance with rule 64 of *these Rules*, the entire litter must simultaneously be subject to *DNA fingerprint analysis* and parentage confirmation in accordance with rules 72 and 73.
- (6) Registration of a litter pursuant to rule 64 is to record and give effect to the confirmed parentage of each individual *greyhound*.

64 Registration of a litter

- (1) Unless an exemption is granted by a *Controlling Body*, before an application for registration of a litter can be made, a litter to be the subject of an application for registration must be inspected and have their sex and colour recorded, be microchipped and ear tattooed by a *person* authorised to perform those functions.
- (2) An *authorised person* may refuse to record the sex and colour of a *greyhound*, microchip and/or ear tattoo a *greyhound* if they are of the view that the condition of the premises where a *greyhound* is present are unsatisfactory, or a *greyhound* appears to be unwell.
- (3) Application for registration of a litter whelped in the jurisdiction of a *Controlling Body* must be made by lodging with the relevant *Controlling Body*, within a time prescribed by the *Controlling Body*:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with the prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.

65 Information release in relation to services

- (1) A *Controlling Body* has the unrestricted right to *publish* information in relation to the number of *services* performed by any *sire* and the number of progeny produced from those *services* in the manner or medium it thinks fit.
 - (2) In exercising rights pursuant to subrule (1) of this rule, a *Controlling Body* may include any information pertaining to the *service* or resulting progeny, including but not limited to the type of *service*, its location, method of insemination, and name of any *studmaster*, *Artificial Insemination Technician* or *authorised person* or *approved facility* responsible for the *service* or resulting progeny.
-

Extract from Queensland [rules of racing](#)

PART 6: BREEDING AND IDENTITY

[Note to Part 6: Sufficient regulation of breeding is central to *Greyhounds Australasia's* focus on *greyhound* welfare, and the sustainability of *greyhound racing*. Those permitted to breed *greyhounds* must seek to understand the rules, regulations, and policies that relate to breeding, and must comply with them. Those rules include but are not limited to the rules in this Part 6 of *these Rules*.]

Division 1: Rules in relation to *breeding females, sires, and litters* (including registration requirements)

55 Authority for breeding purposes

If the *owner* of a *greyhound* consents to another *person* using the *greyhound* for breeding purposes, either as a *sire* or *breeding female*:

- (a) a prescribed form must be lodged by the *owner* with a *Controlling Body* confirming the authority of the *owner* for the *person* to use the *greyhound* for breeding purposes; or
- (b) if the *Controlling Body* requires, a lease pursuant to rule 52 must be lodged and registered with a *Controlling Body* prior to *service*.

56 Registration of *sires* and *breeding females*

- (1) A male *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with the *Controlling Body* as a *sire*.
- (2) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *sire* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *sire* is domiciled.
- (3) Application for registration as a *sire* may be made by the *owner* of a *greyhound* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other *authorised person* and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) a fertility test which is acceptable to the relevant *Controlling Body* and is carried out no less than 30 days prior to the application for registration as a *sire*.
- (4) The granting of registration of a *sire* is conditional on the *greyhound* being in the control of the applicant or other approved *person*.
- (5) If an application for registration of a *sire* is accepted, a unique identification number will be issued in relation to the *sire* and provided to the *owner* for use by the *sire's studmaster*.
- (6) A female *greyhound* shall not be used for breeding purposes unless registered with a *Controlling Body* as a *breeding female*.
- (7) All *documents* and other items in relation to a *breeding female* are to be left open for inspection by the *Controlling Body* of the jurisdiction in which the *breeding female* is domiciled.
- (8) Application for registration as a *breeding female* may be made by the *owner* of a *breeding female* or *person* authorised by the *owner*, by lodging with a *Controlling Body* in the state or territory in which the relevant *person* resides:
 - (a) a completed prescribed form together with a prescribed *fee*;
 - (b) at the expense of the applicant, a *DNA fingerprint analysis* on a *sample* taken by a *veterinarian* or other *authorised person* and carried out by an *approved DNA laboratory*; and
 - (c) evidence of meeting the minimum vaccination requirements in rule 25 of *these Rules*.
- (9) The period of registration for a *breeding female* is to be one year from the current vaccination date pursuant to subrule (8)(c) of this rule.
- (10) The granting of registration of a *breeding female* is conditional on the *greyhound* being in the control of the applicant or other *person* approved by a *Controlling Body*.

57 Limit on the age at which a *breeding female* can be serviced

- (1) The *owner* of a *breeding female*, or *person* with authority to breed that female, must not cause any *breeding female* to be *serviced* if she is over eight years of age, except if, prior to each *service*:
 - (a) veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the *breeding female* which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further *service*); and
 - (b) the written approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained.
- (2) If any approval is granted by a *Controlling Body* under subrule (1) of this rule, one further *service* only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that *service*.

58 Limit on the number of litters that can be whelped by a *breeding female*

- (1) The *owner of a breeding female*, or person with authority to breed that female, must not cause any *breeding female* to whelp more than three litters, except if, prior to each *service*:
 - (a) veterinary certification of appropriate health and fitness of the *breeding female* which confirms that it is appropriate for her to whelp is obtained (which must be done within 120 days prior to the date of the further *service*); and
 - (b) the written approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained.
- (2) If any approval is granted by a *Controlling Body* under subrule (1) of this rule, one further *service* only will be permitted under that approval, irrespective of the result of that *service*.

59 Limit on number of litters that can be whelped in an 18 month period

The *owner of a breeding female*, or the person with authority to breed that female, must not cause her to whelp more than two litters in any 18 month period.

60 Identity confirmation

- (1) Prior to any *service* the *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must, positively identify the *breeding female* presented for *service*, and that can be done with reference to the *Greyhound Breeding Identification Card*. The *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must also, prior to any *service*, confirm that the *breeding female* is currently eligible for breeding. If there is any doubt about the identity of the *breeding female* or her eligibility for breeding, the person carrying out the identity examination must immediately inform the *Controlling Body* of the doubt and ensure that the *breeding female* is not *serviced* until the doubt has been resolved.
- (2) A person presenting a *breeding female* for *service* may:
 - (a) positively identify the *sire* by reference to the *greyhound identification card* for the *sire*; or
 - (b) positively identify the *breeding unit of semen* by the certification of it.
- (3) If there is any doubt over the identity of the *sire* or the *breeding unit of semen*, the person carrying out the identity examination must immediately inform the relevant *Controlling Body* of the doubt and ensure that the *breeding female* is not *serviced* until the doubt has been resolved.

