

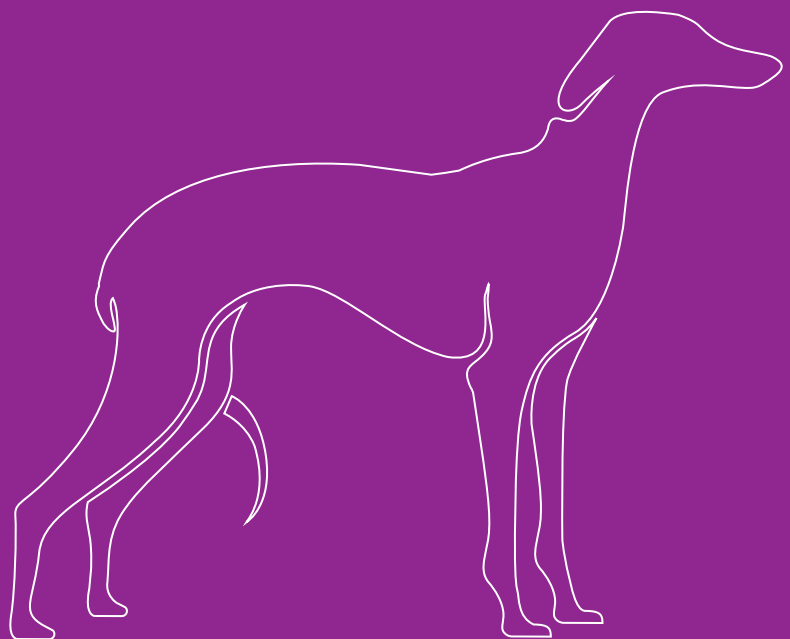
Greyhound



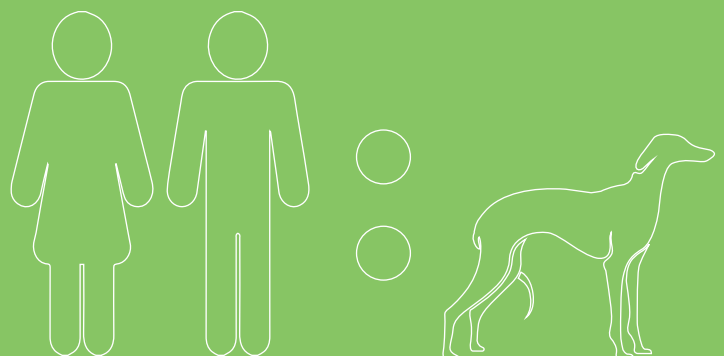
CODE OF PRACTICE

Support Booklet

PART 6: Greyhound Welfare



Greyhound Welfare

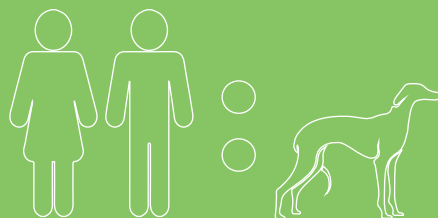


Greyhound Welfare

Need To Know



- Greyhounds being admitted to an establishment will need to go through an admission process to confirm things like ownership details and condition.
- The Code provides minimum exercise, socialisation and enrichment requirements for different classes of greyhounds. You can either adopt these or create your own in your EHMP.
- Greyhound vaccination certificates, including dates of next treatment, details of the treatment required and a record of who administered the treatment, must be signed by a veterinary practitioner and recorded in the greyhound record.





Admission assessment program

What is it?

The Code requires that a greyhound assessment protocol be developed. This protocol is intended to give the Person in Charge enough information to ensure that they fully understand the condition of greyhounds that they are admitting to their establishment.

To assist in this process, the admission protocol could include an admission checklist to help identify any pre-existing medical concerns or treatments that a greyhound being admitted to the establishment may require, as well as specific actions that the owner of the greyhound has agreed to do if there is a medical emergency.

The Person in Charge should also be satisfied that the ownership of the greyhound is checked and confirmed.

! What is required?

- Complete an Admission assessment program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Admission assessment program Protocol as part of your EHMP.
- An example Admission assessment template is provided on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for an Admission assessment program. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Admission assessment program Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for an admission assessment program



Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Greyhound Admission Form

Greyhound Care and Standards: ID card





Housing acclimatisation program

What is it?

