



Racing Industry Greyhounds

Animal Welfare (Racing Industry Greyhounds) Code of Welfare 2013



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1. Introduction

1.1 What is the purpose of this code of welfare?

Owners and persons in charge of racing industry greyhounds have a responsibility to understand and meet the welfare needs of their greyhounds. The purpose of this code is to encourage all those responsible for racing industry greyhounds to adopt the highest standards of husbandry, care and handling.

The code sets minimum standards for the care and management of racing industry greyhounds. It includes and builds upon the minimum standards of the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 with minimum industry standards acceptable for persons licensed as owners or trainers of any kind by the New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association. The code also includes recommendations for best practice to encourage standards of care better than just the minimum.

NAWAC considers that the minimum standards and recommendations for best practice of the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 are generally applicable across all dogs in all situations. The way in which a minimum standard is achieved, however, may depend on the context in which it is being considered.

This code acts as a supplementary code to the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 to provide a specific context for racing industry greyhounds and should be read in conjunction with that code. The general information provided in that code will not be replicated in this code although the defined minimum standards are replicated in this code to reinforce their importance and the communication of them. Specific information relevant to racing industry greyhounds where supplementary to the general information provided in the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 is noted in this code.

Advice is given to encourage a high level of welfare. Explanatory material is provided where appropriate.

1.2 Who does this code apply to?

This code applies to all persons licensed by NZGRA who are responsible for the welfare of racing industry greyhounds.

1.3 What animals does this code apply to?

The code applies to all greyhounds kept by persons licensed by NZGRA, including puppies and young greyhounds not yet registered as racing greyhounds, registered racing greyhounds, those kept for breeding and those kept as pets.

1.4 What happens if I do not follow the minimum standards in this code?

Failure to meet a minimum standard in this code may be used as evidence to support a prosecution for an offence under the Animal Welfare Act. A person who is charged with an offence can defend him or herself by showing that he or she has equalled or exceeded the minimum standards in this code.

Failure to meet an industry minimum acceptable standard may be used as evidence to support a charge for an offence under the NZGRA Rules.

Under the NZGRA rules any Person found guilty of an offence under this Code shall be liable to:

- (a) a fine not exceeding \$10,000.00 for any one (1) Offence; and/or
- (b) Suspension; and/or
- (c) Disqualification; and/or
- (d) Warning Off

1.5 How does this code relate to other codes of welfare?

This code acts as a supplementary code to the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 to provide a specific context for racing industry greyhounds and should be read in conjunction with that code. Other codes of welfare may also be relevant to the welfare of racing industry greyhounds and should be consulted where appropriate (see the Ministry for Primary Industries website at: www.mpi.govt.nz).

2. Ownership of Racing Industry Greyhounds

2.1 Purchasing a Racing Industry Greyhound

Introduction:

People considering acquiring a racing industry greyhound need to consider the facilities the dog will need including housing, the potential cost of keeping the dog, its exercise requirements and the amount of time that the owner can devote to it during its lifetime.

Greyhounds usually retire from racing at around the age of four years old. As an owner of a racing industry greyhound, you are responsible for the greyhounds you own and you are required to think and act in a mature way when considering the future of your greyhounds if and when they retire as racing or breeding greyhounds.

Greyhound Racing New Zealand can assist owners to find local public trainers in your area. Public trainers are allowed to train greyhounds owned by anyone involved in greyhound racing.

NZGRA has a separate qualification process for becoming a greyhound trainer. For persons intending to become greyhound trainers, it would also be advisable to seek advice from existing trainers to provide an indication of the time and resource commitments needed to become a successful trainer. GRNZ can assist in introducing you to a trainer. Training greyhounds is a seven day a week commitment.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 1 – Owning a Racing Industry Greyhound

- (a) Any person wishing to own a racing industry greyhound must be licensed by GRNZ. The process to become licensed includes agreeing to be bound by all GRNZ rules.
- (b) GRNZ has a separate qualification process for becoming a greyhound trainer. For persons intending to become greyhound trainers, it would also be advisable to seek advice from existing trainers to provide an indication of the time and resource commitments needed to become a successful trainer. GRNZ can assist in introducing you to a trainer. Training greyhounds is a seven day a week commitment.
- (c) All Dog Control Act 1996 requirements for the registration and microchipping of dogs must be adhered to.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Before acquiring a racing industry greyhound, intending owners should seek advice from experts such as reputable breeders, veterinarians or the New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association on breed and lifestyle suitability, potential inherited medical problems and behavioural tendencies. Intending owners should be realistic about their ability to provide for the dog's needs, particularly when it ceases to be an active racing greyhound.
- (b) When acquiring a dog, the new owner should be provided with information about:
 - i) settling the dog into its new environment;
 - ii) feeding requirements from puppy to adulthood;
 - iii) ongoing care;

- iv) behaviour training including basic toilet training;
- v) vaccinations, flea and worming treatments;
- vi) current feeding regime, along with one or two days' supply of food, and an understanding of the importance of making gradual changes to the diet.

2.2 Relinquishing (Changing) Ownership

Introduction:

Racing industry greyhounds change ownership for a variety of reasons. They may be sold by a breeder to new owners and owners may change during the greyhound's racing career. The keeper of the greyhound may also change if the owner changes the greyhound's trainer during its career.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 2 – Relinquishing (Changing) Ownership

- (a) The ownership of greyhounds that are registered as racing greyhounds and which are intended to continue to be raced may be transferred or leased to a new owner. Any new owner must be already registered as a licensed person by GRNZ.
- (b) A Greyhound de-registered from racing or a greyhound registered but unnamed as a racing greyhound can be sold or gifted to another party provided that suitable care and welfare will be provided and that the full identity and contact details of new owner are provided to GRNZ on the prescribed form with the necessary declaration completed. GRNZ requires all reasonable care to be taken by the Licensed Person in selling, gifting or placing the Greyhound.
- (c) The last registered owner is responsible for the welfare of a racing industry greyhound and also for making acceptable arrangements for his/her retired or unraced greyhound as follows:
 - (i) the Greyhound be retained as a pet, or
 - (ii) the Greyhound be boarded at a Licensed Kennel, or
 - (iii) the Greyhound be boarded at a Kennel licensed by the local authority, or
 - (iv) the Greyhound be found a home through the GAP scheme, or
 - (v) the Greyhound be sold or found a home, responsibly, or
 - (vi) if it is necessary for the Greyhound to be euthanized either on humane grounds or because none of the above options are available, the owner ensuring that such euthanasia is carried out by a registered Veterinary Surgeon.

3. Food and Water

Introduction:

Dogs need a balanced daily diet in quantities that meet their requirements for health and welfare and to maintain their ideal bodyweight. Home-made diets may not contain all the nutrients required. A diet of lean-meat only is not balanced and is not appropriate for prolonged periods. Specialised diets are available for dogs with some specific health problems.

Food and nutrient requirements of dogs vary widely. Factors to be considered include the dog (i.e. its age, sex, size, state of health, growth rate, breed, level of activity and exercise, and physiological state), and the food (i.e. its nutritional composition, quality and frequency of feeding). Consideration should also be given to previous feeding levels, the introduction of a new food and any potential periods of food deprivation (e.g. during transportation).

