

## **PART 9: WELFARE OF GREYHOUNDS**

### **36 Welfare of Greyhounds**

- 36.1** A person shall not keep a greyhound in circumstances, which in the opinion of an officer of the Controlling Body, is or may be detrimental to the welfare of the greyhound.
- 36.2** A person responsible for the keeping of greyhounds shall comply with the requirements detailed in the Tasracing Greyhound Animal Welfare Manual.
- 36.3** A person shall not permit:
- (a) Any greyhound to be used for hurdle racing or for any type of hurdle education or training.
  - (b) A greyhound to enter or remain in a public place without an appropriate lead and muzzle, except as provided for in the Dog Control Act 2000.

### **36.4 Rehoming and notice requirements**

- (a) An owner must make all reasonable efforts to avoid euthanasia of their greyhound by finding it a suitable long-term home.
- (b) An owner must make application to the Controlling Body using the approved form, requesting permission to euthanase a greyhound. For the avoidance of doubt, an application under this sub-rule can only be lodged after the requirements of LR36.4(e) have been met.
- (c) The Controlling Body may deny any application which in their opinion does not meet the requirements of LR36.4(e).
- (d) Except in accordance with LR36.4(h), LR36.4(i) or LR36.4(j) an owner shall not euthanase a greyhound until written approval from the Controlling Body has been received.

#### ***Minimum requirements for rehoming***

- (e) Without limiting LR36.4(a), actions that an owner must take to find a suitable long-term home for their greyhound include:
  - (i) Notifying the Controlling Body of the commencement of a wind down period which comprises of at least 28 days during which the owner must ensure that:
    - (a) the greyhound has not engaged in any racing related activities, including but not limited to trialling, breaking, education, training or racing; and
    - (b) a record is kept of the genuine and daily efforts made to socialise the greyhound to non-training and non-racing settings and environments.
  - (ii) After the end of the wind down period under LR36.4(e)(i), make at least one genuine attempt of the following in order, unless successful in one of the previous attempts:
    - (a) Seek the greyhound's admission to the Greyhound Adoption Program Tasmania (GAP), and
    - (b) Seek to rehome the greyhound with at least two appropriate third parties who are capable of ensuring the welfare and well-being of the greyhound, and
    - (c) Seek to rehome the greyhound through at least one other animal adoption or rehoming agency.
- (f) A greyhound being rehomed under clause LR36.4(e)(ii)(b) or (c) must be de-sexed by a registered veterinarian prior to rehoming and a copy of the de-sexing certificate must be lodged with the Controlling Body unless admitted into the Greyhound Adoption Program Tasmania (GAP).

- (g) Where an application has been submitted under LR36.4(b) an owner must ensure the wind down activities detailed in LR36.4(e)(i) must continue until approval to euthanase has been granted by the Controlling Body.

***Medical exception from rehoming and notice requirements***

- (h) LR36.4(a) and LR36.4(b) do not apply if a registered veterinarian certifies, in the prescribed form, that the greyhound is suffering from an incurable condition or injury that causes significant pain or discomfort, or a marked reduction in quality of life.

***Legal exception from rehoming and notice requirements***

- (i) LR36.4(a) and LR36.4(b) do not apply if the greyhound is required to be euthanased to comply with law (e.g. Court order, or other legal authority).

***Behavioural exception from rehoming requirements***

- (j) LR36.4(a), LR36.4(b) and LR36.4(e)(ii) do not apply if GAP or another person(s) approved by the Controlling Body certifies, in the prescribed form, that the greyhound is displaying significant behavioural characteristics that negatively impact on its suitability as a pet, including aggression towards humans and / or other animals.

***Evidence of rehoming requirements***

- (k) An owner must:
  - (i) keep detailed records of their compliance with LR36.4, and
  - (ii) provide records and evidence kept under this rule to a Steward or the Controlling Body on request.

