

	POLICY	
Greyhound Retirement Preparation Scheme (GRPS) Policy		
CONTROLLER: ANIMAL WELFARE	OWNER: CEO	
REVIEWED: 17 APRIL 2024	SCHEDULED REVIEW: NOV 2025	

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Greyhound Retirement Preparation Scheme (the Scheme) is to support the efforts of racing industry participants to rehome greyhounds, support compliance with the mandatory desexing requirements under the Greyhounds Australasia Rules and optimize overall greyhound health in retirement by providing reimbursement towards the cost of desexing, dental treatment, vaccination and pre-anaesthetic blood tests for greyhounds that have been retired as pets.

2. **SCOPE**

This Scheme applies to all Owners, Licensed Persons and Eligible Greyhounds.

From 1 May 2022, Greyhounds Australasia Rule 24 requires the mandatory sterilisation of greyhounds retired as a pet. Tasracing's Retirement policy states every greyhound retired as a pet must be surgically sterilised by a veterinarian prior to being retired as a pet or placed with a rehoming/adoption agency, including GAP Tasmania. A copy of the de-sexing certificate must be lodged with the Director of Racing, except where a veterinarian, after examining the greyhound, certifies, to the satisfaction of the Director, that being surgically sterilised would be detrimental to its welfare.

All *Owners and Licensed Persons* are required to comply with the Greyhounds Australasia Rules at all times. The notification of retirement of a greyhound must be submitted to the Tasmanian Office of Racing Integrity by lodging the prescribed form, pursuant to the Greyhounds Australasia Rules. This Scheme does not affect the application or operation of the Greyhounds Australasia Rules.

3. **POLICY STATEMENT**

DEFINITIONS

Applicant means the *Licensed Person* responsible for the care of an *Eligible Greyhound* that applies to Tasracing for reimbursement under the Scheme.

Breeding Female means a female *Eligible Greyhound* registered with a *Controlling Body* for breeding purposes.

Controlling Body means a relevant body or entity, provided for by legislation as having control of greyhound racing or an aspect of it in a state or territory of Australia or New Zealand. In Tasmania, a reference to a *Controlling Body* is a reference to Tasracing or the Tasmanian Office of Racing Integrity.

Eligible Greyhound means a canine of the greyhound breed which:

- a) Was registered pursuant to the Rules of a Controlling Body; and
- b) The Greyhound must be domiciled in Tasmania at the time of retirement;
AND
- c) Has been bred in Tasmania; OR
- d) Has had at least one race start in Tasmania; OR
- e) Has been domiciled in Tasmania with a licensed person for a minimum of six consecutive months at the time of lodging wind-down notification.

Licensed Person means a person licensed by a *Controlling Body*.

Owner means any person who has a legal or equitable interest in an *Eligible Greyhound*, including a lessee with an interest recorded with a *Controlling Body*.

Race Meeting means a meeting for conducting racing of registered animals (as those terms are defined in the *Racing Regulation Act 2004* (TAS)).

Tasracing means Tasracing Pty Ltd or the Tasmanian Racing Board.

Sire refers to a male *Eligible Greyhound* which is registered with a *Controlling Body* for breeding purposes.

Specified Expenses means expenses for desexing, dental prophylaxis and treatment (including extractions), vaccination and pre-anaesthesia blood tests (as those terms are defined in section 4.2 **Scheme Reimbursement**.)

4. **SCHEME DETAILS**

4.1 Greyhound Retirement Preparation Scheme

The Scheme applies where all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The *Eligible Greyhound* has been retired as a pet and a notification of retirement has been submitted to the Tasmanian Office of Racing Integrity pursuant to the Greyhounds Australasia Rules, within the twelve (12) months prior to the date of application to seek reimbursement under the Scheme.
- (b) The *Eligible Greyhound* was under the care of a *Registered Person* at the time that the veterinary treatment and/or procedures incurring the Specified Expenses was performed.
- (c) The *Eligible Greyhound* has completed a minimum of 14 days' winddown from the lodgment date of the notification of retirement prior to desexing or dental treatment being performed unless prior approval is granted by Tasracing.