Greyhounds must receive appropriate and sufficient food and water at all times to maintain good health and growth, recognising the special needs of differing ages.

3.1 Food and Feeding

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 1 – Food and Feeding

Dogs must receive adequate quantities of nutritious food to enable each dog to:

- (i) maintain good health;
- (ii) meet its physiological demands, including those resulting from the level of physical activity, growth, pregnancy, lactation and exposure to cold; and
- (iii) avoid metabolic and nutritional disorders.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 3 – Food and Feeding

- (a) All greyhounds must receive appropriate, uncontaminated and nutritionally adequate food according to the accepted requirements for their activity levels and age.
- (b) Healthy mature greyhounds in race training must be fed at least once each day so as to provide adequate nutrition for their race training needs.
- (c) Food must be stored appropriately in a secure hygienic area, i.e. dry food kept in a rodent-free place and fresh meat kept refrigerated.
- (d) Food and water containers must be stable, non-toxic, and easily cleaned/disinfected. Containers should be readily accessible to greyhounds, and be positioned to avoid spillage or contamination by urine or faeces.
- (e) Spoiled food must be removed

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) A variety of foods should be supplied. Fresh meat and quality dry foods will form the staple diet in most cases.
- (b) All healthy greyhounds should be fed at least once each day, or more frequently if pregnant or nursing puppies.
- (c) Puppies from time of weaning to four months of age should be fed small quantities at regular intervals three to four times throughout the day.
- (d) Puppies from the age of four to nine months should be fed two to three times a day.
- (e) Greyhounds over the age of nine months should be fed at least once a day; however, the optimum frequency of feeding will vary depending on the breed and the dog's level of activity. The feeding regime should be modified as necessary to maintain optimum body weight and health. If there is any doubt concerning feeding regimes, advice should be sought from an appropriate source.
- (f) Sick greyhounds should be fed in accordance with veterinary advice. Prescription diets for certain medical conditions should be fed as instructed by a veterinarian or other experienced person.
- (g) Food and water containers must be non-spillable and of a design that can be easily cleaned and does not cause injury to the greyhounds. They should also be cleaned at least once a day.
- (h) One feeding container should be provided for each greyhound or puppy.
- (i) Uneaten food should be removed and disposed of daily so that it does not spoil or attract vermin.

3.2 Body Condition

Introduction:

Whilst the minimum standard below applies to all dogs, the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 also states "Some breeds that are naturally thin (e.g. whippets, greyhounds) or that perform high levels of activity (e.g. some working dogs) may exhibit a body condition below that listed as 'ideal' in Appendix I: Assessment of Body Condition of Dogs."

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 2 – Body Condition

- (a) If a dog is exhibiting a body condition score "thin" (as defined in Appendix I: Assessment of Body Condition of Dogs in the Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010) in conjunction with any other physical or behavioural indicators of malnutrition, appropriate remedial action through veterinary attention or improved nutrition must be taken.
- (b) If a dog is exhibiting a body condition score "grossly obese" (as defined in Appendix I: Assessment of Body Condition of Dogs), veterinary advice must be sought and remedial action taken to decrease body weight using a planned exercise programme to increase energy expenditure and dietary modification to reduce energy intake.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 4 – Body Condition

- (a) Where the weight of a greyhound recorded at a meeting varies by more than 1.5 kilograms from the weight recorded in a race in which it last performed that greyhound shall be permitted to compete in the current race but the trainer of the greyhound shall be guilty of an offence under GRNZ rules unless permission has been granted as per (b) below.
- (b) Where a greyhound is presented for a race and such greyhound is competing for a trainer other than the trainer at its last start the stewards shall waive any penalty that would otherwise be imposed for any weight variance. Permission shall be granted by stewards for a greyhound recording a weight variance of more than 1.5 kilograms to start in a race provided that such greyhound has not performed in any race during the preceding 28 days, and no fine shall be imposed.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) A greyhound's body condition score should be maintained at "ideal" as defined in Appendix I: Assessment of Body Condition of Dogs.
- (b) If a greyhound is "heavy" according to Appendix I: Assessment of Body Condition of Dogs in this code, appropriate remedial action should be taken to decrease body weight using a planned exercise programme to increase energy expenditure and dietary modification to reduce energy intake.

3.3 Water

Introduction:

Water is essential and regular access to good quality water is necessary for all dogs.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 3 – Water

Dogs must have frequent access to water, appropriate to their needs, that is palatable to the dog, not harmful to health and available in quantities sufficient to maintain vital bodily functions.

4. Containment and Tethering

Introduction:

Containment of unsupervised dogs prevents them injuring or otherwise harming themselves, other dogs and people. The length of time that dogs are contained or tethered, and the way that it is done, can have a significant impact on their welfare. Prolonged containment or tethering can have a significant negative impact on the physical and mental health of dogs and the need for exercise, as well as access to food, water and shelter while in containment all have to be considered.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 4 – Containment and Tethering

- (a) Dogs must not be contained or tethered in a way that causes them injury or distress.
- (b) Collars must fit comfortably without damaging the skin or restricting breathing.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Owners should keep their dog under control at all times. This is best achieved by providing a secure but confined environment where dogs can roam. If a property is not appropriately fenced then the dog should be kept indoors or provided with an outdoor kennel with an attached run or a tether.
- (b) Dogs should not be left unattended or routinely tethered by choke-chains or other devices which tighten around the neck.
- (c) Collars should be checked frequently, particularly in young growing dogs, and loosened if they become tight to prevent effects such as chafing of the skin or restriction of breathing.

5. Kennelling, Shelter and Ventilation

Introduction:

Dogs need access to shelter that provides warmth, and is free from draughts and excessive heat or cold, to meet their physical needs. They also need a dry bed and enough space to lie down, stand and turn around.

A dog may share a human dwelling, or be provided with shelter by a kennel, night box or crate. A kennel may be in a larger secure area or have an enclosed run attached so the dog has free access, or the dog may be tethered to the kennel. Dogs in racing kennels may be housed close to each other or in a communal area. Attention needs to be paid to space allowance and congestion within such kennels to limit the opportunity for disease to spread and reduce the risk of confrontation.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 5 – Kennelling, Shelter and Ventilation

- (a) Dogs must be provided with sheltered and dry sleeping quarters.
- (b) Measures must be taken to enable dogs to keep warm in cold weather.
- (c) Sleeping quarters must be large enough to allow the dog to stand up, turn around and lie down comfortably.
- (d) Dogs must be able to urinate and defaecate away from the sleeping area.
- (e) Ventilation and shade must be provided in situations where dogs are likely to experience heat distress.

