

Transportation of Greyhounds Policy



Department	Animal Welfare
Responsible GRV General Manager	General Manager - Animal Welfare
Date of GRV Board Approval	25 October 2016
Effective Date	12 December 2016
Review	This policy will be reviewed annually, or earlier if planned research indicates it is appropriate to amend the policy earlier.

Purpose	<p>To ensure the safety and welfare of racing greyhounds while they are being transported by land.</p> <p>To ensure that persons responsible for the care and management of greyhounds at all stages of land transport are identified and are aware of their responsibilities while transporting greyhounds, and are accountable for their actions during this process</p> <p>Adherence to the requirements of this policy will help to ensure that greyhound transport and/or travel related stress is minimised, and the risk of injury during transport is low, resulting in greyhounds arriving at their destination in the best possible condition.</p>
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Scope	<p>This policy applies to the land transportation of all registered greyhounds.</p> <p>All Registered Participants must comply with the requirements of this policy. If a Registered Participant engages another person to transport greyhounds, the Registered Participant is responsible for ensuring that person or persons complies with this policy.</p>
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Related Policies	GRV Hot Weather Policy
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Policy	
Policy Principles	Registered Participants must ensure that greyhounds are transported in a safe, clean and supervised environment.
Persons authorised to transport greyhounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greyhounds must be transported under the care and management of a Registered Participant, or a person engaged in writing by a Registered Participant, who undertakes to comply with this policy. This person will be in control of the greyhound during transportation. 2. The Registered Participant must ensure that any person they engage to transport their greyhound can comply with this policy and has the capacity to be responsible for the safety and welfare of the greyhound during transport.

<p>Standards for trailers and vehicles used to transport greyhounds</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Trailer and vehicles used to transport a greyhound must be appropriately registered, and vehicle drivers must be appropriately licensed, to the requirements of Vic Roads (https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au) or an equivalent state transport agency as required by law. 4. Trailers and vehicles must be clean, weatherproof and have adequate and functioning ventilation or air-conditioning. If used on hot weather affected days (see clause 10) trailers and vehicles must have adequate and functioning air-conditioning. 5. Barriers, compartments and/or cages used for transport must be securely fitted in vehicles and trailers, and must be checked for any defects that may cause harm or discomfort to the greyhound, prior to transportation. 6. The surface on which greyhounds are transported must be non-slip, weight bearing, and able to be cleaned and disinfected. 7. Doors, latches and hinges must be in working order and securely fixed to the frame. Doors must have a latching mechanism that prevents the possibility of being opened from inside or from any other inadvertent opening. It is preferable that the doors are lockable or can be secured externally by way of a pin/bolt that prevents opening. 8. Trailers must have secure means of attaching to a vehicle to prevent separation during travelling as required by law.
<p>Travel with greyhounds during hot or cold weather</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Greyhounds must be transported in air-conditioned vehicles and/or trailers if at any point along the intended route, including the location the transport begins, the location of the scheduled rest stops, and the final destination at the end of the journey, the official Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecasted maximum temperature is 32°C or higher when checked from 8.00 am on the day before a greyhound is transported and any time thereafter. 10. Barking muzzles must not be used on greyhounds at any time during transportation if the journey is hot weather affected (i.e. if clause 9 applies to the journey).
<p>Planning and managing a journey</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. When planning journeys, the person in control of the greyhound must ensure that they have given adequate consideration to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of greyhounds being transported; (b) the physical condition of each travelling greyhound including any health issues or injuries; (c) the weather and road conditions anticipated during the journey (also see clause 9); (d) the length of the journey; (e) the time that greyhounds will be deprived of food and water, carefully planning rest stops in advance (see clause 19); (f) emergency management including access to a veterinarian should a greyhound become seriously ill or injured during transportation.

	<p>12. Space provided during transport must allow for each greyhound to sit, lie down, turn around and stand in a natural position without making contact with overhead structures.</p> <p>13. Adult greyhounds must be physically separated, restrained and/or individually enclosed by a compartment or cage.</p> <p>14. Greyhounds must be safely restrained to avoid distracting the driver or sustaining injury to themselves and occupants in the event of an accident.</p> <p>15. Greyhounds must not be transported in the boot of a sedan, or on the open tray of a vehicle or a trailer.</p> <p>16. Appropriate beds or bedding material that can be cleaned and disinfected or completely discarded must be provided.</p> <p>17. Vehicles and trailers must not be used as overnight housing for greyhounds except in exceptional circumstances as notified to, and approved by, GRV Stewards.</p>
<p>Animal welfare</p>	<p>18. The internal temperature of the vehicle or trailer must be maintained at 32°C or lower.</p> <p>19. On heat affected days (i.e. if clause 9 applies), stops should be made at least every two (2) hours during the journey, or at the most appropriate rest stop that most closely aligns to this timeframe, to allow for greyhound inspection, exercise, toileting and water/fluid consumption needs. On all other days (i.e. if clause 9 does not apply), the person in control of the greyhound, in accordance with clause 11, must give adequate consideration to rest stops when planning the journey.</p> <p>20. Greyhounds must not be left unattended in a stationary vehicle or trailer for any period exceeding 20 minutes, except on a hot weather affected day (as specified in the GRV Hot Weather Policy) where greyhounds must not be left unattended for more than 5 minutes. Unattended is defined as the greyhound not being visually checked to ascertain its physical state.</p> <p>21. Collars and leads used must not cause any discomfort or injury to the greyhound.</p> <p>22. Veterinary advice must be sought if a greyhound is showing signs of heat stress, hypothermia (abnormally low body temperature) or other abnormalities and veterinary treatment must be sought immediately if required.</p> <p>(a) Signs of heat stress and dehydration can include panting, skin feeling warm, fast heart rate and pulse, drooling, red gums, muscle tremors and seizures.</p> <p>(b) Signs of hypothermia can include shivering, skin feeling cold, slow heart rate and pulse, pale gums and non-responsiveness (coma).</p>