61 Registration of service

- (1) A natural *service* must not be permitted other than in the jurisdiction of the *Controlling Body* in which the *sire* is domiciled.
- (2) A *studmaster* or *Artificial Insemination Technician* must, within 14 days of the first *service* of a *breeding female*, lodge with a *Controlling Body* a completed prescribed form to register the *service*, together with the prescribed *fee*.
- (3) A *breeding unit of semen* must only be used to inseminate one *breeding female*. The empty phial of the used *breeding unit of semen* must be forwarded to *Greyhounds Australasia* within 14 days of an *artificial insemination* taking place.

62 Restrictions and quotas on services

- (1) (a) Subject to subrule (2) of this rule the total number of:
 - (i) complete ejaculate produced by a *sire*, either by way of natural *service*, or collection for *artificial insemination* must not exceed 14 in any one month.
 - (ii) *services* by natural or *artificial insemination* with fresh semen and registered *breeding units of semen* collected for use in Australia or New Zealand must not exceed 54 in any one *quarter*.
- (b) The total number of permitted *services* as set out in this rule shall include natural *services*, *services* by means of *artificial insemination* with fresh semen (where permitted) and each occasion when semen is collected from the greyhound for the purpose of freezing (where permitted).
- (2) In respect of the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1), the 54 shall not include:
 - (a) a return *service* to a *breeding female* (including a replacement *breeding unit of semen*) which at its previous *service* to that *sire*, being the last *service* of any type to the *breeding female*, failed to conceive to that *sire* (this situation being known as a 'miss'); and
 - (b) a *breeding unit of semen* collected for storage:
 - (i) for future use in Australia or New Zealand, which can only be released to the Australian or New Zealand market such that it doesn't count in the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1) if the relevant *sire* dies, or if the relevant *sire* becomes infertile; or
 - (ii) for export to a country other than Australia or New Zealand.

- (3) A *Controlling Body* may determine whether or not a *service* or *breeding unit of semen* is to be included for the purpose of assessing the 54 in any one *quarter* referred to in subrule (1) of this rule.
- (4) A *Controlling Body* may in extraordinary circumstances resolve that a return *service* to a *sire* other than the *sire* from which the *breeding female* failed to conceive be approved and that the *service* be deemed to be a return *service* for the replacement *sire*.

63 Multiple sired litters

- (1) If the prior approval of a *Controlling Body* is obtained before any *service* is conducted, a *service* may involve more than one *sire* being used on the *breeding female* during the same cycle, but only if:
 - (a) the *owner/s* of the *breeding female*, or a *person* authorised pursuant to *these Rules*, makes written application to a *Controlling Body* seeking approval to use multiple *sires* and provides the following information to a *Controlling Body*:
 - (i) the names of all intended *sires* including acknowledgement from the *studmasters* of the intent for the *breeding female* to be serviced by the listed multiple *sires*;
 - (ii) the name of the *breeding female*;
 - (iii) the anticipated time, place and method of the *services*, and any other details the *Controlling Body* requires;
 - (iv) if not the registered *owner* of the *breeding female*, a fully completed consent form (in a form prescribed by a *Controlling Body*) which records the consent of the registered *owner* that multiple *sires* will be used for any *service*; and
 - (v) the *person* in charge of the *breeding female* provides an undertaking to the relevant *Controlling Body* prior to the registration of the litter that all *greyhounds* resulting from a whelping by the *breeding female* shall, at the breeder's sole cost, be subject to *DNA fingerprint analysis*.
- (2) A *Controlling Body* in its absolute discretion may approve, refuse or impose other conditions as it sees fit on any application made in accordance with this rule.

South Australia code [extract](#)

3. THE CARE AND WELFARE OF GREYHOUNDS

The purpose of this section:

The purpose of this section is to specify standards of accommodation, management and care which are appropriate to the physical and behavioural needs of greyhounds housed in establishments including those designed for the breeding, rearing, boarding and training.

Application of this section:

The provisions of this section are to be observed by owners and operators (“the proprietor”) of establishments and by people who work in them. All greyhound establishments must comply with State and Local Government legislation and permits.

Compliance with this Policy is a mandatory licensing condition, however, it does not remove any separate obligation for registered participants to abide by the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act 1985 (SA), Animal Welfare Regulations 2012 (SA), Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (SA), Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2010 (SA), Local Government Act 1999 (SA) or any other laws and regulations relevant to animal husbandry.

Facility Management and Obligations

Proprietors:

The proprietor of a greyhound facility is responsible for the overall management of the establishment and the conduct of any persons responsible for the care or training of greyhounds housed therein.

In particular, the proprietor is responsible for:

- The well-being of all greyhounds in the establishment
- The supervision of staff
- The maintenance and collation of necessary records and information



Kennel Attendants:

Kennel attendants are responsible to the Proprietor for:

- Daily feeding, watering and inspection of all greyhounds
- Daily cleaning of facilities, i.e. hose out, replace bedding, feeding and watering utensils
- Immediately reporting to management greyhounds showing any of the following symptoms
 - Runny nose
 - Runny or inflamed eyes
 - Repeated sneezing
 - Coughing
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhoea, especially if bloodstained
 - Lameness
 - Inability to stand or walk
 - Bleeding or swelling of body parts
 - Weight loss
 - Loss of appetite
 - Apparent pain
 - Fits or staggering
 - Bloating of abdomen
 - Difficulty or inability to urinate or defecate
 - Red or brown coloured urine
- Exercising greyhounds as required by the manager
- Ensuring strict personal hygiene

Greyhound establishments must employ staff in sufficient numbers to ensure that the health, welfare, hygiene and exercise requirements of all greyhounds at the facility are adequately catered for, and that the establishment is appropriately maintained.