5.1 Kennel Construction

Introduction:

The accommodation of racing industry greyhounds should be of a standard which ensures their security, safety and wellbeing.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 5 – Kennel Construction

- (a) Vehicles, caravans, trailers, portable crates or the crawl space under any dwelling must not be used for accommodation for greyhounds.
- (b) Designated kennels must be designed and constructed, serviced and maintained in a way that provides for good health and well-being of greyhounds, which prevents the transmission of infectious disease agents, the escape of greyhounds and does not cause injury risk to either greyhounds or humans.
- (c) Kennels constructed must be compliant with local government (council) regulations.
- (d) Greyhounds must be provided with protection from rain and wind, direct sunlight, extremes of temperature or other adverse weather conditions and must be provided with a clean and dry dedicated sleeping area, with flooring to be of fixed construction or concrete. Outdoor kennels must be partially enclosed to provide sheltered sleeping areas.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 5 – Kennel Construction

- (e) Adequate fencing must exist to prevent escape of greyhounds and to provide a secure environment for their accommodation and training whilst minimising the impact on surrounding properties.
- (f) All sleeping areas for greyhounds must have clean, hygienic, dry bedding sufficient to insulate them from the floor.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Kennels should be constructed of solid, non-permeable materials, preferably raised above ground level, be stable, draught-free and of sufficient size to comfortably house each dog.
- (b) Dogs should not be required to sleep on concrete or metal surfaces. Where kennel and run areas are made of these materials dogs should be provided with a raised platform, shelf or other type of bed made of a softer material on which to sleep.
- (c) Kennels should be easily cleanable and well drained.
- (d) Kennels should be connected to a sewer or on a septic system in accordance with the requirement of the local government or relevant authority; or have some other adequate and acceptable method of disposal of faeces and other liquid waste.
- (e) Housing should be sited to provide shelter from cold, wet and windy weather, and to provide shade on hot sunny days, with the ideal area providing both shade and sun. Shade is especially important during the hottest part of the summer when artificial shade should be provided where no natural shade exists.
- (f) Where a number of dogs are kept together, such as in a boarding kennels or pet shops, ventilation should be controlled to manage dampness and noxious odours and to minimise the airborne spread of infectious diseases such as kennel cough.
- (g) Dogs should only be housed communally if they are known to interact well together, or are kept under observation to ensure that they do not fight.
- (h) Kennels should be high enough to permit ease of maintenance and cleaning by an adult.

5.2 Kennel Size

Introduction

Information on appropriate design of kennels may be obtained from GRNZ, the New Zealand Kennel Club, a veterinarian, or an animal welfare organisation specialising in the care of companion animals.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 6 – Kennel Size

- (a) Kennel areas must provide at least enough space for each animal to feed, sleep, sit, stand, lie with limbs extended, stretch and move about.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 6 – Kennel Size

- (b) All new kennels for adult dogs (those constructed after the issuance of this policy), including sleeping quarters and runs, must meet the following requirements:
- (i) Racing Kennel – Minimum size = 3 sq.m (e.g. 2m x 1.5m x 1.2H)
A kennel enclosure for housing a single greyhound in race training, generally situated within a secure building and designed to encourage the greyhound to rest.
Fencing must be appropriately constructed and well maintained fencing mesh being 1.8m high on a concrete or fixed base.
Posts may be steel and/or wood. Fencing should be strained as appropriate to ensure the security of the greyhound.
 - (ii) Day / Spelling Yard – Minimum size not less than 6sq.m
(if provided) A wire mesh enclosed space and often with an associated kennel, where a single greyhound may spend short periods of time recuperating outdoors.
Fencing must be a minimum of 1.7m and further 0.1m should be buried into the ground to prevent digging and getting out.
Provision for shade either natural or a permanent structure must be provided.
 - (iii) Exercise Yard – (if provided) A series of two or more fenced enclosures used to exercise greyhounds adjacent to each other. Each yard is generally 30 to 50m in length and 3 to 4 m wide but may vary in shape dependent on site characteristics.
Fencing must be a minimum of 1.2m high. Consideration should be given for shading to be provided if greyhounds are to be exposed for an extended period of time.

5.3 Kennel Environment

Introduction:

The environment of racing industry greyhounds should be of a standard which ensures their security, safety and wellbeing.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 7 – Kennel Environment

- (a) Greyhounds must be protected from extremes of temperature.
- (b) All solid surfaces of greyhound enclosures must be impervious or painted, to facilitate cleaning and disinfection. Only non-toxic paint should be used in greyhound enclosures.
- (c) Ventilation must be sufficient to avoid excessive heat or cold, dampness and draughts, and minimise noxious odours. Temperatures should be maintained between 15 to 25 degrees Celsius which includes racing kennel blocks.
- (d) Greyhounds must not be in extended contact with wet floors.
- (e) The duration and intensity of artificial lighting, where used, must be as close as possible to natural conditions. Greyhounds must be protected from excessive light which is generated from an external source.
- (f) Lighting must be sufficient to enable thorough inspection of greyhounds.
- (g) Care must be taken to ensure that lights do not generate excessive heat.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Greyhound kennels should be located away from sources of excessive noise or pollution that could stress or injure greyhounds and positioned in a shaded area where possible.
- (b) Kennels should not be located in areas that are prone to flooding.
- (c) Measures should be in place to minimise the deterioration of exercise areas to bare earth, i.e. turf, concrete or suitable animal flooring.
- (d) Where kennels are indoors the environment should be controlled to ensure the comfort of the greyhound, inclusive of indoors temperature, humidity and appropriate ventilation. Lighting should be as close as possible in duration and intensity to natural conditions.
- (e) Measures should be in place to reduce the impact of sudden noise.
- (f) Noise from barking dogs should be managed to comply with local government noise regulation and to minimise impact on neighbours with consideration of:
 - Liberal use of sound proofing or suitable construction materials that reduce noise.
 - Care with greyhound placement to avoid unnecessary arousal
 - Limiting external stimulation, e.g. partitioning dog housing as required.
 - Taking care to exercise greyhounds away from kennelled greyhounds.

5.4 Kennel Security

The accommodation and environment of racing industry greyhounds should be of a standard which ensures their security, safety and wellbeing.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 8 – Kennel Security

- (a) The kennel facility must be reasonably secure to prevent access by unauthorised people.
- (b) Each kennel must be fitted with a secure closing devise that cannot be opened by greyhounds with double barriers (a secure area outside the immediate kennels) recommended to prevent the escape of greyhounds.
- (c) Provision for fire fighting equipment must be readily available and an emergency exit plan as required.
- (d) All potential poisons and harmful substances, whether in storage or use, must be kept secure and out of reach of greyhounds.
- (e) Prescribed veterinary products must be kept secure with all treatments administered recorded for each greyhound.
- (f) Appropriate fire fighting equipment must be readily available and staff trained and practised in its use.
- (g) Emergency procedures should be developed for the safe evacuation of both humans and greyhounds from a kennel block in case of an emergency.

6. Sanitation

Introduction:

Good hygiene is important in order to maintain the health and welfare of dogs and to minimise disease and distress.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 6 – Sanitation

- (a) Faeces and urine must not be permitted to accumulate to such an extent that they pose a threat to the health or welfare of the dog.
- (b) Food and water containers must be kept clean of contamination that may pose a threat to the health or welfare of the dog.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 9 – Sanitation

- (a) Faeces, urine and food wastes must be removed at least once a day from kennels and exercise areas, with faeces disposed of in a hygienic manner and in accordance with the requirements of the local government authority.
- (b) Kennel enclosures should be disinfected at least once a week with practices in place to minimise odour from kennels.
- (c) Exercise areas must be cleaned daily.
- (d) Food preparation and storage areas must be maintained in a hygienic standard.
- (e) Collection drains must be cleaned daily.
- (f) Pests, including external parasites and rodents, must be controlled.
- (g) Specialist advice should be sought before pest control operations are conducted, in order to protect the health and safety of the staff and the greyhounds.
- (h) Any cleaning, disinfecting and pest control agents should be chosen on the basis of suitability, safety and effectiveness. Manufacturer's instructions for the use of these agents should be followed as too concentrated a solution may be toxic to animals.
- (i) Prescribed veterinary products must be kept secure with all treatments administered recorded for each greyhound.

