

## The Code of Practice

### What is the Code of Practice?

The Code of Practice sets out minimum standards for the accommodation, management, breeding and care required to meet the needs of a racing greyhound throughout its life.

### Why is there a Code of Practice?

The Code of Practice was developed by the State Government after an investigation by Victoria's Chief Veterinary Officer into aspects of the greyhound racing industry.

The new Code of Practice covers the whole lifecycle of a greyhound, from whelp to retirement.

### When does the Code of Practice come into effect?

On Wednesday **1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020**.

### What do I need to do to be ready for the Code of Practice?

By 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020, you should have:

- Read the Code and become familiar with its main concepts
- Used the Establishment Health Management Plan (EHMP) template to create an EHMP for your establishment (or have created your own)
- Had a Vet approve your EHMP
- Complete the online Declaration (to confirm that you have an approved EHMP).

## EHMP (Establishment Health Management Plan)

### What is an EHMP?

An Establishment Health Management Plan (EHMP) is the collection of Protocols that describe how an establishment is managed, and how the greyhounds at that establishment are cared for.

### Who has to complete an EHMP?

Anyone who is the Person in Charge (PIC) of at least **one** racing greyhound needs to complete an EHMP for their establishment – and get vet approval of their EHMP - by 1st January 2020.

### **When do I have to get the EHMP done by?**

You need to write the EHMP, get it approved by a vet, and complete the online EHMP Declaration by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020

### **Does every person at a property have to complete an EHMP?**

No. Only the Person in Charge (PIC) needs to complete a vet-approved EHMP for their establishment by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

### **How do I write an EHMP?**

We recommend using the EHMP template developed by GRV. It contains the protocols you need for compliance with the Code of Practice.

You can choose to either tick a box to adopt the pre-written GRV protocols, or to write your own in the space provided on the template.

### **Does my usual vet have to sign off my EHMP?**

No. Any vet can sign off your EHMP if they approve your Protocols.

However, you might find it simplest to have your usual vet do the approval.

### **Once the Vet has approved my EHMP, what happens next?**

You will need to complete the GRV EHMP Declaration online (the declaration can only be completed online).

### **Who needs a copy of my EHMP?**

As the Person in Charge (PIC), you must keep a copy of your approved EHMP at your property, to be made available on request.

Do not send the EHMP to GRV.

## **Vets and the Code of Practice**

### **What do Vets need to do under the Code of Practice?**

Section 4.2 of the Code sets out the role of the vet (and the agreement between a vet and a participant), but everything else is an expectation of the participant.

### **Do EHMPs need to be approved in person?**

No. Participants can prepare an EHMP and send it via email or mail to a vet for approval (although you would need to confirm the vet's fee with them before you did so).

### **Does the approving vet have to be a participant's usual vet?**

No. Any vet can approve an EHMP, if they approve of the protocols in the EHMP.

## **Greyhound Record**

### **What is the Greyhound Record?**

It's similar to an eHealth record on FastTrack which will record all health care and veterinary treatments given to a greyhound during its life.

### **Is it part of the Code of Practice?**

Yes. The Code of Practice requires every greyhound to have a Greyhound Record from whelp.

### **What do I use the Greyhound Record for?**

To record health "events" for the greyhound. Examples of health events include: if the greyhound gets an injury or illness for which they then receive treatment; or if the greyhound is given vaccinations, supplements, or worm treatments.

### **How does a greyhound get a Greyhound Record?**

All greyhounds on FastTrack have already had a Greyhound Record automatically created for them.

### **How do I access them?**

Either:

- Click on the name of any dog on your "My Dogs" page, then click on the "Greyhound Record" tab on the right

Or:

- Click on "Actions" for any dog on your "My Dogs" page, and choose "Greyhound Record" from the menu

### **What if my greyhound is from Interstate?**

If you submit a kennel return for an interstate greyhound, a Greyhound Record will automatically be created for the greyhound on FastTrack. This should be used while the greyhound is resident in Victoria.

### **Who will have access to the Greyhound Record?**

Only the person who has completed a Kennel Return and has the greyhound located in their kennel, (the Person in Charge), will have access to the Greyhound Record.

### **Do I have to use the online Greyhound Record on FastTrack?**

No. You can use any form of paper or electronic record, as long as you capture the information required.

### **What if I've been given a copy of a greyhound's record on paper, but I want to use the online version?**

You will need to keep the paper-based records as evidence of the greyhound's health events prior to you receiving it.

If that greyhound moves from your establishment, you need to give a copy of its paper Record to the next person in charge, so they have the greyhound's full health history.

**What happens to the Greyhound Record when the greyhound moves to a new establishment?**

Once the new Person in Charge completes a Kennel Return, access to the Greyhound Record on FastTrack is automatically passed along to them.

Once that happens, you will not be able to view the Greyhound Record for that dog again. You should ensure that you download or make a copy of the greyhound's Record for your own records before this happens.

You should also make sure copies of any paper records for the greyhound go with the dog to its new establishment.

**Can I upload an attachment to the Greyhound Record?**

No. There is no way to upload any kind of file to the Greyhound Record.

If you have health event-related paperwork for a greyhound, you should keep copies, and remember to pass a copy on to whoever will be the next Person in Charge of the greyhound.

**What if I make a mistake when adding an Event to the online Record?**

There is no ability to edit, amend or delete an event once it has been saved to the Greyhound Record, so you will need to take care when entering information and submitting an Event.

**Can I edit an event after I have saved it to the online Greyhound Record?**

There is no ability to edit, amend or delete an event once it has been saved to the Greyhound Record, so you will need to take care when entering information and submitting an Event.

**What if the greyhound receives treatment arranged by someone who doesn't have access to the Greyhound record?**

An example of this would be a Breeder who subcontracts out the whelping of a litter. Information about any health events or treatments should be passed to the Person in Charge of the greyhound (who does have access to the Greyhound Record), so that they can enter and save these events to the Greyhound Record.