A housing acclimatisation program, mandatory before a greyhound enters its education phase, seeks to reduce the stress and anxiety of a greyhound when it is moving from one stage of their lifecycle to another. This is particularly important when the greyhound moves establishments or young greyhounds are moved from rearing pens and yards to racing kennels.

The program should detail the steps needed to ensure that the greyhound adjusts into its new environment. This includes ongoing monitoring activities, warning signs that you will look for, and what you will do about it.

Your housing acclimatisation program could also form part of your admission assessment protocol for new greyhounds being admitted to your establishment.

! What is required?

- Read section **6.3.9 Rearing** for detail about how a housing acclimatisation program should address requirements for a greyhound entering its education phase.
- Complete a Housing acclimatisation program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Housing acclimatisation program Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum Housing acclimatisation program Protocol. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Housing acclimatisation program Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for a housing acclimatisation program



Intervention and stress management

What is it?

Monitoring and, if needed, early intervention for a greyhound that is showing signs of stress, is critical. Without intervention, the stress is likely to affect the greyhound's ability to adapt to changes in its environment. This may have ongoing detrimental effects throughout its racing and rehoming life.

The Code requires that your EHMP include intervention and management actions to reduce and manage the risk of greyhounds showing signs of stress, and/or the development of behavioural stereotypies. These actions should detail the steps you will take to observe and identify stress or unusual adverse behaviour in greyhounds in your care, and an understanding of what you would do about it.

! What is required?

- Read Section [6.4 Education, pre-training and training - Management of stress in greyhound](#) and [Appendix 1: Identifying stress and anxiety in greyhound](#) of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete an Intervention and Stress Management Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Intervention and Stress Management Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum Intervention and Stress Management Protocol. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Intervention management Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for intervention and stress management

Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Understanding fearful behaviour





Daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments

What is it?

Incorporating a simple daily check on the behaviour and welfare of each of your greyhounds helps you to identify early warning signs that may affect their ongoing health. This is particularly important for greyhounds returning from injury or ill health.

The Code requires that you develop a daily visual behavioural and welfare assessment Protocol. This Protocol should identify what you will look for, how will you respond to key observations and when you will seek veterinary attention.

Where a greyhound is showing signs of ill health or stress, details must be recorded in its greyhound record.

! What is required?

- Complete a Daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments Protocol as part of your EHMP.
- Where there are signs of ill health or stress, details must be recorded in the greyhound's record, as well as any treatment administered.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum for Daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments Protocol. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for daily visual behavioural and welfare assessments



Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Two Minute check for injuries

Greyhound Care and Standards: Checking for soreness





Sale assessment program

What is it?

The Code requires that a Person in Charge develop an assessment program that you will follow if you are rearing pups for sale. The term “for sale” in this case means that where a greyhound is intended to be sold, exchanged or bartered.

For example, a program would be required if you don't intend to keep all the pups in a litter you have bred, and plan on selling or giving away some pups to help pay for the costs of breeding / whelping, or under an ownership / rearing arrangement.

This program would include things like the steps undertaken in your exercise, environmental enrichment and socialisation protocol to, as early as you can, progressively socialise the pups with other dogs as well as being exposed to different situation and environments. It may also include a health and well-being assessment.

! What is required?

- Complete a Sale assessment program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Sale assessment program Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for a Sale assessment program. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Sale assessment program Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for a sale assessment program





Exercise, environmental enrichment and socialisation

What is it?

Exercise, socialisation (exposure to different dogs, other animals and people) and environmental enrichment (exposure to different places and things) of different types at different stages of a greyhound's lifecycle is important to the success of a greyhound as a racing animal and in a post-racing life.

These activities are particularly critical in the first three to 16 weeks of a greyhound's life as this will optimise a greyhound's behavioural development, as well as minimise behavioural problems and reduce the risk of stress.

The Code does provide minimum exercise, socialisation and enrichment requirements for different classes of greyhounds. These are outlined in Table 1 of the Code.

If a Person in Charge wants to change these requirements, it will need to be specifically outlined in their EHMP.

! What is required?

- Read **Table 1. Minimum exercise, socialisation and enrichments for greyhounds** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Either confirm that you are adopting Table 1 in the Code, or complete an Exercise, environmental, enrichment and socialisation Protocol in your EHMP.

Records to be kept:

- An exercise, environmental, enrichment and socialisation for each class of greyhound Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does provide a minimum protocol for an exercise, environmental, enrichment and socialisation for each class of greyhound. You can adopt this Protocol and include it in your EHMP, or you can create your own.