Recommended Best Practice:

Where larger and/or changing populations of dogs are kept, hygiene measures should be of a high standard to minimise the risk of cross-infection.

7. Transportation

Introduction:

Racing industry greyhounds are frequently transported in a variety of vehicles. The Animal Welfare Act 1999 requires that every person in charge of a vehicle must ensure that any animal carried in a vehicle is secured and its welfare attended to. Additional information about transport is available in the Animal Welfare (Transport of Animals in New Zealand) Code of Welfare 2011.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 20 – Transportation

- (a) Dogs must be provided with adequate ventilation when being carried in a vehicle.
- (b) Dogs must not be transported loose in a stock crate with livestock.
- (c) If dogs are carried in a purpose-built transport box fixed to a vehicle, it must be well-ventilated and free from exhaust fumes and road dust.
- (d) Except for working dogs at work, dogs must not be carried on the open rear of a moving vehicle unless they are secured or enclosed in a crate.
- (e) Dogs must not be left unattended in a vehicle in conditions where the dog is likely to suffer from heat stress.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 10 – Transportation

- (a) Trainers must ensure that at all times their greyhounds are transported in a way that does not cause injury or distress. For example, to and from race meetings, training sites, exercise sites, veterinary visits, stud purposes, when sold or otherwise disposed of, and any other reasons for travel.
- (b) Trainers must ensure that their greyhounds travel in suitable modes of transport.
These include:
 - (i) Enclosed trailer - insulated and ventilated;
 - (ii) In car with owner or handler; and
 - (iii) In rear compartment of station wagon.Modes of transport that are not suitable are:
 - (i) Wire cages in trailers or utilities, etc. which are open to the elements, and
 - (ii) Non-ventilated or non-insulated trailers.
- (c) All transportation vehicles must be roadworthy and hold current warrants and certificates of fitness.
- (d) Trainers must ensure that the mode of transport used has no protuberances that could injure the animal during transport.
- (e) Trainers must also ensure that the greyhound has enough room to stretch adequately in a standing position as well as being able to lie down comfortably during transport.
- (f) Trainers must ensure that good quality water is provided to each greyhound at least every six hours, or more frequently on hot or humid days. Provision of electrolytes should also be considered in extreme hot or humid conditions.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 10 – Transportation

- (g) A greyhound should not be kept in a mode of transport for more than 6 hours without breaks provided. A break should consist of being let out of the mode of transport for at least ten minutes.
- (h) Before the commencement of each trip the owner must ensure that the mode of transport is in a sanitary condition. It must also be kept in a clean condition for the entire duration of each trip.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should be transported using a specially designed, climate-controlled travelling crate if possible.
- (b) Dogs should not be carried in the closed boot of a car unless they are injured and this is the most appropriate manner in which to transport them over a short distance.
- (c) When dogs are transported on the back of trucks or in vans, non-slip surfaces should be provided.
- (d) If a dog is transported on the back of or on the fuel tank of a farm motorbike, the driver should provide a non-slip cover for the dog to assist it to retain balance when the vehicle is moving at speed or cornering.
- (e) Dogs should not be left unattended in vehicles. If a dog must be left in a vehicle even for a short time, the vehicle should be parked in shade with more than one window left open to allow air to circulate so that heat stress will not occur.
- (f) Dogs should not be carried on the open back of vehicles during extremes of weather unless shelter is provided.
- (g) When dogs are tethered on the back of an open vehicle for transport, the securing lead or chain should be attached so that the cab provides protection against the wind.
- (h) When dogs are tethered on the back of an open vehicle for transport, the securing lead or chain should be long enough to permit the dog to stand, lie down and move about but short enough to prevent the dog's legs from reaching the side of the tray so that it cannot fall off or enter the cab of the vehicle.
- (i) When groups of dogs are transported together, submissive dogs should be protected from those that are more dominant by physical separation or restraint that prevents aggressive interaction.
- (j) When dogs are transported together in a group, there should be easy and safe access to all dogs by the owner or person in charge.
- (k) Dogs awaiting loading onto aircraft should be kept in a secure, tranquil and quiet environment and should be sheltered from the elements.

8. Exercise

Introduction:

Exercise is extremely important for both physical and mental health, particularly where dogs are confined for prolonged periods, and also helps to meet dogs' social needs. Insufficient exercise can contribute to the development of behaviour problems. Exercise is usually a matter of walking and running on or off a leash, but dogs are also exercised in other ways, for example by swimming or using exercise equipment such as treadmills.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 13 – Exercise

- (a) Dogs must receive daily exercise sufficient to maintain their health and well-being.
- (b) Dogs must be supervised at all times when exercising with exercise equipment such as treadmills, to limit the risk of injury or over-exercise.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 11 – Exercise

- (a) Dogs must have the opportunity once or twice a day for exercise to:
 - (i) Allow them to be checked over;
 - (ii) Allow them to stretch their limbs; and
 - (iii) Give them contact with humans.
- (b) Exercise can be provided by walking dogs on a lead for a minimum of 30 minutes once daily or 15 minutes twice daily. Very active, very old or injured dogs may require more or less exercise than the above.
- (c) If the dog is not being raced it should be given an opportunity to be exercised in a suitable training area.
- (d) A walking machine can be used to assist in exercising greyhounds, but should not be seen as a replacement for external walking and environmental stimulation.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should have at least 60 minutes every day off the lead or chain or out of the run, with freedom to explore their immediate environment. However, owners should seek advice on the appropriate amount of exercise for their dog according to its age, breed and individual circumstances.
- (b) Dogs being exercised should be under control at all times, or exercised in an enclosed area where they cannot come to harm.
- (c) People training dogs for agility competitions or other impact sports should consider the stage of skeletal development, follow a structured training process and seek advice from skilled professionals. This is particularly important for dogs under the age of 18 months.
- (d) The level of exercise should be appropriate for the age and level of fitness of the dog.
- (e) Bitches should not be worked or exercised hard in the last two weeks of pregnancy.
- (f) Bitches should not be worked until their puppies are close to weaning.

9. Breeding

Introduction:

Most new breeders are unaware of the amount of time, effort and money that goes into successfully producing a litter of pups. Breeding a litter takes a lot of thought, preparation and cost. There is the extra care and supervision of the bitch, followed by the enormous amount of work when the puppies arrive. A separate breeding programme is in place for racing industry greyhounds which licensed persons must comply with.

Unplanned breeding can create a major animal welfare problem as the resulting puppies are often unwanted and so can experience insufficient care or inappropriate disposal, with detrimental effects.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 12 – Breeding

All breeders of racing industry greyhounds must be registered as breeders with GRNZ. The registration process includes the approval of breeding facilities and education and assessment programs for new breeders in breeding techniques, difficulties and costs.

