3 September 2026

Ms Fiona Murphy
Secretary
Joint Standing Committee
Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 Inquiry

Email: greyhoundtransition@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Murphy

In response to your request from the Committee for additional information following Tasracing's appearance on Tuesday, 4 August 2026 please see below:

1. **Are you able to give the Committee an accurate number in terms of discrete individuals involved in Tasmanian Greyhound racing? (see p. 52 of the transcript)**

Table A.2.3 on page 5 of the Tasracing submission includes the following double counted individuals:

- 22 individuals were counted as both Owners and Trainers
- 58 Individuals were counted as Breeders and either Owners or Trainers

We would like to note that the original total for Greyhound participants in that table had not been updated for the FY25 owners and trainers figures and should have read 1,030.

2. **Can you please provide the Committee with data on new participants in the industry in the last financial year including breakdown in terms of trainer, breeder and owner? (see p. 52 of the transcript)**

For the 24/25 season there were 17 new licence applications processed.

3 – Attendant (Provisional)
2 – Attendant
1 – Breeder (already a PTR)
1 – Catcher
6 – Owners
3 – Owner / Attendant
1 – Public Trainer (previously licensed in QLD)

For the same period 184 participants renewed or applied for an upgrade of their current licence.

3. Are you able to provide the Committee with an indication in this data of people who are active, current participants versus potentially historic participants or who just signed up, but are not active participants? (see p. 52-53 of the transcript)

Owners are required to renew their licence every 5 years.

A 3 year renewal option is available to all remaining categories of licence.

Over the 25/26 season there were 208 active owners:

- Owner / Attendant: 49
- Owner / Trainer: 38
- Owner: 41
- Public Trainer: 72
- Syndicate Member: 8

4. Was there any reference to ABS data or to the work of Saul Eslake on industry participants numbers in formulating the table on page 5 of your submission to the Committee? (see p. 53 of the transcript)

No. Neither ABS data nor the work undertaken by Saul Eslake was used to formulate the participant estimates presented in the submission.

The participant estimates were developed using industry-specific information, including licensing and registration records, employment and volunteer data supplied by organisations such as Tasracing and racing clubs, and direct enquiries with relevant participating groups.

Importantly, the participant figures measure is simply the people involved in greyhound racing - not the number of employees. Participants include stakeholders such as owners, trainers, employees and volunteers. Owners invest financially in racing, while volunteers contribute their time because of their involvement in and enjoyment of the industry – other categories like stable employees and race club and industry staff are employed – the table simply demonstrates the roles occupied in racing and should not be confused with FTE jobs.

ABS data is not well suited to measuring this broader participant base. ABS industry and employment classifications generally capture a person's principal employment

and group activities into relatively broad industry categories. They therefore do not reliably identify people involved specifically in greyhound racing, particularly owners, volunteers, hobby participants and people whose involvement in racing is secondary to their principal occupation.

Employment and economic contribution were estimated separately from the participant count. Jobs were derived from the expenditure generated by the industry, with value added representing the broader economic contribution arising from that expenditure.

5. Could you please explain to the Committee what NR asterisk means on the table on page 10, table A.3.4 of your submission? (see p. 60 of the transcript)

The line items noted with "n/r" in table A.3.4 were included in error. They were added to the table during drafting as potential additional information to consider. This was later considered difficult to determine and unnecessary and as a result these line items should have been removed from the final submission.

6. Could you please provide the Committee with a breakdown of the training and preparation costs in relation to rehoming in the IER study? (see p. 61 of the transcript)

Trainers contribute their own time and resources to preparing greyhounds for rehoming, although the nature and extent of this contribution vary between trainers and individual greyhounds. These efforts complement the broader rehoming activities and investment undertaken by the industry.

However, the 2023 IER study did not separately quantify or attribute any component of trainers' reported expenditure to rehoming. The information sought from trainers related specifically to the cost of maintaining and preparing a greyhound while it was in training over a 12-month period. This included the costs directly associated with keeping a greyhound in active training and preparing it for racing.

For the purposes of the study, expenditure on rehoming was captured through the industry-level contribution, principally the significant investment made by Tasracing. This represents expenditure incurred directly by Tasracing and is separate from the training and preparation costs reported by individual trainers. In FY22 Tasracing allocated $922k to direct greyhound rehoming costs. FY26 direct costs totalled $1.31m.

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7. Would you be able to provide the Committee with a list of dogs that were retired last year and whether or not they were sterilised and then, of them, which ones received dental care as part of their exit from the industry, and which were funded by your program or otherwise? (see p. 63 of the transcript)

While 148 retired greyhounds had desexing and/or dental procedures funded by GPRS, a further 73 greyhounds were funded through the scheme during the last financial year but are not included in the retired figures. This is because they either retired after 30 June 2026 or we have not yet received the final retirement paperwork required to officially retire them in the system.