An example exercise, environmental, enrichment and socialisation protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for exercise, environmental enrichment and socialisation



Age of exposure to minimum training requirements (education and pre-training)

What is it?

Introducing new stimuli and activities, at the right time, is essential to progressively develop a greyhound in readiness for its racing career.

The Code requires that each Person in Charge develop a Protocol which identifies the age of greyhounds when each of the below activities will be introduced:

- collar training,
- lead training
- chase motivation training,
- transport vehicles and equipment (e.g. trailers, crates),
- training facilities (e.g. slipping tracks, circular tracks) and,
- race facilities (e.g. starting boxes, racing kennels, catching pens).

! What is required?

- Read Section [6.4 Education, pretraining and training](#) of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete the Age of exposure to minimum training requirements Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Age of exposure to minimum training requirements Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code doesn't provide a minimum protocol for Age of exposure to minimum training requirements. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Age of exposure to minimum training Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for age of exposure to minimum training requirements (education and pre-training)



Vaccination programs

What is it?

A vaccination program seeks to prevent diseases from being passed between greyhounds.

The Code requires that each Person in Charge complete a vaccination program that outlines the key steps in ensuring that their greyhounds are adequately vaccinated.

Key areas for consideration in your protocol should include:

- A greyhound must not receive its first treatment/vaccine before 10 days of age,
- Identifying the types of vaccination that will be provided at each greyhound age,
- Puppies between six and eight weeks of age must be vaccinated (unless recommended by your vet),
- All vaccinations must be given in accordance with the manufacturer's registered label, timing and dosage requirements and,
- Any off-label vaccination use must be in accordance with the Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association (ASAVA) guidelines.

The Person in Charge must ensure that vaccination certificates, including dates of next treatment, details of the treatment required and a record of who administered the treatment, are signed by a veterinary practitioner.

! What is required?

- Read Section **6.2 Health Care** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete a Vaccination program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Vaccination program Protocol as part of your EHMP.
- The Person in Charge must ensure that vaccination certificates, including dates of next treatment, details of the treatment required and a record of who administered the treatment, are signed by a veterinary practitioner at each vaccination are recorded in the greyhound record.



Vaccination programs (cont.)

The EHMP Protocol

The Code doesn't provide a minimum protocol for a Vaccination program. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Vaccination program Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for a vaccination program

Links for more information:

Australian Veterinary Association





Parasite prevention and treatment programs

What is it?

Your parasite prevention and treatment program will outline the steps that you will take to prevent, screen and treat internal and external parasites such as fleas, ear mites, ticks and ringworm.

Your program will need to consider how greyhounds are monitored for signs of parasites and what remedial actions you will take.

Feeding of raw offal is not recommended (offal may be used in some forms of knackery meat). If the feeding of offal is part of your feeding regime, your program will need to include details of your worming program to minimise the risk associated with offal.

Your vet will be able to provide you with advice and guidance about an appropriate worming program.

! What is required?

- Complete a Parasite prevention and treatment program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Parasite prevention and treatment programs Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Parasite prevention and treatment programs. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Parasite prevention and treatment program Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for a parasite prevention and treatment program



Dental management

What is it?

Good oral care is an important part of the overall health and wellbeing of your greyhound.

Your protocol for dental health management should outline how you will manage your greyhound's dental hygiene (specifically for gum disease and plaque management) including:

- how greyhounds are treated as part of their ongoing health care,
- how they will be monitored for signs of gum disease, plaque build-up and preventative and,
- remedial action that you would take should the need arise.

! What is required?

- Complete a Dental management Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Dental management Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Dental management. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Dental management Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for dental management



Oral supplements and injectable substances program

What is it?

The Code requires that all Persons in Charge that uses supplements or substances develop an Oral Supplements and Injectable Substances Program Protocol.

The protocol must outline:

- regimes for their administration to greyhounds (e.g. how often are they administered, what means, etc.) and ongoing management of their use and,
- when they are used (they must also be recorded in the greyhound record).

Other key considerations include:

- all supplements and injectable substances must be individually labelled and kept in their original container or packaging and be stored according to manufacturer's directions,
- be easily identifiable,
- expired supplements and injectable substances must be disposed of according to relevant legislative requirements and,
- injectable substances must be administered under the direction of a veterinary practitioner.

! What is required?