- 1) A greyhound bitch must not be mated, inseminated or otherwise used for breeding purposes unless the bitch has reached the age of 15 months.
- 2) A greyhound bitch should not give birth to more than 6 litters during her lifetime. GRNZ may permit a greyhound bitch to give birth to no more than TWO additional litters to the 6 litters referred to in subsection (2) if,
 - i) Prior to a mating or insemination leading to such birth—(a) a veterinary practitioner certifies that the pregnancy and birth do not present a risk to the health or welfare of the bitch, and (b) the certificate is lodged with GRNZ.
- 3) No bitch can be served upon reaching her 9th birthday
- 4) A bitch needs a break of at least one heat cycle after whelping two consecutive litters (if she cycles every 6 months)

9.1 Inherited Disorders

Introduction:

Indiscriminate breeding without regard to inherited disorders can compromise dog welfare due to increased risk of conditions such as hip dysplasia, difficulty breathing and blindness, and of undesirable traits such as bad temperament.

Information on inherited disorders of Greyhounds is available from GRNZ and from veterinarians.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 7 – Breeding

Breeders must make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the genetic make-up of both sire and dam will not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of known inherited disorders.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Breeders should report the occurrence of inherited disorders to the GRNZ Welfare Officer to assist progress in reducing these disorders and identify carrier dogs.
- (b) Breeders should follow a documented scheme that allows for monitoring and eventual prevention of known inherited disorders.
- (c) Dogs and bitches should not be kept together if there is a risk of accidental mating.
- (d) All dogs being considered for mating should be tested for inherited disorders where such tests are available. For those inherited disorders where no suitable test is available, occurrence of inherited disorders in their genealogy should be assessed. Veterinary or other appropriate advice should be sought in this respect.

9.2 Desexing**Introduction:**

Desexing of dogs is a significant surgical procedure under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 and must only be carried out by a veterinarian or veterinary student under direct supervision.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs that have or are likely to develop known inherited faults should be desexed as early as practicable once the condition has been identified.
- (b) Racing industry greyhounds retired from racing and breeding should be desexed prior to being rehomed to enable better control of the greyhound population, reduce the surplus of unwanted greyhounds and protect the greyhound's health and well-being.

9.3 Bitches in heat and mating**Introduction:**

Bitches generally come into heat (oestrus) at intervals of about six to ten months. Each heat period lasts approximately three weeks.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Only dogs in good health and physical condition should be used for breeding.
- (b) Bitches should not be intentionally mated:
 - i) at less than twelve months of age; or
 - ii) on their first heat.
- (c) Veterinary advice should be sought before:
 - i) mating bitches of seven years of age or more; or
 - ii) mating bitches for the first time at 5 years of age or more.
- (d) Bitches should be well grown before mating.
- (e) Bitches should not be mated so as to whelp and rear litters on consecutive seasons.

- (f) Bitches in heat should be carefully supervised or securely contained to prevent physical contact with male dogs and unwanted mating.
- (g) Preventative health care in the form of vaccination and parasite control should be carried out on bitches and dogs to be used for breeding, under veterinary advice.
- (h) Mating dogs should be allowed to separate naturally.

9.4 Pregnancy, Whelping and Lactation

Introduction:

The length of gestation in the dog is about 63 days. Information about the stages of pregnancy, whelping and lactation can be obtained from experts such as veterinarians and dog breeders.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 8 – Whelping

- (a) Bitches that are due to whelp, or are whelping, must be provided with a suitable whelping area in a safe, warm and quiet environment.
- (b) Bitches that are due to whelp must be inspected frequently to ensure that they are not experiencing whelping difficulties.
- (c) If a bitch is exhibiting any signs that indicate that she is experiencing difficulties at any point during whelping, expert assistance must be sought.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) If whelping boxes are used, they should be placed in a warm but well-ventilated environment. Advice on design should be obtained from an expert such as an experienced dog breeder, veterinarian or veterinary nurse.
- (b) The bedding material should be replaced after the birth has taken place and as frequently as needed to keep the area clean, but without causing unnecessary disruption to the dam and puppies. Cleaning will need to be more frequent as the puppies get older and the dam is less able to clean up after them.
- (c) After whelping, the dam should be allowed access to her puppies until the puppies are fully weaned.
- (d) Unweaned puppies should be individually checked each day and regularly treated for parasites.

9.5 Weaning and Removal of Puppies from the Bitch

Introduction:

Puppies rely on the dam's milk to obtain all nutrients for the first few weeks of life. From 3-4 weeks they spend more time exploring their immediate environment and less time with the bitch. At this stage solid food can be introduced and the dam may begin to seek time alone. Puppies should be completely weaned onto solid food by age 6-7 weeks and before they are rehomed.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Puppies should remain with the dam to suckle during the first three weeks.
- (b) Supplementary feeding should not be commenced before the puppies are three weeks of age, except with veterinary advice in circumstances in which the bitch is unable to supply adequate milk to feed some or all of the pups.
- (c) Puppies should not be permanently removed from the dam to be weaned before 4 weeks of age. They should be given access to the dam for suckling until six weeks of age and removed before this only where the dam shows aggression to the puppies or where ongoing lactation could damage the bitch's health.

9.6 Supply of Puppies

Introduction:

It is important that new owners are provided with information concerning proper care and socialisation.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 9 – Supply of Puppies

- (a) Puppies must be able to feed independently and be in good health when made available for sale or rehoming, unless:
 - (i) they have been orphaned and must be rehomed to ensure that they are able to obtain milk from another bitch or be hand raised; or
 - (ii) early removal from the bitch is deemed necessary by a veterinarian.
- (b) People supplying puppies must, at the time of supply, disclose to persons receiving them, any known inherited disorders that the puppy or adult dog may be predisposed to which may cause health and/or welfare problems during the dog's lifetime.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Puppies should be at least eight weeks of age and should have begun socialisation with other dogs and humans when made available for sale or rehoming.
- (b) Owners of puppies to be rehomed need to be satisfied that the puppies are capable of independent life before moving them to new homes.
- (c) People selling dogs should allow the intending new owner to interact with the pup, its littermates and its mother, and father if possible.

10. Health

Introduction:

Health and welfare are closely associated. Owners have a responsibility to maintain their dogs in good health and to treat injury and disease when it occurs. The health and welfare of the dog should be checked daily, including observing whether the dog is eating, drinking, urinating, defaecating and behaving normally.