Staff health should be protected by the provision of appropriate work clothing, adequate hand washing facilities and tetanus immunisation. Information must be supplied on disease-causing organisms that can be transmitted to humans (zoonoses) and personal hygiene procedures must be such that transmission could not occur.

Notification of domestic pets or small agricultural animals:

It is a requirement that owners or trainers of greyhounds notify GRSA of any domesticated pets and/or birds or animals that are kept for rural or agricultural purposes at an establishment where greyhounds are housed. Notification must be made using the appropriate Notification of Domestic Pets or small agricultural animals form that is available on the GRSA website.

Health and veterinary care

Each greyhound should be checked at least daily to monitor its health and comfort. Any changes in health status should be recorded and promptly addressed. The person checking the greyhound should note whether each greyhound is:

- eating
- drinking
- defecating
- urinating
- behaving normally
- of normal appearance
- able to move about freely
- has a normal coat

The proprietor of the establishment must have access to a veterinarian for emergency first aid treatment of greyhounds and for humane euthanasia if required, where an overdose of barbiturate is to be used. Any such action must be reported to GRSA within 2 days of the humane euthanasia of a greyhound. Refer to GAR 106(3) and (4) Proper care (welfare) of greyhounds as below:

- 106(3) At any time after the notification of the result of service pursuant to R136, 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, surrendered to another agency;
 - (b) within two working days if that greyhound has been humanely euthanased by a veterinary surgeon or deceased.
- 106(4) It shall be a requirement to include a veterinary certificate of euthanasia when lodging the appropriate form for any greyhound that has been euthanased by that veterinary surgeon.

Euthanasia must only be considered where a greyhound becomes seriously ill or injured and where it is recommended by a veterinarian who has examined the greyhound.

Greyhound Adoption Program/re-homing:

Owners of greyhounds must inform GRSA of the whereabouts of their greyhounds at all stages of their life cycle in accordance with GAR 106(3)(a). They have a responsibility to, and are accountable for, the care and welfare of their greyhounds not only during their racing careers, but also away from racing or upon retirement. It is incumbent upon owners to consider the options available to them such as the Greyhound Adoption Program South Australia (GAPSA).

Greyhound Rehoming Obligations

LR114(SA).

(1) Local Rules 1-7 are in addition to the provisions of GAR106 and set out the obligations of registered persons in respect of all greyhounds (as defined in GAR1) which are in that person's care, custody or control where that greyhound:

- (i) is unraced and it has been decided will not at any time in the future be raced as a greyhound; or*
- (ii) is to be retired from racing;*

and, despite the best prior endeavours of the Responsible Person, is unable to be rehomed to the care and control of a suitable third party.

(2) For the purposes of Local Rules 1-7:

(i) the Greyhound Adoption Program SA ("GAPSA") is a program run by GRSA and under the auspices of GRSA for assessing greyhounds to ensure that where possible and reasonably practicable all unraced and retired greyhounds are afforded the opportunity of finding a suitable permanent home.

(ii) Responsible Person is a person who:

(a) at the time(s) contemplated by this Local Rule; and

(b) after the time specified in GAR136;

has the care, custody or control of a Relevant Greyhound and includes the Responsible Person's agents; delegates, employees; contractors; partners or assigns and any corporate entity through which the Responsible Person may operate.

(iii) Relevant Greyhound is a greyhound as described in Local Sub Rule 1.

(iv) For the purposes of Local Rules 1–8, the Prescribed Form is the Notification of Retired Greyhound/ Euthanased Greyhound Form.

(3) *A Relevant Greyhound must first be assessed by GAPSA for suitability to be rehomed before any other action is taken by the Responsible Person, or any other registered persons, as to the future of that Relevant Greyhound. This GAPSA assessment must not take place until the expiration of ten (10) days from that Relevant Greyhound's last start in an event (if applicable).*

(4) *If the GAPSA assessment referred to in Local Rule 3 is that the Relevant Greyhound is suitable for rehoming, the Responsible Person must re-home the Relevant Greyhound with GAPSA or with a third party as far as reasonably practicable, in accordance with GAPSA's recommendations.*

(5) *If upon initial assessment pursuant to Local Rule 3, GAPSA has identified a Relevant Greyhound as requiring, and suitable for, further assessment, that Relevant Greyhound must be again presented to GAPSA for further testing and assessment at the time, place and in the circumstances specified by GAPSA and, in the event that Relevant Greyhound is then assessed as suitable for rehoming, the Responsible Person must rehome that Relevant Greyhound with GAPSA or with a third party as far as reasonably practicable in accordance with GAPSA's recommendations.*

(6) *In the event that a Relevant Greyhound:*

(i) is assessed by GAPSA as not suitable for rehoming on medical or behavioural grounds such that euthanasia is the only course having regard to the best interests of the Relevant Greyhound; or

(ii) in a particular case, after taking all reasonably practicable steps to comply with the GAPSA recommendations referred to in Sub Rule 4 or 5, suitable rehoming is not achievable in all the circumstances and no other reasonable alternatives exist;

the Responsible Person must ensure that that euthanasia procedure is humanely performed by a registered Veterinary Surgeon and comply with GAR106(3).

(7) *Where a Relevant Greyhound has been euthanased by a Veterinary Surgeon in accordance with Rule 6 above:*

(i) the veterinary certificate of euthanasia; and

(ii) the prescribed form;

each to the satisfaction of the Stewards must be lodged by the Responsible Person with GRSA as the Controlling Body within two working days of that euthanasia procedure.

(8) *In the event that any greyhound (including a Relevant Greyhound) is at any time so seriously ill or injured as to be, in the expert opinion of a registered veterinary surgeon:*

(i) beyond reasonable and practicable veterinary treatment and such that euthanasia is the only course having regard to the best interests of that greyhound; and

(ii) prior assessment by GAPSA is not practicable;

addition to complying with GAR106(3), the registered person(s) who has the care, custody or control of that greyhound at the relevant time, must ensure that the euthanasia procedure is humanely performed by a registered Veterinary Surgeon.