Of the greyhounds funded by GPRS, 31 did not undergo dental work as the assessment criteria indicated that treatment was not required.

Records marked "Audit" in the comments relate to greyhounds reconciled following the greyhound audit conducted in February 2026. Most of these dogs were over 10 years of age and had been retired as pets many years earlier. During the audit they were scanned, but desexing and other retirement documentation that may have previously been provided to ORI could not be located. *This does not necessarily mean these dogs were not desexed. Rather, the supporting documentation cannot be found, so they have been recorded as not desexed for reporting purposes.*

Following the February 2026 audit, changes to OzChase statuses resulted in these greyhounds appearing in the list of dogs retired during the last financial year, despite many having retired much earlier. The absence of documentation and historical system updates meant their retirement status was not accurately reflected previously.

8. Of the 23 kennel inspections by Tasracing Integrity Unit welfare officers, how many identified dental issues in the dogs and were dental checks conducted in each of those 23 inspections? (see p. 64 of the transcript)

As dental checks are not a standard component of the visual welfare inspection protocol, dental issues are not separately recorded as a category during kennel inspections. Animal Welfare Officers conduct a visual inspection of all animals and identify those that are injured, underweight or otherwise appear to require veterinary attention, and, where required, issue directions to the trainer to take the greyhound to a veterinarian for appropriate care. Their role is to work with participants holistically to continually raise welfare standards and ensure all animals are suitably housed, treated and maintained in line with animal welfare standards and the Rules of Racing.

9. What was the euthanasia number for the 2024/25 year? (see p. 70 of the transcript)

The number of GAP euthanasia (behaviourally unsuitable for responsible rehoming) for 2024/25 was 5.

10. Are you able to provide the Committee with numbers and graph on serious race day injuries and how this trends in relation to the other states? (see p. 72 of the transcript)

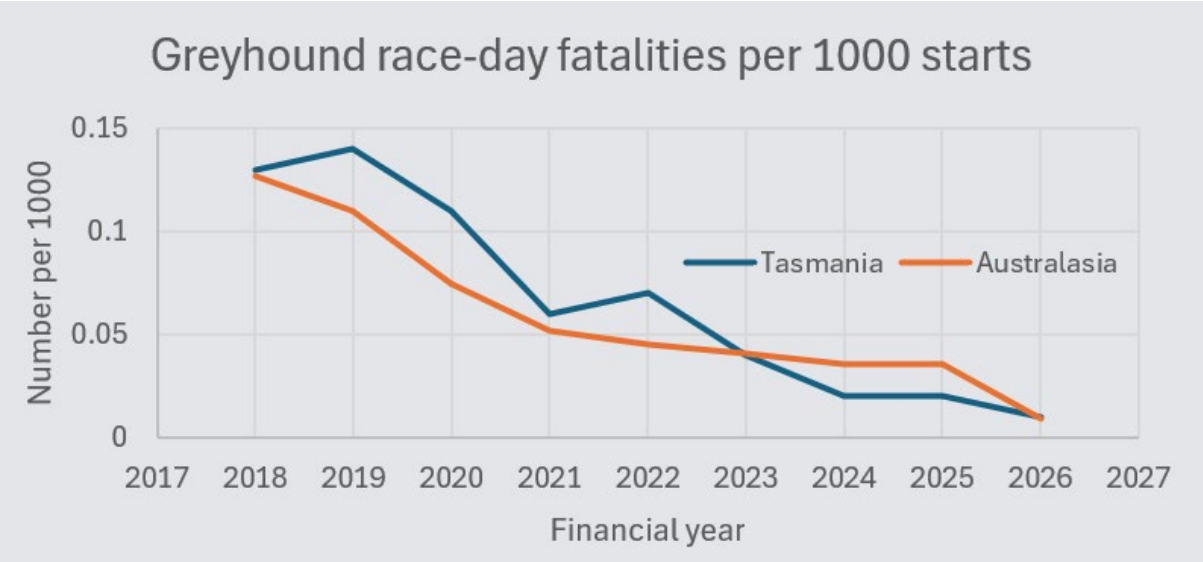
35	2.93
26	2.41

The table above shows FY 25 on top: serious injuries Cat F total number (35) and 2.93/1000 starters.

FY 26 on bottom: 26 total number, 2.41 per 1000 starters.

Unfortunately we don't have recent numbers for interstate jurisdictions to hand, however, they are reported in their respective annual reports.

Below is a graph of race-day mortality Tasmania vs rest of Australasia:



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11. **Is there any data that you're either able to provide to the Committee or point us to that shows the average time that a dog might stay in GAP? (see p. 73 of the transcript)**

No data is readily available however, people who undertake pet preparation training and/or foster care are eligible for express entry and generally enter the program within one month of receiving their foster report. These dogs typically progress through the program to adoption more quickly because they have already had preparation for the expectations of a pet environment.