10.1 Ill Health and Injury

Introduction:

Disease, ill health or stress may be observed in greyhounds in a variety of ways. Sick greyhounds in the last stage of the disease incubation period or following parasite infestation may show any combination of the following signs:

- Runny nose;
- Runny or inflamed eyes;
- Repeated sneezing;
- Coughing;
- Vomiting;
- Diarrhoea;
- Lameness;
- Bleeding or swelling of body parts (other than the vulva of bitches in heat);
- Significant weight loss or inappetence (not eating);
- Apparent pain;
- Fits of staggering;
- Bloating of abdomen;
- Inability to urinate or defecate;
- Fever; and
- Presence of external parasites.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 10 – Ill Health and Injury

- (a) Owners, or persons in charge of dogs, who observe their dogs to be showing:
 - (i) signs of significant acute pain, suffering and distress; or
 - (ii) signs of chronic pain, suffering and distress; or
 - (iii) signs of rapidly deteriorating health; or
 - (iv) serious injurymust seek immediate attention from a veterinarian or appropriately trained animal health practitioner.
- (b) If a dog is suffering from pain or distress that is extreme or untreatable, then the animal must be euthanased.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 13 – Ill Health and Injury

- (a) All greyhounds should be inspected at least once daily to monitor their health and well-being.
- (b) The person checking greyhounds should note if each greyhound is:
 - (i) Eating
 - (ii) Drinking

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 13 – III Health and Injury

- (iii) Defecating
 - (iv) Urinating
 - (v) Behaving normally
 - (vi) Showing any obvious signs of illness or distress
 - (vii) Is free from injury and able to move about freely.
Any changes in health status must be promptly reported to the person responsible for appropriate action.
- (c) Licensed persons must establish liaison with a veterinary surgeon that is able to attend to greyhounds in his or her care, and is also able to advise on disease prevention measures
- (d) Immediate veterinary care must be provided for sick or injured greyhounds, to relieve pain, suffering and distress.
- (e) Any greyhound identified as having an injury at any time during a race meeting is to be referred to the race day veterinarian.
- (f) All record of all veterinary care provided to each greyhound is to be provided to GRNZ on request.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) All kennel staff should be familiar with the signs of common diseases and injury of the greyhound.
- (b) A veterinarian should be consulted immediately if bleeding is profuse or persists for more than a few minutes.
- (c) Owners and persons in charge who know that their dogs will be distant from veterinary care should carry a first aid kit appropriate for dogs.
- (d) Greyhounds suspected of being injured or diseased should not be allowed to race, be overworked or offered for sale.
- (e) Sick or injured greyhounds should be kept isolated from healthy greyhounds.
- (f) Veterinary advice should be obtained in the event of unexplained illness or deaths.
- (g) Veterinary attention should be sought for any dog that shows signs of food sensitivity which include, but are not limited to, skin disease (especially scratching or dermatitis), vomiting and diarrhoea.
- (h) Dogs' teeth and gums should be checked regularly by their owners and appropriate action taken where tooth and gum health deteriorate.

10.2 Prevention of Infectious Disease

Introduction:

Vaccination is an important means of controlling infectious diseases such as parvovirus, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and kennel cough. Infectious diseases can rapidly spread among unvaccinated dogs, with consequent negative impacts on animal welfare

**Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 11
– Prevention of Infectious Disease**

Dogs known to be infected with an infectious disease must be carefully supervised and securely isolated so as to prevent infecting other dogs.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 14 – Prevention of Infectious Disease

- (a) Greyhounds should be vaccinated as per the Greyhound Racing Rules. Or as directed by GRNZ in consultation with a veterinarian
- (b) Vaccination Certificates as specified from time to time by GRNZ must be supplied for each greyhound at the time of application for name registration.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should be provided with protection against infectious disease by vaccination according to veterinary recommendations.
- (b) When puppies are six to eight weeks of age, their owners should seek veterinary advice on a vaccination programme against relevant infectious diseases.
- (c) Puppies should be kept away from public places until approximately two weeks after their final vaccinations, but it is also important not to compromise socialisation during this period. Contact with other dogs should be limited to those known to be vaccinated, and puppies should be restricted to areas that are not accessible to unvaccinated dogs.
- (d) Preventative health plans for breeding bitches and their litters should be carried out according to veterinary recommendations.

10.3 Parasitic Disease

Introduction:

Parasite infestation can cause disease and death. Where environmental conditions permit, parasite populations can become large, while animals suffering ill health may also have more parasites. Dogs can develop hypersensitivity to parasites and show extreme skin irritation, even with very low parasite numbers. Some canine parasites present a public health risk.

Regular worming should be performed to maintain health. Failure to maintain a regular worming schedule can result in the dog losing weight and condition and can cause a gradual deterioration of the health of the dog.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 15 – Parasitic Disease

- (a) Internal and external parasites must be controlled through routine preventative treatments.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should be given regular and effective treatments to prevent internal and external parasite burdens, as recommended by veterinarians or product manufacturers.
- (b) Bitches should be treated for roundworms during pregnancy to prevent their spread to the pups.
- (c) Puppies should be wormed with an effective roundworm treatment at two-week intervals from two to 12 weeks of age. Thereafter they should be wormed every three months, using a broad spectrum wormer, or as recommended by a veterinarian.
- (d) If dogs are tethered or in runs on bare earth, they should regularly be moved to fresh ground and the area kept clear of faeces, to prevent the build-up of hookworms.
- (e) Dogs should be checked regularly for signs of infestation with external parasites e.g. scratching, chewing or hair loss, and should be treated appropriately.
- (f) Dogs to be wormed should only be treated with products intended for dogs.

10.4 Diseases of the Skin

Introduction:

Skin diseases are common in dogs, and may cause considerable pain and distress.

Recommended Best Practice:

Dogs with minimal hair covering and/or pale skin on the nose or ears should be protected from sunburn and skin cancer by keeping them out of direct sunlight during the sunniest times of the day. The application of appropriate animal sunscreen on nose and ears is helpful but not fully preventative.

10.5 Care of Claws and Coat

Introduction:

Neglected coat and claws can cause considerable distress and suffering. Hygiene around the perineum, anus and tail is particularly important in dogs with long hair to reduce soiling and the risk of flystrike.

**Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 12
– Care of Claws and Coat**

- (a) The coats of long-haired dogs must be groomed and/or clipped at a frequency that will prevent suffering and distress due to matting or infestation by parasites.
- (b) Claws must be clipped when necessary to avoid penetration of the skin and/or foot pads.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should be groomed regularly so as to prevent matting.
- (b) Claws, including dew claws if not removed, should be clipped as required.

10.6 Harmful Substances

Introduction:

As natural scavengers, dogs are susceptible to accidental poisoning by many substances e.g. vertebrate pest baits, poisonous plants, illegal drugs, prescription medicines, household cleaners, and contaminated water. Dogs can also be poisoned by eating carcasses of poisoned animals.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 14 – Harmful Substances

- (a) Owners and persons in charge of dogs must take all practical steps to ensure that dogs are not exposed to poisons and harmful substances.
- (b) Owners and persons in charge of dogs known to have eaten a harmful substance or showing signs indicative of poisoning (e.g. tremors, fitting, frenzied behaviour, sudden vomiting, sudden drowsiness or collapse) must seek immediate veterinary attention.

10.7 Care of Older Dogs

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs over the age of seven years should be provided with a diet appropriate for their health.
- (b) Dogs over the age of seven years should receive regular veterinary checks to ensure that their health and welfare is maintained by early diagnosis and treatment of age-related diseases.

10.8 Surgical Procedures

Introduction:

Surgical procedures need to be conducted in a manner that manages likely pain and distress. Puppies that still have their eyes closed are developmentally immature and less likely to experience pain in the same way as dogs that are older; however the long term impacts of painful procedures conducted on young puppies are not fully understood.