(9) *Where a greyhound has been euthanised by a Veterinary Surgeon in accordance with Local Rule 8 above:*

(i) the veterinary certificate of euthanasia (including certification as to the matters in Local Sub Rules 8.1 and 8.2); and

(ii) the prescribed form;

each to the satisfaction of the Stewards must be lodged with GRSA as the Controlling Body by the registered person who has the care, custody or control of that greyhound at the relevant time within two working days of that euthanasia procedure.

(10) *A Responsible Person or a registered person who has the care, custody or control of a greyhound at the relevant time (other than a Relevant Greyhound) (as the case may be) who fails to comply with any provision of Local Rules 1-9 above is guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty in accordance with GAR95.*

(added – 1.05.18)

Disease prevention and notification

Vaccination against distemper, hepatitis, canine cough and parvovirus is required for all greyhounds at a registered establishment. A current vaccination certificate (certifying that vaccination was performed within the preceding 12 months and that the 'due date' for the next vaccination has not been passed) must be produced for each greyhound being boarded before admission. Vaccination against (and checking for) heartworm infections is recommended prior to admission or mating.

Greyhounds must be placed on a proven effective and safe worming program.

Sick greyhounds which are not infectious but which may be stressed by contact with other greyhounds must be separated but not necessarily isolated. Notwithstanding as much, facilities must be available either at the establishment or at veterinary premises for isolation of greyhounds that are suspected of, or have been diagnosed as having, an infectious condition.

GRSA has access to and utilises the Greyhound Australasia Limited National Emergency Greyhound Disease Preparedness Plan (G.A.L.N.E.G.D.P Plan). This Plan can be found on the GRSA website and it is recommended that participants familiarise themselves with this Plan and Greyhound Racing Rule 105(A) as follows:

GREYHOUND RACING RULE 105(A) Reportable disease

- (1)** *The Controlling Body may declare an infectious or contagious animal disease or condition to be a reportable disease as from the date on which the declaration is published*
- (2)** *A person who owns or is in charge of, or has in his possession or control, a greyhound which the person suspects or should reasonably suspect is infected with a reportable disease shall*
 - (a) as soon as possible after he should have suspected or become aware that the greyhound is infected, report the fact to the Controlling Body by the quickest means of communication available to the person: and*
 - (b) as far as practicable keep the greyhound separate from any other greyhound or animals not so infected.*
- (3)** *If the Controlling Body reasonably suspects any premises, place, region, or vehicle to be contaminated with a reportable disease, the Stewards or authorised person may by order in writing declare it to be an infected place or vehicle. The written notice of the order shall be given to the owner or person in charge or in apparent control of the*

premises, place, region or vehicle to which the order relates.

- (4)** *Other than a person expressly authorised to do so by the Stewards or authorised person, a person shall not bring, move, take or allow any person to bring, move or take any animal, vehicle, fodder, other digestible product, gear or fitting into, within or out of any premises, place, region or vehicle, declared under sub-rule (3).*

Prescribed medication Storage

All prescribed veterinary medication must be clearly labelled and kept in a secure, lockable cupboard or refrigerator and all treatments administered to a greyhound must be recorded in an appropriate format.

Treatment Records and GAR84A

Methods of record-keeping may vary between trainers depending on the size of the operation. Providing that the required details as specified below in GAR84A are entered for each treatment, the person in charge of the greyhound (e.g. the trainer) may keep the record of that treatment in a format of their own preference. This may include GRSA provided treatment books, digital computer files (e.g. excel spreadsheet) or a diary. Where a trainer's record-keeping is found to be inadequate the Controlling Body may require that trainer to use a prescribed format.

Greyhound Racing Rule GAR84A states:**R84A Treatment records to be kept**

- (1)** *The person in charge of a greyhound must keep and retain records detailing all vaccinations, antiparasitics and medical treatments administered to a greyhound from the time the greyhound enters their care until the greyhound leaves their care and for a minimum of two (2) years. Such record of treatment must be produced for inspection when requested by a Steward or a person authorised by the Controlling Body. Any person responsible for a greyhound at the relevant time who fails to comply with any provision of this rule shall be guilty of an offence.*
- (2)** *Each record of treatment kept in accordance with this rule must be made by midnight on the day on which the treatment was given and, as a minimum requirement, include the following information:*
- a) Name of the greyhound;*
 - b) Date and time of administration of the treatment;*
 - c) Name of the treatment (brand name or active constituent);*
 - d) Route of administration;*
 - e) Amount given;*
 - f) Name and signature of person or persons administering and/or authorising treatment.*

For the purposes of sub-rule (2), "day" means the 24 hour period from 12:01am to 12 midnight on any calendar day.

- (3)** *For the purposes of this Rule, "treatment" includes:*
- a) All Controlled Drugs (Schedule 8) administered by a veterinarian;*
 - b) All Prescription Animal Remedies and Prescription Only Medicines (Schedule 4);*
 - c) Any injectable substance not already specified in this Rule;*
 - d) All Pharmacist Only (Schedule 3) and Pharmacy Only (Schedule 2) medicines;*
 - e) All veterinary and other substances containing other scheduled and unscheduled prohibited substances.*

(amended – 01.04.18)

(4)

- a) It shall be an offence for any person to acquire, attempt to acquire, administer or allow to be administered to any greyhound, any Permanently Banned Prohibited Substance referred to in Rule 79A.
- b) It shall be an offence for any person other than a Veterinary Surgeon to possess, prescribe, administer or allow to be administered to any greyhound, any Schedule 4 or Schedule 8 substance listed in the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons* contained in the *Australian Poisons Standard*, as amended from time to time.
- c) Sub rule (4)(b) shall not apply where the substance was administered as intended to a greyhound under the care of the Veterinary Surgeon who prescribed that substance in compliance with the relevant State and Commonwealth legislation for the treatment of those greyhounds under his or her care after taking all reasonable steps to ensure a therapeutic need exists for that substance.