- (d) Desexing and dental prophylaxis (+/- dental treatment) of the *Eligible Greyhound* must be performed prior to applying for reimbursement under the Scheme unless:
- i) The veterinarian certifies that the *Eligible Greyhound's* teeth do not require dental prophylaxis or dental treatment (including extractions) at the time of veterinary examination (meaning neither gingivitis nor periodontitis is present); or
 - ii) The veterinarian certifies that performing dental prophylaxis (+/- dental treatment) under general anaesthesia would be detrimental to the *Eligible Greyhound's* health; or
 - iii) The *Eligible Greyhound* has previously been desexed and only required dental prophylaxis (+/- dental treatment)
- (e) Reimbursement under the Scheme is for both desexing and dental prophylaxis/treatment, however dental-only applications will be accepted for *Eligible Greyhounds* that have already been desexed, provided that Tasracing is provided with evidence of prior desexing (e.g. a desexing certificate is supplied with the application form).
- (f) Reimbursement for desexing of a female *Eligible Greyhound* is not covered under the Scheme if the desexing is performed at the same time as a caesarean. For male *Eligible Greyhounds*, desexing means the removal of both testicles, or if one testicle has already been removed, the removal of the remaining testicle.
- (g) The *Eligible Greyhound* undergoing desexing and dental prophylaxis/treatment is also eligible for reimbursement for a vaccination (C5 or C7) and pre-anaesthesia blood tests (if applicable).
- (h) Veterinary services must be provided by a veterinarian located in Tasmania and registered with the Veterinary Board of Tasmania.
- (i) Veterinary treatment and/or procedures incurring the *Specified Expenses*, may be performed on an *Eligible Greyhound* at different times.
- (j) Only one application will be accepted in the lifetime of an *Eligible Greyhound*. *Specified Expenses* will be reimbursed, up to the state maximums, on one occasion only in the lifetime of an *Eligible Greyhound*.
- (k) The *Applicant* must provide evidence of having paid, in full, the amount invoiced by the treating veterinarian or veterinary practice for the *Specified Expenses*.
- (l) The invoice described at (j) must be in the name of the *Applicant*.

4.2 Scheme Reimbursement

Where the Scheme applies, Tasracing will reimburse the *Applicant*:

- a) Desexing costs (including veterinary consultation) up to a maximum of \$400 (incl GST) for male *Eligible Greyhounds*, + up to a maximum of an additional \$100 (incl GST) for Abdominal Cryptorchid/Rig where both testicles are removed during that treatment, or up to a maximum of \$500 (incl GST) for female *Eligible Greyhounds*; and

- b) Dental prophylaxis and treatment costs (combined) up to a maximum of \$200 (incl GST) if performed on the same day as desexing, or up to a maximum of \$400 if performed on a different day to desexing; and
- c) Vaccination costs (C5 or C7) (must be administered at time of desexing or dental treatment) up to a maximum of \$100 (incl GST); and
- d) Pre-anaesthesia blood tests for senior *Eligible Greyhounds* (7 years of age or older only) up to a maximum of \$100 (incl GST).

Other procedures that may be undertaken under general anaesthesia, such as nail clipping, are not covered under the Scheme.

The maximum total amount of reimbursement available under the Scheme for any individual *Eligible Greyhound* under seven (7) years of age is \$1,000 (incl GST) for male *Eligible Greyhounds* and \$1,000 (incl GST) for female *Eligible Greyhounds*, as per Table 1 below.

The total amount of reimbursement available under the Scheme for any individual *Eligible Greyhound* seven (7) years of age or older is \$1,100 (incl GST) for male *Eligible Greyhounds* and \$1,100 (incl GST) for female *Eligible Greyhounds*, as per Table 1 below.

