

## 1. OBJECTIVE

1.1. The objective of the Greyhound Recovery Rebate Scheme (GRRS) policy is to prescribe the parameters for the scheme which is aimed to provide financial support for the treatment and rehabilitation of serious injuries sustained by greyhounds at race meetings and official trial sessions and thus minimise euthanasia as a result of such injuries.

## 2. POLICY

2.1. The Greyhound Recovery Rebate Scheme is only available for injuries incurred by greyhounds at a race meeting or qualifying trials or an official trial session at which club officials are present.

2.2. Tasracing will contribute funding up to a maximum of \$5,500 including GST towards all veterinary costs for greyhound injuries eligible under the scheme.

2.3. On identification of an eligible injury, the on-track Veterinarian will offer the option of participation within the scheme to the person responsible for the greyhound at the meeting.

2.4. Participation in the scheme is voluntary, however, the Conditions of Entry (Clause 4) must be satisfied before a greyhound will be accepted into the scheme.

2.5. The person responsible for the greyhound may use any registered Veterinarian(s) in the treatment of the injury sustained.

2.6. Tasracing retains the right to assess any situation and make any decision it deems appropriate at its entire discretion on any matters which arises from time to time, in respect to any claim under this policy.

## 3. ELIGIBLE INJURY

3.1. A GRRS-eligible injury or medical condition is defined as:

- any **bone fracture** except a single metacarpal or metatarsal fracture, a toe (phalangeal and/or sesamoid) fracture or a tail fracture; or
- any **joint dislocation above and including the wrist or hock**, (therefore does not include metacarpal-phalangeal or metatarsal-phalangeal dislocation, toe dislocation, or tail dislocation); or
- a complete Achilles tendon rupture; or
- any other severe injury or medical condition where on-track euthanasia may otherwise be considered appropriate.

#### **4. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

4.1. The following criteria applies for any greyhound to be eligible for the GRRS:

##### 4.1.1 Race Meetings & Qualifying Trials

4.1.1.1 The injury must have occurred during a race at a race meeting or qualifying trial at a registered track in Tasmania where an on-track Veterinarian is present; and

4.1.1.2 The On Track Vet must stabilise the injury/condition and administer appropriate pain relief and may require referral of the injured greyhound to an off-the-track veterinary referral clinic, which may be an out-of-hours emergency clinic (GRRS-funded), to enable the injured greyhound to receive further veterinary assessment and treatment. The participant in charge of the greyhound must arrange for transport of the greyhound to the off-track veterinary referral centre. The purpose of this consultation is to obtain an accurate diagnosis (including x-rays, where indicated) and prognosis of the injury/condition.

4.1.1.3 Where necessary, the off-track referral veterinary centre should consult with a veterinary orthopaedic specialist on the diagnosis and prognosis of the injury, and where indicated, make arrangements for appropriate treatment of the injury to be carried out by a specialist or a veterinary surgeon with appropriate experience.

##### 4.1.2 Official Trial Sessions

4.1.2.1 The injury must have occurred during an official trial session in Tasmania, at which club officials are present.

4.1.2.2 A Club Official must certify the occurrence of the injury on the GRRS application form.

4.1.2.3 The person responsible for the greyhound must arrange for the immediate transfer of the injured greyhound to an off-the-track veterinary centre for stabilisation of the injury, appropriate pain relief and further diagnostic procedures (including X-rays where indicated).

4.1.2.4 Where necessary, the off-track referral veterinary centre should consult with a veterinary orthopaedic specialist on the diagnosis and prognosis of the injury, and where indicated, make arrangements for appropriate treatment of the injury to be carried out by a specialist or a veterinary surgeon with appropriate experience.

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- 4.2. The person responsible for the greyhound must organise and be responsible for all costs of the transport to and from the off-track Veterinarian(s) and also for any required care during their greyhound's rehabilitation and recovery.

## 5. FUNDING

- 5.1. Funding consists of **veterinary costs** payable directly to the veterinarian(s) and/or reimbursement of the participant.
- 5.2. **Injury/condition confirmed to be not GRRS-eligible:** Tasracing will fund all reasonable costs of the initial veterinary diagnostic consultation (including immediate treatment, such as pain relief and/or injury stabilisation, as well as X-rays, necessary to ensure the welfare of the greyhound) up to the point of reaching a diagnosis but will not fund any subsequent treatment costs.
- 5.3. **Injury/condition confirmed to be GRRS-eligible:** Tasracing will provide funding as follows:
- - **Stage 1:** Tasracing will fund all reasonable costs of the initial off-the-track veterinary diagnostic consultation (including immediate treatment, such as pain relief and/or stabilisation, and X-rays as necessary to ensure the welfare of the greyhound during this stage) up to the point of reaching a diagnosis plus:
      - where the greyhound is treated conservatively, this treatment and aftercare will be fully funded; or
      - where the greyhound is treated surgically, all reasonable pre-surgical costs will be fully funded (surgery costs are covered in stage 2 below); or
      - where the prospects of recovery with an acceptable welfare outcome are poor, such that euthanasia is considered by the veterinarian to be in the best interests of the greyhound, Tasracing will also fund the cost of euthanasia.
    - **Stage 2 (surgery):** Over and above stage 1 funding, Tasracing will also fund all reasonable **veterinary costs for the surgical treatment** and post operative care up to \$5,500 (including GST).
- 5.4 The person responsible for the injured greyhound will be liable for any cost more than the above amount.
- 5.5 Additional funds may be available in exceptional circumstances by application to Tasracing.
- 5.6 Tasracing, at its entire discretion, may assist with the cost of travel arrangements for specialist treatment as part of the maximum funding amount.