(added – 01.01.14)

(amended – 01.09.15)

Nutrition

Greyhounds must be provided with adequate amounts and quality of food and must be fed at least daily. All food must be stored in a secure hygienic area and a variety of foods shall be supplied for a balanced diet. Dry food must be kept in a rodent free area and fresh meat stored in a refrigerated environment. The food provided must contain acceptable nutritional value and meet appropriate daily requirements for the condition and size of the animal. All food should be prepared hygienically and served in appropriate containers, i.e. non-chewable and non-spillable bowls. They must be readily accessible, positioned to avoid spillage and contamination by urine or faeces, and must be cleaned daily.

Pregnant and lactating greyhounds require two feeds each day. Puppies between three and four months of age require a minimum of three feeds each day and puppies between four and six months of age must be fed a minimum of twice daily with a nutritionally balanced diet.

All greyhounds must have a permanent supply of fresh, clean drinking water provided in a non-chewable, non-spillable container. The containers are required to be cleaned daily and kept free from algae, dirt, etc.

Exercise

Greyhounds must have the opportunity to exercise for at least 30 minutes daily, unless being treated for significant illness or injury. Exercise may include (but is not limited to) the following:

- On-lead walks
- Access to an exercise or training area. (e.g. free galloping in an enclosed area/paddock or straight track)
- Swimming
- Treadmills/walking machines. (These can be used to assist in exercising greyhounds but must not replace outdoor walking and stimulation. Greyhounds must be supervised at all times whilst exercising on treadmills/walking machines)
- Trials

Control of greyhound in public place – GAR109

1. A registered person must not permit a greyhound, which is pursuant to the person's care or custody to be in or on a public place unless the greyhound:
 - (a) has a securely fixed muzzle; and
 - (b) is pursuant to the effective control of some competent person by means of a leash of leather, or other durable material of a type capable and in a condition of effectively restraining a greyhound, and which is securely fastened to the collar worn by the greyhound.
2. Unless determined otherwise by the Controlling Body, a registered person who has the care, custody or training of greyhounds shall not:
 - (a) lead more than 4 greyhounds in a public place at the 1 time;
 - (b) permit any person acting for the registered person to lead more than 4 greyhounds in a public place at the same time; or
 - (c) permit any person pursuant to the age of 16 years, to lead a greyhound in a public place unless a registered person or some other person above the age of 18 years accompanies that person.

Socialisation/human contact:

Adequate socialisation and human contact play an integral part in the life of a greyhound and is particularly important in the early months of their lives. They must also be exposed to different types of stimuli such as objects, sights, sounds, scents and places that the greyhounds are likely to encounter as they grow older. Exposing greyhounds to these types of stimuli on a regular basis helps to decrease anxiety and reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour later in life.

Greyhounds must receive positive social contact with humans. Time should be set aside for frequent human interaction through activities such as grooming, general play, exercise, and patting, in addition to standard training.

General hygiene

Registered facilities are to be kept clean and hygienic at all times. All kennels must be cleaned out at least daily by hosing out or other appropriate means. Prior to hosing out all used, contaminated bedding, litter and all uneaten food must be removed and disposed of.

Cleaning and disinfecting agents should be chosen on the basis of their suitability, safety and effectiveness. Manufacturer's instructions for the use of cleaning and disinfecting agents must be followed. Disinfection of kennels must be completed prior to whelping or whenever an occupant of the kennel is changed.

Greyhound establishment sites must have an adequate water supply and must be sewered, on a septic system, or have some other adequate method of disposing of faeces. Waste disposal must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the local government authority. Use of a waste trade service for collection and disposal of wastes is preferable. Wastes must not be incinerated on-site.

The food preparation area must be kept hygienically clean and tidy at all times and all watering and feeding utensils must be cleaned daily.

Pest control:

Pests including fleas, ticks, flies, mosquitoes and rodents must be effectively controlled. Chemicals used for pest control must be prescribed by a registered veterinarian and/or registered by the National Registration Authority (NRA) under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (Commonwealth) and used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Kennel construction and materials

For the purpose of this policy, a kennel is defined as a sleeping area and attached accessible area. For the purpose of this policy, a Yard is defined as an external mesh enclosure and may include housing containing a sleeping area (typically a rearing yard).

Prior to constructing kennels, registered participants must consult with their local council in relation to any requirements for the keeping of greyhounds or construction of kennels in their local council area. Things to be considered include:

- The number of greyhounds to be kept in the kennels
- The type and construction of kennels and any local government restrictions

- The intended purpose of the kennels e.g. racing, whelping, rearing
- The distance of all kennel facilities to boundaries and dwellings on adjoining properties
- Provision for noise and odour abatement
- Provision for the management and disposal of solid/liquid wastes and waste run off

Greyhound kennels must be designed, constructed, serviced and maintained in a way that ensures the good health and well-being of the greyhounds housed therein, whilst preventing escape or injury to the greyhounds.

Housing must provide protection from the weather (wind, rain, sun and extreme climate) as well as protection from vermin and harassment from other animals.

Materials must be selected for ease of maintenance and cleaning, durability and non-toxicity. Where water impervious materials capable of conducting heat are utilised, adequate insulation must be incorporated in the ceiling and walls.

Inside kennels:

The internal surfaces of the walls of all inside kennels should be constructed of impervious solid, washable materials.

Floors of inside kennels must be made of an impervious material or coated with an impervious material to assist cleaning and drainage. Wood, brick, dirt or glass floors are not acceptable for inside kennels.

Floors of all inside kennels must be sloped to enable wastes and water to run off. It is preferable that a collection drain be provided to take away water after cleaning.

Where kennels are constructed indoors, temperature, humidity and ventilation must be considered. Ventilation must be adequate to keep greyhound housing areas free from dampness, noxious odours and draughts. An ample flow of fresh air should be available.

Outside kennels:

Dirt or grass floors are only acceptable in outside kennels. Floors of outside kennels must be well drained and maintained free of holes or other hazards that may cause injury to greyhounds.

Kennels constructed outdoors require separate or attached roofing are to be maintained to provide sun protection with 75% shade cloth or appropriate shade material to a four square metre area.

