

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Race Meeting Injury Scheme (the **Scheme**) is to reduce the number of greyhounds that are euthanised as a result of sustaining serious injuries at Race Meetings or Official Steward's Trials by providing funding toward veterinary treatment and rehabilitation costs where a greyhound sustains an Eligible Injury.

2. Scope

This Scheme applies to all licensed participants and greyhounds.

3. Definitions

Applicant means the owner of a greyhound that sustains an Eligible Injury and applies to Racing Queensland (RQ) for funding under the Scheme.

GAR means the Greyhound Australasia Rules (as may be amended from time to time).

Official Steward's Trial means an official trial:

- (a) that is conducted by a Steward;
- (b) that is held on the same day as a Race Meeting; and
- (c) in which each greyhound that is trialling is checked by an on-course veterinarian prior to trialling.

Race Meeting means a meeting for conducting racing of licensed animals (as those terms are defined in the *Racing Act 2002* (Qld)).

Satisfactory Trial has the meaning given to this term in Rule 72 of the GAR.

Steward means a steward employed by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission.

4. Scheme Detail

4.1. Race Meeting Injury Scheme

The Scheme applies where all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) the on-course veterinarian determines that a greyhound has sustained an injury of the type specified in section 4.3 or any other life-threatening injury (an **Eligible Injury**) during the course of either:
 - i. a Race Meeting; or
 - ii. an Official Steward's Trial,
- (b) the on-course veterinarian refers the greyhound to an off-course veterinarian for further diagnosis;
- (c) the off-course veterinarian performs a surgical procedure for the Eligible Injury on the greyhound; and
- (d) the cost of the off-course veterinarian treatment of the greyhound (including the surgical procedure and associated costs) exceeds \$1,000.00 (inc. GST).

The Scheme does not apply to any injuries expressly excluded in section 4.4, to any injuries that are sustained by greyhounds during training activities or trials (other than Official Steward's Trials) or where the cost of treating the greyhound does not exceed \$1,000.00 (inc. GST).

4.2. Scheme funding

Where the Scheme applies, RQ will pay the Applicant:

- (a) 100% of the reasonable treatment costs (including the cost of all surgical procedures and associated expenses) for the Eligible Injury up to a maximum RQ payment of \$5,500.00 (inc. GST); and
- (b) \$50.00 (inc. GST) per week towards the rehabilitation of the greyhound for the duration of the rehabilitation plan prescribed by the veterinarian up to a maximum period of 13 weeks.

4.3. Injuries covered under the Scheme

The following types of injuries are covered under the Scheme:

- (a) bone fractures;
- (b) tendon injuries; and
- (c) ligament injuries.

4.4. Injuries not covered under the Scheme

Muscle injuries are not covered under the Scheme unless the on-course veterinarian determines that the muscle injury is a life-threatening injury.

4.5. Initial assessment

- (a) Where a greyhound is suspected of suffering an Eligible Injury, the on-course veterinarian must provide immediate and appropriate first aid treatment to the greyhound (including by taking any necessary action to prevent and/or minimise the suffering of the greyhound).
- (b) After providing all required first aid treatment, the on-course veterinarian must assess the greyhound suspected of suffering an Eligible Injury and determine whether:
 - i. immediate euthanasia is required (on humane grounds); or
 - ii. the greyhound has suffered an Eligible Injury and further diagnosis should be conducted on the greyhound.
- (c) Where the on-course veterinarian determines that the greyhound:
 - i. has sustained an Eligible Injury, and
 - ii. immediate euthanasia is not required,the greyhound is to be transferred to an off-course veterinarian selected in accordance with section 4.7 for further diagnosis within such timeframe as may be prescribed by the on-course veterinarian.

4.6. Diagnosis, treatment and recovery

- (a) The off-course veterinarian will be required to diagnose the injury suffered by the greyhound and provide advice on treatment options.
- (b) If a surgical procedure is required, the off-course veterinarian will provide:
 - i. the appropriate veterinary care to ensure the wellbeing of the greyhound prior to the scheduling of a surgical procedure; or
 - ii. direction as to the most suitable care required for the greyhound prior to the surgical procedure,
- (c) Following the surgical procedure, the Applicant is responsible for caring for the greyhound and for ensuring that the greyhound is rehabilitated in accordance with the directions of the veterinarian that performed the surgical procedure.
- (d) Any greyhound that undergoes a surgical procedure that is supported by this Scheme may only return to racing following:
 - i. production of a veterinary certificate that is satisfactory to the Stewards that states that at the time of examination the greyhound is fit to start; and
 - ii. completion of a Satisfactory Trial.
- (e) If the greyhound does not return to racing, it must be retired by the Applicant by completing the prescribed form pursuant to GAR.
- (f) Following the completion of the rehabilitation period specified in section 4.6(c), the owner may enter the greyhound in the Greyhound Adoption Program Queensland (**GAP**) and GAP will grant the greyhound priority entry into the program.

