

Exercise, Socialisation and Enrichment Plan



Standard 3 of the GRNZ Greyhound Welfare Standards – Exercise, Socialisation and Enrichment (ESE), sets minimum standards for daily greyhound exercise, socialisation, and enrichment. The purpose of this standard is to ensure that greyhounds are well socialised and build good mental resilience to provide for their mental and behavioural health during racing and breeding. Also, through adequate socialisation and enrichment, to prepare them well for life as a pet after their racing career is over.

Standard 3.3 requires a Licensed Person (LP) to have a written ESE Plan for all of the greyhounds on their property. This template is designed to help LPs meet these requirements. The plan needs to be updated when new greyhounds, of a different age class, are introduced at the property, and should be revised at least annually.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Date plan completed | |
| Licensed Person name | Registration type/s |
| Kennel address | |
| Number of racing greyhounds | Number of retired greyhounds |
| Number of breeding greyhounds | Number of greyhound puppies |
| Number of other greyhounds | Total number of greyhounds at kennels |
| Total number of staff at kennels | |

To prevent stress, the behaviour of greyhounds introduced to new environments, people and animals must be monitored and the interaction immediately ceased if the greyhound shows signs of fear, predatory or aggressive behaviour including barking, lunging, growling, snapping, stalking, shaking, cowering, and freezing.

DEFINITIONS

Exercise refers to all physical activity and may include free running, training, racing or trialling, leash walking or running, treadmill exercise, and swimming.

Socialisation refers to positive interactions with other greyhounds, other dogs and/or animals and humans. It also includes habituation to the environments the greyhound will experience during its pre-racing, racing, and post-racing life.

Enrichment is any activity that a greyhound enjoys doing, chooses to do, and finds rewarding such that it provides for the greyhound's mental stimulation.

THIS PLAN

All ESE plans must meet the minimum standards as detailed in Table 4 of standard 3. Standards apply to all greyhounds according to the following life stages:

- puppies aged 0-4 weeks
- puppies aged 4-8 weeks
- puppies aged 8-16 weeks
- greyhounds older than 16 weeks to commencement of training and racing
- training/racing greyhounds
- breeding greyhounds and pregnant females
- lactating females
- injured and spelling greyhounds
- greyhounds being prepared for rehoming.

Please keep this Exercise, Socialisation and Enrichment Plan in a safe place for inspection by the RIB during a kennel audit. If you need assistance completing your Exercise, Socialisation and Enrichment Plan contact GRNZ by email to welfare@grnz.co.nz

**WE LOVE OUR DOGS.
THEY LOVE TO RACE.**

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MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR EXERCISE, SOCIALISATION AND ENRICHMENT

- 3.1** All greyhounds must be provided with at least the minimum amount of daily ESE requirements outlined in Table 4 of this standard.
- 3.2** ESE must be specific to the greyhound's life cycle stage and must consider the effects of extreme weather conditions where applicable.
- 3.3** Licensed Persons (LPs) must have a written ESE plan for their premises detailing how the provisions for minimum daily exercise, socialisation and enrichment will be met for all life cycle stages of greyhounds in their care, according to the stages in Table 4.
- 3.4** Greyhounds must be continuously supervised when using mechanical training devices such as treadmills and walkers, and while using swimming pools.
- 3.5** Greyhounds must not be exercised attached in any way to a motorised vehicle.
- 3.6** Training must always follow the principles of positive reinforcement.
- 3.7** Punishment and aversive training techniques must be avoided at all times.
- 3.8** All greyhound puppies must be provided with the following minimum socialisation during their critical socialisation period (3-16 weeks of age):
- Puppies must not be permanently separated from their mother before eight weeks of age, unless on the advice of a veterinarian to protect the health of the puppies, or the female. Advice from a veterinarian must be sought if there are any concerns for the welfare of the puppies or the female;
 - Regular, safe, supervised contact with other vaccinated greyhounds and/or other vaccinated pet dogs from eight weeks of age, once their primary vaccinations are completed;
 - Safe exposure to other animals;
 - Be exposed to positive interactions with people other than their usual handlers, which may include children where possible;
 - Be provided with access to different surfaces in their pen or kennel environment (e.g. bed and bedding material, concrete, grass, carpet, etc);
 - Be provided with exercise options that encourage chasing behaviour such as chasing games, and a variety of toys;
 - From eight weeks, be provided with opportunities to be separated from their litter mates for short periods, in the presence of a handler;
 - Be taught to wear a collar and walk on a lead;
 - Puppies must not be muzzled at any time, unless under the direction of a veterinarian, or during education, for short periods at a time, while supervised.
- 3.9** All greyhounds older than 16 weeks of age, including pregnant and lactating females, housed in a kennel compliant with the size in standard 2.7, must be provided at least 60 minutes break outside their kennel per day, except in extreme weather conditions, where being outside is detrimental to the welfare of greyhounds or the safety of staff.
These breaks can include any exercise, socialisation and/or enrichment activities in Table 4 outside the greyhound's normal housing kennel, such as exercising, training (or racing) and spending time in a day yard, exercise yard, or enrichment yard with the opportunity to express normal greyhound behaviour.
- 3.10** If housed in <3m², during the housing standards transition period (standard 2.3) all greyhounds under 16 weeks of age must be provided at least 90 minutes per day outside their kennels, involved in exercise, socialisation and/or enrichment activities described in 3.8.
- 3.11** Greyhounds exercising in groups must be supervised.
- 3.12** Greyhounds over 16 weeks, in rearing, must be exposed to the following, in preparation for racing environments, which will assist in preventing stress when they are ready to race:
- Wearing a race muzzle;
 - Travelling in the car;
 - Starting boxes;
 - Circular training facilities;
 - Sound of the lure;
 - Slowly increasing isolation from litter mates;
 - Racetrack environments.
- 3.13** Greyhounds being prepared for rehoming, during their wind-down period, must be exposed to the following as often as possible:
- Leash-walking, including exposure to different environments, parks, traffic noise, etc;
 - Different surfaces;
 - Positive interaction with a variety of different people of different ages;
 - Noises associated with a home e.g. television, vacuum cleaners, kitchen appliances, etc;
 - Safe exposure to other compatible dogs and animals e.g. cats, sheep, horses, cattle, domestic fowl, etc;
 - Increased isolation from other greyhounds, starting with 30 minutes per day and increasing gradually.
- 3.14** Behaviour of greyhounds introduced to new environments, people and animals must be monitored and the interaction immediately ceased if the greyhound shows signs of fear, predatory or aggressive behaviour including barking, lunging, growling, snapping, stalking, shaking, cowering, and freezing.