The Act limits “significant” surgical procedures to a veterinarian or a veterinary student under direct veterinary supervision. The Act also places requirements on surgical procedures that are not “significant”. If in doubt about a surgical procedure, veterinary advice should be sought.

It is an offence under Section 21(2)(a) of the Animal Welfare Act to crop, or cause to be cropped, the ears of a dog.

Debarking:

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 15 – Debarking

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 15 – Debarking

Removal of dew claws:

Dew claws are vestigial digits found on the inside of the lower limbs of a dog.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 16 – Dew Claws

- (a) Owners and persons in charge of dogs known to have eaten a harmful substance or showing signs indicative of poisoning (e.g. tremors, fitting, frenzied behaviour, sudden vomiting, sudden drowsiness or collapse) must seek immediate veterinary attention. (a) Where dew claws are to be removed from puppies by a person other than a veterinarian, it must be done before the eyes have started to open or before four days old, whichever comes first.
- (b) Where dew claws are removed by a person other than a veterinarian, that person must possess the knowledge, training and competence, in relation to that procedure, that is necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the pup.
- (c) Dew claws on dogs after their eyes have begun to open or after four days of age, must only be removed by a veterinarian.
- (d) If dew claw removal is not performed, care must be taken to manage any consequential risks to animal health and welfare.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Jointed dew claws should not be routinely removed.
- (b) Dew claw removal, when conducted, should be carried out by a veterinarian.

Tail docking:

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 17 – Tail Docking

- (a) Tails may only be shortened or removed by using a tail band:
 - (i) in puppies that are less than four days old in which the eyes have not started to open; and
 - (ii) by a person who possesses the appropriate knowledge, training and competency necessary to do so effectively, and who is acting under a documented quality assurance scheme that assures compliance with this minimum standard; and
 - (iii) the remaining length of the tail must be sufficient to avoid compromising health and welfare when the dog is mature.
- (b) Tails that need to be shortened or removed to manage existing injury or disease, must only be shortened or removed by a veterinarian using appropriate pain relief.

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Tail docking should not be performed at all unless it is required for treatment of an existing injury or disease.

- (b) Injury of the tail can lead to serious complications and any injury to the tail, as with other injury, should be assessed by a veterinarian to determine the best course of treatment.

11. Behaviour

Introduction:

Inappropriate behaviour, such as straying and excessive barking, is a major reason for euthanasia of dogs less than two years old. All dogs have the same set of innate behaviours but they differ as to the threshold at which different behaviours are exhibited. Genetics, socialisation, training, desexing and level of supervision all contribute to the manner in which a dog will behave. Where a behavioural problem occurs, advice should be obtained from an animal behaviourist or a veterinarian. The earlier that behavioural problems are addressed, the greater the chance of correcting them.

Positive training techniques that are based on the understanding that inherent dog behaviour is a consequence of their evolution as pack animals are widely used. Problems occur when the dog misunderstands its hierarchical position as a subordinate member within its human 'pack' (its human family and contacts).

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 18 – Training

Training techniques must be appropriate for the individual dog.

Recommended Best Practice

- (a) Puppies should be well socialised to minimise the development of behavioural problems. Socialisation should be appropriate to the circumstances in which the individual dog will be kept as an adult (e.g. dogs likely to come into contact with livestock should be socialised accordingly).
- (b) Dogs should be given the opportunity to socialise with other dogs on a daily basis.
- (c) Dogs should be trained to minimise the risk of inappropriate behaviour and so that they are under control at all times.
- (d) Appropriate advice (e.g. from a veterinarian, dog trainer or dog behaviourist) should be sought at the early stages of a behavioural problem.
- (e) Where an owner or person in charge of a dog is at all uncertain how the dog will respond to other dogs, livestock or wildlife, the dog should be restrained in a manner that keeps all parties safe.
- (f) Training sessions should be short and regular and should be determined by the animal's reactions and condition, without over-working the animal.
- (g) The owner's dominant position should be enforced calmly and patiently using recognised techniques that provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behaviour as part of the training process. Dominance should not be established by physical punishment or processes that are psychologically harmful to the dog.

Live Bait

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 16 Live Bait

Baiting Offences

- (1) Only artificial materials are permitted for use as a lure or any other training device for the purposes of training a Greyhound or otherwise being used in connection with Greyhound Racing. Artificial material includes the use of tanned skin products.
- (2) no person may:
 - (a) use or allow to be used in connection with Greyhound Racing or training for Greyhound Racing a bird or animal whether dead or alive, and whether as a lure or to excite a Greyhound or otherwise; or
 - (b) bring or allow to be brought on to grounds where a Greyhound is situated, a bird or animal whether dead or alive which might reasonably be capable of being used as a lure or to excite a Greyhound or otherwise; or
 - (c) allow a Greyhound, for the purpose of training a Greyhound, to pursue or attack a bird or animal, whether dead or alive.
- (3) Any person who has knowledge of, or suspects, an offence has occurred, is occurring, or is reasonably likely to occur contrary shall report the matter to the Association immediately.

11.1 Aids for Behavioural Modification

Introduction:

A range of devices are available to assist training and modify behaviour. These include choke chains, prong or pinch collars, electronic collars (remote transmission and bark-activated), electronic boundary control devices and muzzles. Training devices, especially electronic devices, have the potential for misuse and abuse. If used incorrectly, they can significantly reduce the long term welfare of a dog. They should only be used by competent operators as a training aid for serious behavioural faults when other methods have proved ineffective, and when, without the use of such a device, the dog is likely to be euthanased.

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 19 – Aids for Behavioural Modification

- (a) Training aids, including electronic training devices, must not be used in a way that causes unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress to the dog.
- (b) Pinch or prong collars must not be used.
- (c) Muzzles must fit comfortably without chafing the skin or impeding breathing and must allow the dog to open its mouth sufficiently to enable panting or drinking.

Muzzles

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 17 – Muzzles

- (a) Greyhounds in public places must be muzzled and controlled.
- (b) A Licensed Person must not permit a Greyhound, which is under the person's care or custody to be in or on a public place unless that Greyhound:
 - (i) has a securely fixed muzzle on its mouth in such a manner as will prevent it biting a person or animal; and
 - (ii) is under the effective control of some competent person by means of a leash of leather, or other durable material, which is securely fastened to the collar worn by that Greyhound.

Recommended Best Practice

- (a) There should be a period of preconditioning with supervision by the handler as dogs may initially find the muzzle frightening or distressing.
- (b) Trainers of racing dogs may use industry approved muzzles at their discretion.

Electronic devices:

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Electronic devices should be used carefully and only when other training methods have failed.
- (b) Operators of electronic devices should be trained and knowledgeable, aware of the early signs of distress in the dogs being trained, and able to alleviate these.
- (c) Electronic devices should not be used on dogs with a nervous disposition.
- (d) Electronic devices should only be activated during or immediately after (within a few seconds of) the offending behaviour.
- (e) Electronic devices should not be left on unsupervised dogs because they can cause serious harm if they malfunction or are accidentally remotely activated.
- (f) Electronic devices should only be used to control barking where the problem being addressed is intractable to other training methods.

