

Exporting Greyhounds FAQs

What does the proposed new rule cover?

Under the proposed new rule, it will be a serious offence for Victorian participants to allow a greyhound in their care to be exported without a greyhound passport issued by Greyhound Australasia (GA).

It will also be a serious offence to transfer greyhounds to others when you know (or should have known) the greyhound was going to be exported, without taking steps to ensure the exporter will obtain a greyhound passport before exporting the greyhound.

Why the need for such a rule?

The welfare of the dogs that make the whole sport possible must be everyone's first priority and that includes decisions about exporting them to overseas markets.

In the past, some Victorian greyhounds have been exported to markets with little or no animal welfare regulations and suffered very poor treatment.

All Victorian exporters should ensure that the markets they are selling into operate within a highly regulated environment, overseen by an appropriate industry control body that sets the best possible standards of welfare for all racing greyhounds.

What is a Greyhound Australasia Passport?

GA's National Rule 124 (1) stipulates that any person registered with a state greyhound authority that exports a greyhound to another country must obtain a GA greyhound passport before meeting Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service requirements.

GA passports are only issued for countries that meet GA's *Required Standards for Countries Seeking to Import Australian Greyhounds*. These include strong and clear requirements covering animal welfare, accurate identification and record keeping and guidelines and support for appropriate end of career outcomes, such as re-homing programs so that retired racers can live out their lives as family pets.

GA passports are issued for the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic, Ireland, United States and New Zealand. GA stopped issuing GA passports to Macau in 2013.

How do I get a GA passport?

You can download a passport application form from the Greyhounds Australasia website at <http://galtd.org.au/services/greyhound-passportsexports>. There is a \$110 application fee.

A greyhound GA passport and certified pedigree is only issued on receipt of a completed application form, which includes a mandatory compliance clause specifying whether the export is for racing, breeding or pet purposes.