TRAINING/RACING GREYHOUNDS

MINIMUM STANDARDS – YOUR PLAN **MUST** INCLUDE:

A training routine of at least 60 minutes per day which may include activities such as:

- walking
- galloping and racing
- lure training/hand slipping
- walking machine
- time in an exercise yard/free running
- swimming
- other – please list.

| Activity | How often do you do this? | Where? | For how long? (mins/hours per week) | Detail training activities for racing greyhounds in your care |
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PUPPIES AGED 8-16 WEEKS

MINIMUM STANDARDS – YOUR PLAN **MUST** INCLUDE:

Any combination of two or more of the following activities for a minimum of 60 minutes daily:

- run or play time within a secure area outside of the primary greyhound housing area
- taught to walk on a lead and/or play chasing games
- positive interaction with humans (incl. children) through handling and interactive play using toys
- safe exposure to a variety of other vaccinated dogs that are socially compatible, and other animals (where possible)
- a variety of surfaces within the enclosure that allow puppies to interact with different textures
- a variety of toys, within the enclosure, to develop motor skills and play behaviour
- different environmental stimuli.

| Activities | How often do you do this? | For how long? (mins/day) | Detail interaction and activities performed with puppies |
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GREYHOUNDS OLDER THAN 16 WEEKS TO COMMENCEMENT OF TRAINING AND RACING (CONTINUED)

| Are your greyhounds able to do these things? | Y | N | How do you train your greyhounds to do these things |
|--|---|---|---|
| Wear a collar | | | |
| Wear a muzzle | | | |
| Walk on a lead | | | |
| Walk up and down stairs | | | |
| Greet strangers in a calm manner | | | |
| Travel in vehicles | | | |
| Spend time alone | | | |
| Spend time with other dogs | | | |
| Respond to basic commands | | | |

GREYHOUNDS BEING PREPARED FOR REHOMING

DURING THE RACING WIND DOWN PERIOD AND WHILE ON THE WAITING LIST

MINIMUM STANDARDS – YOUR PLAN **MUST** INCLUDE:

Any combination of activities for a minimum of 60 minutes daily:

- gentle exercise daily in an area containing natural daylight
- walking on a lead
- access to an exercise yard
- positive interaction with humans through handling and interactive play using toys, or positive reinforcement/rewards based training and basic obedience
- different environmental stimuli as appropriate. This can include chew toys (e.g. rope toys, squeaky toys, rubber toys, chew/food toys, bones, etc).

Greyhound Euthanasia Policy requirements: 28-day wind down period after last race

- The greyhound's diet is adjusted to suit new levels of exercise suitable for pet dogs.
- The greyhound's exercise is adjusted to levels appropriate for a pet dog.
- The greyhound is prepared for pet life by being exposed to new environments and opportunities to experience situations it may encounter as a pet dog (e.g. stairs, carpets and other surfaces, TV noise/vacuum cleaners and home routines, leash walks).
- The greyhound is desexed, vaccinations are up-to-date and a dental assessment and/or treatment has been performed by a veterinarian.

| Activities | How often do you do this? | For how long? (mins/day) | Detail interaction and activities performed |
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