

GRNZ Rehoming Policy

1 December 2024

1. Purpose and scope

The purpose of this Policy is to set out the rehoming expectations which GRNZ has for LPs having responsibility for the care of greyhounds:

1. All greyhounds bred in New Zealand or imported into New Zealand should be retired at the end of their racing or breeding careers, or if found unsuitable for racing, and have an opportunity to live the balance of their lives as pets.
2. LPs in charge of a greyhound's care must provide for the deregistration and rehoming of all healthy greyhounds.
3. Owners of greyhounds must plan rehoming pathways for their greyhounds, once their racing career ends. This includes financial planning for retirement.
4. LPs must ensure that the home provided for the greyhound is a suitable rehoming pathway under this Policy.

Greyhounds referred to in this Policy are defined in the GRNZ Rules of Racing.

A greyhound means a canine of the greyhound breed which:

- (a) is registered pursuant to the rules of GRNZ;
- (b) is retired but under the care of a registered person;
- (c) includes the offspring conceived from the result of a service between a breeding female and a sire.

The following Rules and Greyhound Welfare Standards support this policy:

- Rule 22 concerns requirements for notification of retirements.
- LR22A concerns obligations of LPs to comply with the Greyhound Welfare Standards, and LR22B concerns requirements of LPs to deregister greyhounds and supply the new owner's details to GRNZ.
- Rule 23 concerns retirement of breeding greyhounds.
- Rule 24 concerns mandatory sterilisation of greyhounds retired as pets.
- Greyhound Welfare Standard 5 concerns retirement.

This Policy includes additional details in fulfilling requirements under the Rules and Greyhound Welfare Standards.

2. Rehoming pathways

The following are pathways for rehoming under the GRNZ Rehoming Policy and GRNZ Greyhound Welfare Standard 5.

1. Great Mates Rehoming Programme:

- LPs must place greyhounds on the waiting list for Great Mates at the time they are retired from racing, or breeding, and deregistered.
- LPs must place non-racing greyhounds not being considered for racing or breeding on the waiting list for Great Mates as soon as possible.
- LPs must ensure that greyhounds on the waiting list begin their wind-down period and be desexed except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of GRNZ, that being desexed would be detrimental to its welfare), and have their dental treatment, or dental treatment waiver completed prior to admission to a Great Mates centre.
- LPs must provide Great Mates with the complete veterinary history of the greyhound, including the vaccination certificates, desex certificate, and details of dental treatment or waiver, on admission.
- LPs must notify Great Mates if the greyhound has demonstrated prior behavioural issues, including aggression, predatory behaviour, anxiety or other behavioural abnormalities or stereotypies.
- Great Mates must conduct a behavioural assessment of the greyhound after it arrives at Great Mates, and once it has settled in.
- Great Mates greyhounds may be exported as pets according to the 'GRNZ SOP for ensuring the welfare of greyhounds exported from New Zealand', or they may be rehomed by Great Mates, or one of the GRNZ partner agencies within New Zealand.
- Greyhounds that have been cleared, via the Rehabilitation to Rehoming Policy for rehoming, will be accepted into Great Mates when a space becomes available.

2. Private rehoming:

- LPs can privately rehome greyhounds to a *bona fide* pet home which they have sourced.
- LPs must behaviourally assess the greyhound prior to rehoming and complete the GRNZ Behavioural Declaration form and the GRNZ Greyhound Behavioural History form, which must be provided electronically to the new owner.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LPs must ensure that only greyhounds assessed as behaviourally 'Green' are privately rehomed. Greyhounds assessed as 'Amber' or 'Red' may only be rehomed following an assessment by Great Mates. ● LPs must ensure that the greyhound is desexed (except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of GRNZ, that being desexed would be detrimental to its welfare), and has had their dental treatment, or dental waiver completed by a veterinarian, prior to rehoming. ● LPs must record the new owner's details on the Behavioural Declaration form, and these will be verified by GRNZ. ● LPs must provide the new owner with the greyhound's complete veterinary history, including vaccination certificates, desex certificate and details of dental treatment, or waiver, and the <i>GRNZ Guide for New Greyhound Owners</i>. <p>3. Retained as a pet by LP or rehomed to another LP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LPs can keep greyhounds as pets themselves or rehome greyhounds as pets to another LP. ● LPs must notify GRNZ of the intended retirement owner at the time of deregistration. ● LPs must ensure greyhounds are desexed (except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of GRNZ, that being desexed would be detrimental to its welfare), and maintain up to date vaccination status when rehomed as pets. ● LPs must ensure greyhounds have an annual health examination, including a dental examination. ● LPs must notify the new LP owner if the greyhound has demonstrated prior behavioural issues, including aggression, predatory behaviour, anxiety or other behavioural abnormalities or stereotypies. ● LPs must provide the new LP owner with the greyhound's complete veterinary history, including vaccination certificates, desex certificate and details of dental treatment or waiver.
<p>3. Preparing racing greyhounds for rehoming</p>	<p>All LPs having responsibility for the care of a greyhound that is to be rehomed must ensure that the greyhound has been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● deregistered from racing on the GRNZ system; and ● provided with a wind-down period from racing of at least twenty-eight (28) days; and ● behaviourally assessed prior to rehoming; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • desexed (except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of GRNZ, that being desexed would be detrimental to its welfare), and • had a dental examination and dental treatment, or a dental treatment waiver completed prior to rehoming. <p>During the 28 day wind-down period, the LP must ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the greyhound's diet is adjusted to suit new levels of exercise suitable for pet dogs; and • the greyhound's exercise is adjusted to levels appropriate for a pet dog; and • 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 (i.e. stairs, carpets and other surfaces, TV/vacuum cleaner noise, home routines and leash walks).
<p>4. Preparing non-racing greyhounds for rehoming</p>	<p>All LPs having care of non-racing, or breeding greyhounds intended for rehoming outside the industry, to persons not holding a licence with GRNZ, must ensure that the greyhound has been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deregistered on the GRNZ system (greyhounds registered for breeding); and • behaviourally assessed; and • desexed (except where a veterinarian certifies after examining that greyhound, to the satisfaction of GRNZ, that being desexed would be detrimental to its welfare), and had a dental examination and dental treatment or a dental treatment waiver completed; and • prepared for pet life by being exposed to new environments, and opportunities to experience situations it may encounter as a pet dog (i.e. stairs, carpets and other surfaces, TV/vacuum cleaner noise, home routines and leash walks) prior to rehoming.
<p>5. Avenues not suitable for rehoming greyhounds</p>	<p>The following is a list of avenues not suitable for the rehoming of greyhounds. Note this list is not exhaustive and if you are considering a rehoming avenue that does not appear here, please contact GRNZ at welfare@grnz.co.nz to consider your options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council pounds • animal welfare shelters or rescue centres • blood banks, organisations which conduct animal research, organisations (including universities) which use animals or animal parts for education and training purposes (without the written permission of GRNZ)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • domestic animal breeding programmes • export (which is not organised or approved by GRNZ) • hunting dog, or working dog programmes (detection dogs, search and rescue dogs, military dogs, etc).
<p>6. Enforcement</p>	<p>This Policy is made under the GRNZ Rules of Racing and must be complied with.</p> <p>A breach of this Policy may result in an LP's registration being varied, suspended, or revoked and/or an offence being committed under the Rules.</p>