- Read Section [6.1.3 Supplements and injectables substances](#) of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete an Oral supplements and injectable substances program Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Oral supplements and injectable substances program Protocol as part of your EHMP
- Make sure that you keep records as part of the greyhound record of the status of each greyhound in relation to oral supplements and injectable substances including management of any issues that arise.



Oral supplements and injectable substances program (cont.)

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Oral supplements and injectable substances program. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Oral supplements and injectable substances Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for oral supplements and injectable substances program



Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Supplementing the Diet





Grooming requirements

What is it?

All greyhounds must be groomed by brushing or bathing, whichever is necessary, at a frequency that ensures coats are kept in good, clean condition.

All greyhounds must have their toenails checked and trimmed at a frequency that prevents overgrowth.

! What is required?

- Read Section **6.2.4 Grooming and other requirements** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete a Grooming Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Grooming requirement Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Grooming requirement. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Grooming requirement Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for grooming requirements





Appropriate diet

What is it?

A balanced and appropriate diet (food and water) are key components for any greyhound. The Code requires that a Person in Charge develop an Appropriate diet Protocol which should stipulate your establishment's diet and nutrition management practices.

The Code requires that all greyhounds be fed at least once daily (weaned puppies under 16 weeks 3 times daily, 4-6 month old puppies 2 times daily).

Food must be provided in sufficient quantity and nutritional quality to meet the daily requirements for the condition, level of activity, age and size of the greyhound. Food must be canine appropriate.

Greyhounds must always also have access to a sufficient supply of fresh clean water.

While the Code recommends a daily volume of water of approximately 50 millilitres of water per one kilogram of body weight (for example 1.5 litres per day for a 30 kg greyhound); you may need to consider your own greyhound's health status and stage in their lifecycle to determine the appropriate amount for them.

! What is required?

- Read Section **6.1 Nutrition** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete an Appropriate diet Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Appropriate diet Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Appropriate diet for greyhounds.

An example Appropriate diet Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.



Appropriate diet (cont.)

Protocol for an appropriate diet



Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Raw meat-based diets: Things to consider

Greyhound Care and Standards: Health and Well-being

Greyhound Care and Standards: Supplementing the diet

Greyhound Care and Standards: Why a stable diet is crucial to success





Whelping greyhounds

What is it?

Whelping is a task that requires patience and care. Establishments that undertake whelping activities must develop a Whelping Protocol which is comprehensive, detailed and include contingencies in case an emergency occurs.

The Code outlines key areas that your protocol needs to include:

- 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 the Code,
- Advice of a veterinary practitioner must be immediately sought if there are any signs of abnormalities or concerns for the welfare of the female greyhound or puppies during the whelping process and,
- Oxytocin will only be administered under the advice or direction of a veterinary practitioner.

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 and,
- within 24 hours, clean the whelping area and change all bedding material.

! What is required?

- Read Section **6.3.6 Whelping** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete a Whelping Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Whelping Protocol as part of your EHMP only applies to Persons in Charge of Establishments that conduct whelping activities. Only complete if you intend to, or are undertaking, whelping activities.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Whelping. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Whelping Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.



Whelping greyhounds (cont.)

Protocol for whelping greyhounds



Links for more information:

Greyhound Care and Standards: Breeding tips with Barry Smith





Muzzling Protocol

What is it?

The Code requires that, if used, any muzzle must not restrict normal and necessary behaviour such as panting and drinking or cause pain or distress to the greyhound.

It's important that any muzzle fits correctly so that it's neither too small, nor too loose. There should be approximately 2-2.5 cm clear of the nose. If made of wire, the muzzle can be shaped to fit the greyhound by bending the nose and neck wires or sides of the muzzle.

Greyhounds must not be muzzled for more than 30 minutes at a time unless:

- being walked in public places,
- travelling,
- under strict, documented, direction by a veterinary practitioner,
- under GRV Steward direction,
- as part of a housing acclimatisation program as detailed in the establishment's EHMP.

The use of muzzles must consider weather conditions.

Any veterinary direction for muzzle use must be reviewed at least annually.



What is required?

- Read Section **6.2.5 Muzzling** of the Code to understand your obligations.
- Complete a Muzzling Protocol.

Records to be kept:

- Muzzling Protocol as part of your EHMP.

The EHMP Protocol

The Code does not provide a minimum protocol for Muzzling. This means that you will need to write one yourself.

An example Muzzling Protocol is available on the GRV Greyhound Care and Standards Code of Practice website.

Protocol for muzzling