Table 1: Breakdown of rebate per treatment

Procedure	Male Aged up to 7 years old	Male Aged 7 years + over	Female Aged up to 7 years	Female Aged 7 years + over
Desexing costs (incl veterinary consultation)	Up to \$400	Up to \$400	Up to \$500	Up to \$500
Abdominal Cryptorchid/Rig <i>*Both testicles must be removed for the additional \$100 payment to apply</i>	Up to \$100* (additional to desexing cost)	Up to \$100* (additional to desexing cost)		
Pre-anaesthesia blood test		Up to \$100		Up to \$100
Vaccination C5 or C7	Up to \$100	Up to \$100	Up to \$100	Up to \$100
Dental prophylaxis/treatment If dental treatment is performed on the day of desexing)	Up to \$200	Up to \$200	Up to \$200	Up to \$200
Dental prophylaxis/treatment (If dental treatment is performed on a different day to desexing)	Up to \$400	Up to \$400	Up to \$400	Up to \$400

Maximum Amount Claimable	1000 (GST incl)	\$1100 (GST incl)	\$1000 (GST incl)	\$1100 (GST incl)
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The Scheme offers a capped amount of reimbursement for the cost of desexing, dental prophylaxis/treatment, vaccination and pre-anaesthetic blood tests for *Eligible Greyhounds*. While it is anticipated that the reimbursement will cover the cost of the veterinary treatment in many circumstances, the actual cost of and payment for any treatment or procedure, including *Specified Expenses*, remains a matter between the *Applicant* and the veterinarian providing those services.

The *Applicant* is responsible for any and all costs incurred in relation to the veterinary treatments or procedures referred to in this Scheme performed on an *Eligible Greyhound*, including any costs associated with subsequent treatment or procedures, whether or not arising as a result of the initial treatments or procedures.

4.3 Application Process

- a) Application to Tasracing for reimbursement under this Scheme is made as follows:
 - i) Complete the Greyhound Retirement Preparation Scheme Application Form; and
 - ii) Provide all supporting documentation (that clearly identifies the *Eligible Greyhound*) required by Tasracing including:
 - A. Desexing Certificate; and
 - B. Vaccination Certificate (if applicable); and
 - C. Dental Certificate
 - D. Clinical notes from the veterinarian detailing all treatment and procedures performed; and
 - E. Itemised tax invoice (in the name of the *Applicant*) and receipt of payment for the *Specified Expenses* incurred.

- b) Applications to seek reimbursement under the Scheme may be submitted to Tasracing via online form at Tasracingcorporate.com.au/greyhound
Or by email to: welfare@tasracing.com.au
Or mailing : Attention: Greyhound Retirement Preparation Scheme
Tasracing
PO Box 730
Glenorchy Tas 7010

- c) Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

4.4 Consideration of Applications

- a) Where Tasracing is satisfied that:
 - i) The veterinary treatment of the *Eligible Greyhound* is eligible to be funded under the Scheme in accordance with Section 4.1 and 4.2; and
 - ii) The *Applicant* has complied with the application process set out in section 4.3;

Tasracing will make a single, lump sum payment to the *Applicant* within fourteen (14) business days, via electronic funds transfer (EFT) to the registered bank account of the *Applicant* (as per Tasracing records).

- b) Where Tasracing is not satisfied of either or both matters in sections 4.4 a) i) or 4.4 a) ii), Tasracing will notify the *Applicant* that they are not eligible to receive reimbursement under the Scheme.
- c) All decisions by Tasracing regarding applications under this Greyhound Retirement Rebate Scheme are final and binding on the *Applicant*.

5. COMPLIANCE

Tasracing may review, amend or discontinue this Scheme from time to time. Changes will be notified by posting an updated version of this Scheme or a notice on the Tasracing website (<http://www.tasracingcorporate.com.au>)

6. POLICY REVIEW CYCLE

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or when appropriate.

7. DOCUMENT CONTROL

Date	Version	Author	Approved by
15 JAN 2024	1.1	Dr Martin Lenz Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer	CEO
22 FEB 2024	1.2	Dr Martin Lenz Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer	CEO
17 APR 2024	1.3	Dr Martin Lenz Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer	CEO
05 JUN 2024	1.4	Dr Martin Lenz Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer	CEO