**36.5 Euthanasia**

- (a) If a greyhound is required to be euthanased, the only acceptable method of euthanasia is by an overdose of barbiturate administered by a registered veterinarian.
- (b) LR36.5(a) shall not apply if immediate euthanasia is obviously essential:
  - (i) to prevent the greyhound suffering from a catastrophic injury or medical condition/illness, and
  - (ii) the greyhound cannot be transported to a registered veterinarian within a period of one hour at regular driving speeds, and
  - (iii) the euthanasia is carried out under the direction of a registered veterinarian unless every avenue possible has been explored to contact a registered veterinarian in which case evidence of those efforts must be documented and provided to the Controlling Body.
- (c) The only acceptable option for euthanasia under LR36.5(b) to end the animal's suffering shall be by the use of a firearm by a person who is appropriately licenced under the Firearms Act 1996 and competent to ensure the humane euthanasia of the animal.
- (d) Where euthanasia is carried out under the direction of a registered veterinarian the owner or person responsible for the greyhound must obtain a written certificate or letter from the veterinarian providing details of the direction to euthanase under LR36.5(b).

**36.6 Where a greyhound has died (whether due to natural causes, accident, misadventure, euthanasia under LR36.5(b) or the cause is otherwise unknown):**

- (a) The owner or person responsible for the greyhound must notify the Controlling Body before the close of business on the next working day of the death and seek permission to dispose of the body of the deceased greyhound.

- (b) Upon notification in accordance with LR36.6(a) the Controlling Body may direct the owner or person responsible for the greyhound to provide the body of the deceased greyhound for inspection and/or to release the body to allow an autopsy to be performed by a registered veterinarian.
- 36.7 Within two working days of the death of the greyhound an approved form must be submitted to the Controlling Body together with a veterinary certificate of euthanasia where required (including, without limitation, the written certificate or letter referred to in LR36.5(d) or the documented efforts required under LR36.5(b)(iii)).
- 36.8 Notwithstanding the provisions of LR36.9, in the case of a greyhound being retired to a third party, the rules shall continue to apply during the time between the notification of retirement to the Controlling Body and the third party taking possession of the greyhound.
- 36.9 In the event that a registered greyhound is notified to the Controlling Body as being retired as a pet, transferred to an adoption program or surrendered to another agency it shall cease to be registered as a greyhound for the purposes of racing or breeding under the provisions of these rules.
- 36.10 A greyhound subject to the provisions of LR36.9 shall not be submitted for re-registration with any other Controlling Body.
- 36.11 The last registered owner of a greyhound notified to the Controlling Body as being retired as a pet, not being a greyhound transferred to an adoption program, surrendered to another agency or retired to a third party, may apply to the same Controlling Body for the re-registration of the greyhound for racing purposes irrespective of the period of retirement.
- 36.12 Prior to a re-registered greyhound being permitted to nominate for any Event, a veterinary clearance from the owner's private veterinarian must be lodged with the Controlling Body following which the greyhound must complete a Satisfactory Trial.
- 36.13 The use of any tanned and professionally processed sheep skin used as a lure or attached to a lure arm is permitted and shall not be deemed to create an offence under GAR86B or GAR86C, however the use of any other animal skin for any purpose, whether it be at any registered track or private residence, is deemed an offence under GAR86B or GAR86C.
- 36.14 (a) For the purpose of GAR86A, except as provided in LR36.13, a lure approved by a Controlling Body is one that:
  - (i) is made of synthetic materials only; and
  - (ii) may contain an audible device.
- (b) For the purpose of this rule, "synthetic materials" means non-animal derived materials.
- 36.15 Notwithstanding the penalties stipulated in GAR86B (1) a person who, in the opinion of the Stewards or Controlling Body is deemed guilty of an offence under the provisions of GAR86B (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (g) shall be disqualified for the period of their natural life.
- 36.16 Notwithstanding the penalties stipulated in GAR86B (2) a person who, in the opinion of the Stewards or Controlling Body is deemed guilty of an offence under the provisions the provisions of GAR 86B (2) shall be disqualified for a period of not less than 10 years.
- 36.17 An owner or person responsible at the relevant time who, in the opinion of the Stewards, fails to comply with any provision of Local Rule 36 shall be guilty of an offence and liable to penalty in accordance with GAR 95.