Fencing:

Kennels may be separated by solid partitions, galvanised chain wire or weld mesh dividers. Fencing must be maintained in an escape-proof condition, with wire mesh not exceeding 75mm x 50mm hole size. Puppy kennels (pups less than 8 weeks) should not exceed a mesh gauge of 50mm x 50mm.

Sleeping areas:

All housing areas must be provided with a weatherproof sleeping area containing raised beds to insulate greyhounds from the floor. The sleeping area for inside kennels should be enclosed on three sides to a minimum height of 1.5 metres with solid partitions. Appropriate warm, clean, vermin resistant bedding must be provided and maintained. All bedding must be cleaned regularly and kept dry.

Security and safety:

All kennels and training facilities such as hand-slipping tracks, circle tracks and bull rings must be able to be securely locked to prevent entry by any unauthorised person and/or the escape of greyhounds. Each individual kennel must be fitted with a secure closing device that cannot be opened by the greyhounds. Any security methods used must allow for ready access to greyhounds and ready exit for staff and greyhounds from the premises in the event of an emergency. Greyhounds must be kept safe from attack, stress or injury and their behavioural needs must be met.

Other Relevant Rules and Policies

GRSA's Animal Welfare Policy should be read in conjunction with the following references, accessible via the GRSA website:

- Transportation of Greyhounds Policy
- Hot Weather Policy
- GAR86B – Offences relating to luring and live-baiting

Live baiting penalties:

GRSA has zero tolerance for the practice known as live-baiting. Anyone found to be participating in this activity, or withholding knowledge of same, will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of GRSA's powers.

All registered participants need to be aware that live-baiting, and similar acts of cruelty, constitute criminal activity. In South Australia, live-baiting carries with it a maximum prison sentence of four years and fines of up to \$50,000.

South Australia Greyhound Racing SA Breeding Information [extract](#)

Greyhound Breeding Information

CHOOSING A BREEDING FEMALE

Most Breeders are going to start with a brood bitch. Finding a strong foundation bitch can lead to many years of successful breeding and racing stock. But what do you look for in a breeding female? Well, that is the golden question.

There are many theories, but some important aspects to consider are:-

- The bitches overall racetrack record. If she didn't race, why?
- Her style of racing
- Was she strong at the end of her races or fast early?
- Was she a good beginner?
- How did she handle herself in a field?
- Was she a keen chaser?
- Her size and confirmation.
- Her bloodlines. Are there many winners in her family?
- Perhaps look closest at her immediate past two generations.
- Her temperament. Is she passive or boisterous?

There are many people involved in the Industry that can offer opinions and guidance on these and other aspects of selection. Greyhound Racing SA can help put you in touch with experienced people.

You may wish to buy the bitch outright, or even consider just leasing the bitch from the Owner.

STUD SIRE DOG

Next step is to select a Stud Dog. Again you need to consider the Stud dogs performance on the race track and at Stud.

Do you select a recently retired dog or go for one with a proven siring record? You should consider most of the points mentioned before.

The Australian & New Zealand Stud Book can help you with sire statistics, 4 generation pedigrees of all sires and many other features. It is available from Greyhounds Australasia.

There is an excellent selection of Sires based locally, interstate and overseas available in South Australia. These Sires can be accessed by using normal mating or by Frozen Semen which is extremely popular.

FROZEN SEMEN

Frozen Semen is an extremely good option available to breeders. You can select from Stud Sires based all around Australia and the world, without having to travel with your breeding female. Once you have selected a sire, the frozen semen is made available through an approved insemination facility where the breeding female is then inseminated. It certainly widens the scope of picking the right sire for your bitch.

Make sure from the Stud Sire owner or Stud Master that their dog has been registered as a National Stud Sire with Greyhounds Australasia prior to the service.

Stud Dogs stand at varying fees. These fees vary from nothing to thousands of dollars depending on the record and success of the dog.

Once you have purchased frozen semen you are required to transfer it into your name with Greyhounds Australasia.

For information on Stud Sires and Approved Frozen Semen Inseminators, contact Greyhounds Australasia.

PREGNANCY & WHELPING

Pregnancy is divided into three periods or trimesters. 0-3 weeks; 3-6 weeks; 6 weeks to whelping.

The gestation period is 63 days plus or minus 2 days. Take particular note of the mating dates and monitor the breeding female accordingly.

Feeding levels for the bitch during the first 3 weeks generally don't change, however, during the last trimester the food intake for the bitch needs to be increased sometimes up to 1-1/2 times.

Some bitches become very fussy eaters during pregnancy and may have to be coaxed with treats, e.g. cooked meats or cat food. Get vets advice before appetite stimulants are used.

During the last week she can be introduced to her whelping box, which should be warm/cool and be easily cleaned. A few days before whelping the ligaments and tissues in her pelvis relax and the spines over her lower back become more prominent. If she develops filling (retains fluid) in the lower hind limbs, it will go after whelping. Diuretics must not be used. Very close to whelping, her temperature will drop to sub 37° and she may start showing signs such as tearing up paper, 'nesting' etc.

If the discharge is green/black or contains excess blood, Veterinary advice should be sought.

You may assist whelping with great care.

The use of Oxytin or calcium injections should only be through a Veterinary surgeon.

REARING

Strictly, rearing begins after whelping. The bitch should be fed all she wants to eat and a well balanced diet and supplemented with calcium.

Puppies should get a good drink from the bitch soon after whelping to kick start their immune system. Food is usually offered at 3-4 weeks of age.

Remember it must be palatable and easily digestible at this stage.

A worming program can be started at 2 weeks of age. When pups become more mobile, they must be able to exercise freely. This will pay dividends in the future. Vaccinations are required as per the Rules of Greyhound Racing, pups must be vaccinated (C3) between 6-8 weeks and (C5) between 10-16 weeks.

If pups are reared at home prior to breaking in, good quality food and the provision for exercise are mandatory. GRSA are able to provide details of rearing and breaking-in establishments.

DNA TESTING

A DNA test will need to be done prior to registering as a breeding female. Contact Greyhounds Australasia to arrange a DNA kit to be sent. The charge for the Kit is \$180 inc. gst, however, GRSA provides a rebate once she has been registered as a breeding female.

