



INFORMATION SHEET – HOT WEATHER TRANSPORT

UPDATED: Friday, 3 November 2017

Hot Weather Transport - what does it mean for me?

The GRV Transportation of Greyhounds Policy requires GRV greyhounds to be transported in **air-conditioned vehicles and/or trailers** if at any point along the intended route the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) forecasted maximum temperature is 32°C or higher (“**heat affected journey**”).

The policy applies to any transport of GRV greyhounds, not just transport to race meetings or on race days.

Air-conditioning means: a power-assisted system that continuously circulates air for the purpose of controlling humidity and ventilation, and maintains the internal vehicle or trailer temperature below 32°C.

The internal temperature of the vehicle or trailer must be maintained at 32°C or lower.

Further requirements on heat affected journeys:

- 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.
- Greyhounds must not be left unattended in a stationary vehicle or trailer for any period exceeding 5 minutes. Unattended is defined as the greyhound not being visually checked to ascertain its physical state.
- Barking muzzles must not be used on greyhounds at any time during transportation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does air- conditioning mean?

Air-conditioning means: a power-assisted system that continuously circulates air for the purpose of controlling humidity and ventilation, and maintains the internal vehicle or trailer temperature below 32°C.

The air-conditioning system may be either refrigerated or evaporative cooling. Most importantly, the air-conditioning system must be able to control the humidity, ventilation and temperature within the transport vehicle. It is essential that the system is power assisted to

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ensure that there is a continuous air-flow and control when the vehicle is in motion and stationary.

When is air-conditioning required?

Air-conditioning is required when transporting GRV greyhounds on any heat affected journey. A journey is heat affected 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.

Why is air-conditioning required on heat affected journeys?

It is essential for greyhound health and welfare that greyhounds are transported in vehicles and trailers where the internal temperature is below 32°C. There is a high risk of heat related illness in greyhounds if the temperature during transport exceeds 32°C.

It is also important to remember that greyhounds use a lot of energy to cool their bodies when the temperature is above 32 °C. If your greyhound is too hot during transport, it may use up important energy keeping cool, reducing its ability to race well may be compromised.

It is recommended that participants have a functioning thermometer fitted to the inside of the trailer to enable the temperature to be accurately monitored.

What is the difference between a hot weather affected day (event) and a heat affected journey?

A **“hot weather affected day”** is a race meeting, qualifying trial or an after-race trial session that has been declared by GRV to be hot weather affected in accordance with the GRV Hot Weather Policy. GRV will declare a venue to be hot weather affected if the forecast maximum temperature is 32°C or higher at the venue. If a venue has been declared as hot weather affected, a stand down penalty will not be applied to any nominated greyhound withdrawn from that race meeting. The greyhounds’ withdrawal must be notified to GRV via FastTrack or to Member Services between 8am the day before the meeting, up until the scratching time for the meeting.

A **“heat affected journey”** relates to the transportation of GRV greyhounds on any day (not just transportation to racing meetings or other racing events). A heat affected journey may

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occur on a day that is not a GRV declared hot weather affected day. As such, participants must check the temperature forecasted for every planned journey with greyhounds, not just race days.

What happens if a race is on a day when the journey is heat affected and I don't have access to an air-conditioned transport?

Participants must not transport any greyhound in a vehicle or trailer without air-conditioning on a heat affected journey. If your car or van is air-conditioned but the trailer is not air-conditioned, you can still transport your greyhounds to the race in the car or van. However, you will need to think about space. According to the GRV Transportation Policy, each greyhound must have sufficient room to laydown comfortably and to be separated in the event the greyhounds do not get along. Therefore, you may need to choose which greyhounds you transport in your car/van and which you will scratch.

If the race meeting is also declared as "hot weather affected", there is no penalty for scratching your greyhounds on the morning of the race. The greyhounds' withdrawal must be notified to GRV via FastTrack or to Member Services between 8am the day before the meeting, up until the scratching time for the meeting.