4.7. Recommended veterinary clinics

- (a) Any veterinary treatment provided to a greyhound must be undertaken by a registered veterinarian.

- (b) Queensland greyhound race clubs will be available to provide contact details and directions to nearby veterinary surgeons capable of treating the greyhound.
- (c) RQ recommends that greyhounds are treated by a veterinarian familiar with the greyhound breed.

4.8. Application process

- (a) Applicants can apply to RQ for funding by:
 - i. completing the Race Meeting Injury Scheme Application Form; and
 - ii. providing any supporting documentation required by RQ including:
 - A. all clinical notes from the veterinarian; and
 - B. itemised invoices and receipts for the veterinary treatment.
- (b) Applications for funding under the Scheme must be submitted to RQ by email or post at:

Email address: injuryscheme@racingqueensland.com.au

Postal address: Attention: Greyhound Department
Racing Queensland Board (trading as Racing Queensland)
PO Box 63
Sandgate QLD 4017

4.9. Consideration of application

- (a) Where RQ is satisfied that:
 - i. the treatment and rehabilitation of the greyhound is eligible to be funded under the Scheme in accordance with section 4.1; and
 - ii. the Applicant has complied with the application process set out in section 4.8,
RQ will notify the Applicant he/she is eligible to receive a treatment and/or rehabilitation funding under the Scheme and will make a single, lump sum payment of the treatment and rehabilitation funding to the Applicant.
- (b) Where RQ is not satisfied of either or both matters in sections 4.9(a)i or 4.9(a)ii., RQ will notify the Applicant that he/she is not eligible to receive funding.
- (c) Once an application has been approved by RQ and the funding paid to the Applicant, RQ will place a penalty on the greyhound in the Ozchase system that will prevent the greyhound from being nominated for Race Meetings.

4.10. Reimbursement of the funding

- (a) In the event that a greyhound recovers from the Eligible Injury and the Applicant intends to return the greyhound to racing activities within four (4) months of the date of the Eligible Injury, the Applicant must reimburse RQ in full for any funding received by the Applicant under the Scheme prior to the greyhound being nominated to race.
- (b) Within two (2) business days of receiving the reimbursement of the funding and evidence from the Applicant that the greyhound has satisfied the requirements set out in clause 4.6(d), RQ will remove the penalty placed on the greyhound and allow the greyhound to be nominated for Race Meetings.

4.11. Rights of appeal

- (a) If RQ determines that the treatment of a greyhound is not eligible for funding under the Scheme, the Applicant may apply to RQ for a review of the decision.
- (b) An application for review must be made to RQ in writing within ten (10) business days of RQ notifying the Applicant that he/she is not eligible for funding under the Scheme.

- (c) The review cannot be undertaken by the same RQ officer who made the decision and must be undertaken by an RQ officer of the same or a higher level of seniority to that of the original decision-maker and an independent consultant with veterinary experience.
- (d) RQ will provide the Applicant with a written notice of the review decision and the review decision will be final.

5. Application of this Scheme

RQ may review, amend or discontinue this Scheme from time to time. We will notify you of any changes by posting an updated version of this Scheme or a notice on the Racing Queensland website (<http://www.racingqueensland.com.au/>).

6. Version History

Current Version:	2.0	Date Made:	21/06/20	Effective Date:	23/06/20
Scheme Owner:	Greyhound Manager - Operations			Greyhound Strategy and Development Manager and COO Approved:	22/06/20
Enquiries to:	Greyhound Manager - Operations			Review due by:	23/06/21

Version	Effective	Enquiries to	Scheme Owner	Changes Made
1.0	11 / 09 / 2018	Greyhound Manager - Operations	Greyhound Manager - Operations	New scheme
2.0	23 / 06 / 2020	Greyhound Manager - Operations	Greyhound Manager - Operations	Renamed Scheme. Revised eligible injury types and increased funding for treatment and rehabilitation.