Fireworks:

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Fireworks should not be used at a registered Greyhound property

12. Euthanasia

Introduction:

It is an offence under the Act to kill any animal such that it suffers unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress

Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010 Minimum Standard No. 21 – Euthanasia

- (a) When a dog is euthanased it must be carried out in such a way as to ensure that death occurs quickly and that pain and distress is minimised.
- (b) Dogs of any age must not be killed by drowning.

Greyhound Racing Industry Minimum Standard No 18 – Euthanasia

- (a) When necessary, the method of humane and painless death for any greyhound is an intravenous injection of a drug registered for this purpose.
- (b) Such methods of euthanasia must be performed by a veterinarian A GRNZ Certificate must be and by a veterinarian and returned to the Association no later than 14 days
- (c) If injuries or illness are sufficiently severe the animal may need to be euthanased on humane grounds. Euthanasia should be undertaken as soon as possible with the sole aim of minimising suffering.
- (d) Cases of emergency euthanasia by parties other than veterinarians must be reported to GRNZ with appropriate evidence of the situation. Such cases are monitored by GRNZ for potential abuse of the rules.
- (e) At all times you must treat your animal with “dignity and respect”

Recommended Best Practice:

- (a) Dogs should be euthanased by a veterinarian. No other methods of euthanasia have any support based on current public and societal standards.
- (b) Where a greyhound is suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress. a veterinarian is not available and the dog is to be euthanised, this should be undertaken only by a fully competent person, taking special care to safeguard people and other animals in the area.

13. Relevant GRNZ Rules

88. OFFENCES

- 88.1 Any person (including an Official) commits an offence if he/she:
- a. contravenes any of these rules;
 - b. fails to comply with any conditions to which his/her registration as an Owner, Trainer or Handler is subject or with any conditions to which the registration of any Greyhound owned by him/her or under his/her care or custody is subject;

89. PENALTIES

- 89.1 Any Person found guilty of an offence under these Rules shall be liable to:
- a. a fine not exceeding \$10,000.00 for any one (1) Offense; and/or
 - b. Suspension; and/or
 - c. Disqualification; and/or
 - d. Warning Off.

109. TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION

A Licenced Person shall provide proper care and accommodation for the Greyhounds under control and such accommodation shall be subject to the approval of the Association and be open to inspection by Officials or Stewards or Racecourse Inspectors at any time.

110. DUTIES OF PERSONS KEEPING GREYHOUNDS

- 110.1 A Licenced Person must ensure that Greyhounds, which are in the Licenced Person's care or custody, are provided with:
- a. proper and sufficient food, drink and protective apparel/clothing; and
 - b. proper exercise; and
 - c. properly constructed kennels which are adequate in size and which are kept in a clean and sanitary condition; and
 - d. veterinary attention when necessary
- 110.2 A Licensed Person must exercise such reasonable care and supervision as may be necessary to prevent Greyhounds under the Licenced Person's care or custody from being subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering.
- 110.3 A Licenced Person must ensure that any Greyhound under the Licenced Person's care or custody does not stray onto any private property without the permission of the Owner or occupier of that property, or stray onto any public place.
- 110.4 Greyhounds in public places to be muzzled and controlled
- 110.5 A Licenced Person must not permit a Greyhound, which is under the person's care or custody to be in or on a public place unless that Greyhound:
- a. has a securely fixed muzzle on its mouth in such a manner as it will prevent it biting a person or animal; and
 - b. is under the effective control of some competent person by means of leash of leather, or other durable material, which is securely fastened to the collar worn by that Greyhound.
- 111.5 The Trainer of a Greyhound is at all times responsible for the welfare and proper care of a Greyhound. This responsibility cannot be delegated to any other person at any time.

132. NOTIFICATION OF DEATH

- 132.1 Within seven days of the death of any Greyhound the Trainer shall advise the Association and return the Certificate of Registration along with a Veterinarian's, or Authorised Person's, certificate detailing the cause of death.
- 132.2 The Association, or appointed agent, shall have the right to order an autopsy, at the expense Owner, to confirm cause of death. Any person found in breach of this Rule or who knowingly participated in causing the unnatural death of any Greyhound, other than by accepted euthanasia by a veterinarian, or other Authorised Person, is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or permanent Disqualification from involvement in any way in Greyhound Racing in New Zealand.

133. DISREGISTRATION OF GREYHOUND

- 133.1 A racing Greyhound can be de-registered as a racing Greyhound at any time.
- 133.2 A de-registered Greyhound can be sold or gifted to another party provided that suitable care and welfare will be provided and that the full identity and contact details of new Owner are provided to the Association on the prescribed form with the necessary declaration completed. The Association requires all reasonable care to be taken by the Licenced Person in selling, gifting or placing the Greyhound.
- 133.3 The Association, or its Nominated agent, shall have the right at any time, to demand the Greyhound be presented for inspection to confirm its well-being.
- 133.4 Once de-registered a Greyhound cannot be re-registered as a racing Greyhound.

POLICIES

NZGRA Transportation of Greyhounds Policy

The purpose of the NZGRA Transportation of Greyhounds Policy' is to assist participants in providing a safe and healthy environment for their greyhounds whilst being transported by road. Adherence to minimum recommended guidelines will ensure that transport / travel stress and injury are minimised and that greyhounds arrive at their destination in the best possible condition.

The following minimum standards apply to:

- a) Trailers
- b) Motor Vehicles

TRAILER STANDARD

Trailer must be clean, registered, and hold a current warrant of fitness.

Doors, latches and hinges must be in working order and securely fixed to the frame.

Doors must have a latching mechanism that prevents the possibility of being opened from inside or other inadvertent opening. It is preferable that the doors are lockable or can be secured externally by way of a pin / bolt that prevents opening.

Trailer must have adequate and functioning ventilation. If travelling exceeds one hour, a stop in the journey should be made to allow for inspection and water / fluids consumption.

Greyhounds must not be left unattended in the trailer for any extended period.

Collars and leads should be placed so as to avoid becoming entangled with the greyhounds.

Other than in cases dealing with exceptional circumstances or emergency, greyhounds must be transported in separate compartments. These should be securely fixed and allow for greyhounds to sit, lie down and stand in a natural position without making contact with overhead structures.

Trailer must have secure means of attaching to vehicle so as to prevent separation during travelling.

VEHICLE STANDARD

Vehicle must be clean, registered and roadworthy.

Vehicle must have adequate and functioning ventilation.

If travelling time exceeds one hour, a break in the journey should be made to allow for inspection and water/fluids consumption.

Collars and leads should be placed so as to avoid becoming entangled with the greyhounds.

Other than in cases dealing exceptional circumstances or emergency, greyhounds should be afforded sufficient room to enable them to sit, lie down or stand in a natural position and without restriction.

Greyhounds must not be left unattended in the vehicle for any extended period.

Greyhounds should be safely restrained within the vehicle to avoid distracting the driver or sus-

taining injury to themselves and occupants in the event of an accident.

If you feel your greyhound(s) would be adversely affected by travel in the heat, it is recommended that you seek to scratch your greyhound(s) under the Hot Weather Policy.