



Chief Steward

Danny Ryan

Stewards are planning kennel inspections in coming months. Your attention is brought to requirements when keeping greyhounds.

Permanent Kennelling and Housing of Greyhounds.

Minimum Standard Requirements

The following are minimum standard requirements for the permanent kennelling and housing of greyhounds registered with the GRA.

These requirements do not and are not intended to override or substitute all or any of the relevant LGA Local Laws for the keeping of greyhounds.

All of these minimum standard requirements must be read and applied in conjunction with all relevant LGA. Local Law.

Accommodation Structures

The accommodation structures shall be constructed using approved building materials and methods and as such must provide the following features.

*be weather and rain proof, providing a dry and comfortable environment in all weather conditions by being well ventilated, cool in summer and warm in winter.

* have impervious wash down flooring (this does not include exercise areas)

*be accessible for cleaning and inspections (kneel or crawl type facilities for cleaning and inspections are not acceptable)

*be absolutely secure providing safety and protection for the greyhound.

Sleeping Areas

Individual sleeping areas shall be provided within the accommodation structure.

The sleeping areas for each greyhound shall:

* be a removable platform, constructed with an approved water-resistant material, or hammock raised a minimum of 150mm above floor level;

* have a minimum area of 1sqm., with minimum width or depth of 800mm, thereby providing the minimum acceptable sleeping area of 1sqm and if having an overhead covering, minimum height of 1m

* easily washed and cleaned.

Note: Bedding of any type shall not be laid directly onto flooring of any type.

Maintenance

The licensee is responsible for maintenance of the kennel, kennel structures, sleeping areas and the like. All loose wires, dangerous finishes and edges, damaged walls and sheeting, weather proofing shall be repaired and maintained at all times with all necessary (or identified) repairs carried out promptly or as directed, to provide a safe environment for the satisfactory housing of the greyhound.

Cleanliness

All kennels must be kept clean and tidy and free of vermin at all times.

Eating and Drinking Utensils

Eating and drinking utensils shall be of approved type preferably stainless steel.

Light duty plastic utensils that are easily chewed or utensils which are damaged or unhygienic that may cause health problems to the greyhound are not acceptable

All dishes must be washed at least once per day with clean fresh water available at all times.

Wire and Steel Mesh

Where wire and mesh are used in the confinement of greyhounds the minimum thickness of wire or mesh used shall be 2.00mm high tensile or 2.5mm steel. Chicken or bird wire or wire that can be chewed or broken and could cause injury to the greyhound is not acceptable.

Plastic type mesh is not acceptable.

Galvanised wire or mesh is preferred.

Exercise areas

Where greyhounds are housed in restricted or confined areas the licensee must demonstrate that exercise areas are available and that such exercise areas are secure and safe.

Alternatively, the licensee must demonstrate that an acceptable and regular exercise programme is in place and is maintained.

i.e. use of walking machines etc.

Urinating and faeces

The licensee must provide a separate area for the greyhound/s to regularly “empty out”.

Such “emptying out” areas are to be cleaned at least twice per day with faeces disposed of in an approved manner.

When exercising greyhounds in public areas the licensee must comply with the requirements of the Local Authority and shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of any faeces.

Noise

Licensees are responsible for the control of noise, barking and behaviour of any greyhound on their premises and under their control and as such must comply with any relevant Act and/or LGA Local Law.

Accommodation within a residence

Where greyhounds are housed within a residence then the licensee must be able to demonstrate to the GRA that all of the requirements for sleeping, bedding, eating, exercise, faeces disposal and the security of the greyhound is in accordance with the intentions of the Minimum Standard Requirements.

Kennel Inspections

An authorized officer of the GRA shall carry out kennel inspections from time to time and will provide a written report on the condition of each kennel complex inspected.

It will be the responsibility of the licensee to carry out any repairs and maintenance or any change in requirements to the kennels in order that they comply with the Minimum Standard Requirements or the requirements of the report. A time and date for any work to be carried out will be indicated in the report.

Failure to comply with the requirements of a kennel condition report may invoke fines or deregistration.

Australian Greyhound Racing Rule R109 (2) and penalty R111 (1) (a)(b)(c)(d) will apply.