NOTIFICATION OF SERVICE

Once the bitch has been served the Insemination Facility will notify Greyhounds Australasia who in turn will notify Greyhound Racing SA or if the bitch is naturally served the Stud Master will notify GRSA of the service who will then forward the relevant paperwork to register the resultant pups to the breeder.

WHELPING NOTICE

A Notification of Whelping form must be completed and received by Greyhound Racing SA within 14 days of whelping. This form must be completed, whatever the result of the mating. There is no charge accompanying this form.

LITTER REGISTRATION

A litter registration form is to be completed by a GRSA approved marking official in your area and must be lodged with Greyhound Racing SA within 4 months of whelping.

Pups must be vaccinated [C3] between 6-8 weeks and [C5] between 10-16 weeks. A proof of vaccination form must be lodged with Greyhound Racing SA with the litter registration form. Please contact GRSA and we will send you the litter registration form.

Restrictions and requirements regarding moving of a litter from address of whelping also apply. GRSA reminds breeders to seek advice on Rule requirements.

NAMING FORMS

On receipt of the litter registration and proof of vaccination forms by Greyhound Racing SA, naming forms will be issued. If you sell a dog before naming, the naming form [signed] together with a transfer of an unnamed greyhound are to be passed onto the new owner.

- **Reference - South Australian Breeding Information - extract from code**

<https://cms.thedogs.com.au/Uploads/Rules%20and%20Policy/Animal%20Welfare%20Policy%2001.05.2018.pdf>

- **NT Breeding Information - extract from code**

[Policy for the Welfare of Racing Greyhounds](#)

3.4. Breeding and rearing facilities

When greyhounds are mating naturally, they must be physically isolated from all other greyhounds at the establishment. The isolated area must be at least 15 square metres in size. Naturally mating greyhounds must not be housed together overnight.

Whelping and lactating areas must:

- have access to natural daylight
- contain bedding that is soft, absorbent and easily disposed of or cleaned and disinfected when soiled
- be temperature controlled to protect greyhounds from extremes of temperature at all times
- have raised sleeping areas to prevent draughts, while ensuring puppies cannot fallout and get injured or stranded
- must be physically separated from all other greyhounds

Separate whelping areas, which must include a whelping box, are required for each mother greyhound and her puppies, and may include adjoining exercise or day yards.

The whelping box must be large enough for the mother greyhound to lie comfortably while whelping and to accommodate her and her puppies for the first four weeks after whelping.

The whelping box must have solid sides that can be easily disinfected, and that are high enough to allow the mother greyhound to exit readily, but prevent puppies under four weeks of age from falling out.

Lactating areas must:

- contain a fully screened bedding area to allow the mother greyhound physical separation from all other greyhounds
- allow the mother greyhound access to an area where her puppies cannot reach her, to allow her to rest
- have a raised shelf area around the sides of the box to prevent the puppies being caught between the sides of the box and the mother's body

While generally not required in the Top End of the Northern Territory, a source of heat may be required for the puppies to offset any possible cooler evenings/mornings. A cool spot for mother and puppies should also be provided.

A space between 15 and 20 square metres is the minimum required for a mother greyhound and her puppies, up to eight weeks of age, after which, an additional 15 square metres of space is required for puppies aged between 8 and 16 weeks.

Fencing for puppy and rearing yards must:

- have at least one external barrier that is a minimum height of 1.8 metres
- not allow for greyhounds in neighbouring pens to make unsafe contact or to jump over
- be constructed in a manner that prevents greyhounds from injuring themselves or escaping
- be maintained in good repair with no holes or sharp protrusions/edges

Floors of the outdoor pen and yards must:

- be well drained to prevent the pooling of liquids
- not made of wire or wood
- be easily cleaned of faeces
- not be allowed to become infested with parasites

Housing areas must not be allowed to remain muddy or sufficiently dusty that the greyhounds suffer, or are likely to suffer, from respiratory, eye or skin conditions.

The exercise or day yard for whelping greyhounds may be incorporated into the overall enclosure area.

Where multiple greyhound pups are housed together, each greyhound must be provided with sufficient bedding and space so that all animals can sleep comfortably at the same time.

5.7. Breeding

Despite any reference that may be contained in the *Greyhound Racing Rules 1981* pertaining to a person being deemed registered or licensed by the Commission if they are so licensed or registered in another jurisdiction, any person in the Northern Territory wishing to breed greyhounds for racing (whether for racing in the Northern Territory or another jurisdiction), must be approved by the Commission.

All approved breeders must comply with all relevant rules regarding the registration and recording of breeding sires, breeding females and whelping/litter notifications as contained in the *Greyhound Racing Rules 1981* and the Greyhound Australasia Rules.

Breeding pairs must not be related e.g. father and daughter, brother and sister, mother and son. Second degree mating's (e.g. grandfather and granddaughter) should not be carried out unless under appropriate expert advice obtained prior to the mating.

5.7.1. Breeding Males

Male greyhounds must be at least 12 months of age before their first service and must be registered with the Commission.

In completing the registration, a person must have regard for the requirements re DNA fingerprinting and fertility testing by a veterinarian.

Prior to its first service, the greyhound must have a general health check by a veterinarian, who will determine if the animal is suitable for breeding. A certificate, attesting to the greyhound's suitability to breed, must be obtained and retained.

5.7.2. Breeding Females

Female greyhounds must be a minimum of 12 months of age prior to their first servicing. A female greyhound must have a general health check by a veterinarian:

- prior to first service to assess whether the greyhound is physically mature enough to breed; and
- within eight weeks of whelping

A female greyhound must be registered with the Commission and must have an up to date vaccination certificate.

A female greyhound is not permitted to be bred after eight years of age unless approved by the Commission and has had a certificate issued by a veterinarian attesting to her fitness and health to breed. In assessing the approval to breed a greyhound over eight years of age, the Commission will consider the racing success and ability of existing progeny. If approval is granted by the Commission, it is for one further litter only.

Female greyhounds are limited to a maximum of three litters unless approved by the Commission and has had a certificate issued by a veterinarian attesting to her fitness and health to breed. In assessing whether to grant approval to breed a greyhound for a fourth litter, the Commission will consider the racing success and ability of existing progeny. If approval is granted by the Commission, it is for one further litter only.

To ensure sufficient recovery time, and allow pups to reach an age where their ability can be assessed, a female greyhound is not permitted to breed more than two litters in any 18 month period.

5.7.3. Natural mating

Natural mating pairs must be supervised during mating and physically separated from other greyhounds. Dog breeding stands must not be used.

If the female greyhound is being unduly harassed by the male, she must be removed and the advice of a veterinarian sought:

- if there is a risk of injury to either greyhound; or
- for any other concern held.

5.7.4. Artificial insemination

Artificial insemination procedures must be conducted by an approved veterinarian and advice must be sought regarding appropriate after-care, including advice on post-surgery exercise and during pregnancy.

5.7.5. Whelping

Unless there is a likelihood of stress or injury, a pregnant greyhound must be moved to a whelping housing area at least seven days before her due date. The whelping housing area must comply with the requirements set out in Section 3 of this policy.

As soon as the greyhound shows signs of whelping, fresh bedding material must be provided and should be monitored regularly, either in person or remotely, until whelping is complete.

If there are any abnormalities observed, or concerns for the female greyhound or puppies during the whelping process, a veterinarian should be contacted immediately.

After whelping is complete, the Person in Charge or other staff must:

- monitor the mother and her puppies each six hours until the puppies are feeding and acceptance has been firmly established
- conduct a puppy health check within the first 12 hours of whelping
- clean the whelping area, including bedding within 24 hours.

If required, Oxytocin must only be administered by a veterinarian.

5.7.6. Caesarean section

After a caesarean section, appropriate wound care and pain relief, as prescribed or directed by a veterinarian, must be provided for the female greyhound. Appropriate after-care advice, including post-surgery exercise, should also be sought.

5.7.7. Lactating greyhounds

Monitoring of lactating greyhounds must include observation of:

- all puppies feeding
- the greyhound lactating
- if applicable, the monitoring of a caesarean wound for any signs of redness, swelling or discharge

5.7.8. Rearing

Rearing requirements reflect the aim for greyhounds to become successful racing greyhounds and then transition to companion animals, following appropriate preparation for retirement and rehoming, as outlined under this policy.

During rearing, greyhounds must:

- not be permanently separated from their mother before eight weeks of age unless the health of the puppies is at risk or the female is showing signs of stress. Advice from a veterinarian must be sought if there are any concerns for the welfare of the mother or puppies
- be housed in accordance with Section 3 of this policy
- be handled, exercised, socialised and trained in accordance to Schedule 1 of this policy
- be provided with exercise options that encourage chasing behaviour
- be actively monitored when housed together and if fighting, bullying or other adverse welfare outcomes are identified, they must be separated
- not be muzzled at any time, except as part of the education process, when in public, under the direction of a veterinarian during treatment for injury or illness, or as part of a housing acclimatisation program

From 3 to 16 weeks of age is the critical socialisation period for puppies.

During this period, greyhounds must:

- be provided with access to different surfaces in their pen or kennel environment
- be taught to wear a collar and walk on a lead
- have multiple opportunities for isolation from their litter (in the company of a handler) or complete isolation to acclimatise them to periods of separation from their litter. Practicing isolation is important as greyhounds adopted to a home or residential household are likely to spend much of their time alone. Practicing will help ease anxiety (refer to Schedule 2 for a list of signs that may indicate greyhound anxiety) issues for the greyhound
- be exposed to standard racing and training facilities as outlined in Section 4 of this policy
- be brushed or bathed in warm water and towel dried once a month (or more frequently if required)
- be exposed to people other than their usual handlers and other dogs or domestic pets that do not pose a disease risk

In addition to the above requirements, greyhounds aged between 16 and 24 weeks must be exposed to:

- different environmental landscapes that are available, such as reserves, parks etc and socialised with other dogs and pets as appropriate
- being walked on a lead

It is recommended that greyhounds older than 16 weeks are exposed to the following as often as possible:

- starting boxes
- travelling in cars and trailers
- circular training facilities
- race track environments

Before a greyhound enters its education phase, it must undergo a housing acclimatisation program.

The program must:

- provide increased exposure to housing equivalent in size and design to common racing kennels of between 3 and 10 square metres
- provide the greyhound with positive reinforcement and enrichment, such as toys, bones or other activities
- provide the greyhound with opportunities to toilet to help build familiarity with race kennel routine
- teach the greyhound to walk by their collar
- walk the greyhound by the collar

Appendix 7 - Breeding/Genetic choices

[39th Greyhound Working and Sporting Dog Annual Conference](#), 12-13 October 2023| Mercure Hotel, North Melbourne, VIC, page 257 – DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF TARSAL INJURIES, Dr John Katakasi BVSc (HONS) CVA CVCHM

"I remember an early conversation with [Paul Wheeler](#) where he said when picking a sire at that time he wanted to use sires that had at least 50 race starts because he knew there was some degree of soundness in them.

So when I see a sire like Barcia Bale who only had 13 race starts and broke a hock out of racing and he is so prevalent in all the pedigrees we see today. I just cannot see how genetics is not a very significant factor.

My suggestion is to start looking at inbreeding coefficients to see if a link between hock fractures and pedigree can be statistically proven.

I estimate over 75% of Barcia Bale dogs I see have broken at least one fibula. I have seen a litter where the mother had produced two litters with maybe one fibula and then a litter of 8 to Barcia with every one had at least one and some 2 fractured fibulas.

While a fibula injury is generally an insignificant injury I just use this as an example of where the genetics contributing to injury needs to be considered. Inbreeding coefficient may not be the answer but I think it would be a good place to start and document if there is a link between the dogs that are going through the rebate systems for hock injuries and what their inbreeding coefficient is and see what trends arise from that.

If it is found to be relevant then I think it should be considered in the decision making process of potential breedings before they are made, especially if the dam and or sire were retired for a hock injury."