Dogs on the waitlist whose connections do not undertake preparation work generally have an approximately eight-month wait. They typically require more time in the program as they have not had the same preparation or exposure to a pet environment.

Once a dog enters the program, there is no set timeframe for rehoming. Dogs assessed as ready continue to receive daily training and enrichment until a suitable home is identified. Dogs not yet ready continue with behaviour training and enrichment while there is meaningful improvement. If a dog reaches its best possible outcome but remains unsuitable or unsafe, it may not be appropriate for rehoming.

Rehoming timeframes are difficult to measure through fixed KPIs because suitable homes cannot be manufactured, nor can people be made to take a particular dog. It takes as long as it takes. The focus is on gathering comprehensive information about each dog and making the best possible match with suitable applicants—not simply moving dogs through the program as quickly as possible.

12. **Can you provide the Committee with data for the last five years, each year a figure of how many dogs died while on that waiting list and what the causes of death were of the dogs that died while on the waiting list? (see p. 75 of the transcript)**

Since records began in 2022, 120 greyhounds were removed from the GAP waitlist of these 6 greyhounds were recorded as deceased while awaiting entry.

Race Name	Ear Brand	Date of Death	Cause of Death
Ollie Jack	VMITY	5/08/2026	Euthanasia approved - Uncontrolled seizures despite high levels of medication, likely to result in severe brain damage.
Willow Tree	QJBCI	11/02/2026	Snake Bite - TIU attended, nil suspicious circumstances.
Frankie May	TLAJM	11/01/2026	Snake Bite - snake killed by trainer, snake still present in run.

Stari Grad	VGWLL	10/10/2025	Splenic torsion/ruptured splenic tumour.
Buckle Up Eli	TJAEW	27/08/2025	Euthanasia approved - severe aggression towards people.
Minstrel Adios	NJFWZ	13/12/2024	Euthanasia approved due to high level guarding - Ori confirmed deceased.

13. **Can you please provide the Committee with the care guides given to trainers and owners for dogs on the waiting list for rehoming? (see p. 76 of the transcript)**

Attached is the '*Prepare your Greyhound for Rehoming Guide*' which is provided when a greyhound is placed on the waitlist.

14. **Are you able to provide the Committee with breakdowns of data about how many dogs are examined by postmortem? (see p. 79 of the transcript)**

In relation to question 14 Tasracing would like to request an extension to provide the detailed breakdown of the data as Dr Martin Lenz, Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer is currently on leave. Tasracing would appreciate additional time to ensure the data is complete and accurate and will provide the breakdown following Dr Lenz's return on 28 September 2026.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Andrew Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer

Prepare your Greyhound for Rehoming Guide

Greyhounds as Pets Tasmania

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WHERE TO START

Preparation for rehoming is just as important as every other stage of your greyhound's life cycle, the more time and effort put in the better the result.

The better prepared your dog is the better life as a pet they will have. Dogs who have had more work put into them by the time they reach GAP should have a shorter stay before being ready for rehoming and are less likely to be returned, a well-prepared dog is also a suitable candidate for private rehoming.

Greyhounds are familiar and comfortable in their kennel environment and the track as these are the locations they have spent the most time. A dog that is happy in these environments may still be overwhelmed and anxious in a new environment. Exposure is very important to help a dog adjust. Here are some tips on preparing your dog for rehoming as well as the process to comply with the rules.

Wind Down

Rule L22.5 (i) Notifying the TIU of the commencement of a wind down period which comprises of at least 28 days during which the owner must ensure that: (a) the greyhound has not engaged in any racing related activities, including but not limited to trialling, breaking, education, training or racing; and (b) a record, in an approved format, is kept of the genuine and daily efforts made to socialise the greyhound to non-training and non- racing settings and environments and such details are recorded within 48 hours of the activity being undertaken.

Complete the wind down form which can be found at Tasracing.com.au/integrity
Click on the greyhound section, registration and licensing – greyhound, Welfare of greyhounds – Wind down. Complete form and return to operations@tasracingintegrity.com.au

During wind down, make an appointment with your vet for desexing, C5 vaccination booster if required and a dental. To make a claim for reimbursement, up to the allowed amount, visit tasracing.com.au/industry and select greyhound retirement preparation scheme. Ensure your vet provides you with a certificate for the desexing, dental and C5.

EXPOSURE

Environment Exposure

Very few greyhounds have lived in the home environment prior to preparing for retirement and pet life. While they are very comfortable in their familiar environments, the kennels and racetracks, some greyhounds find the new environments overwhelming initially. Bring the greyhound into your home to expose them to new smells, sounds, textures and surroundings. This includes showing greyhounds doors, windows, floorboards, TV's, vacuums and other household items.
By introducing greyhounds to these new environments, it means that when they are rehomed this isn't a new experience for them, and they will adapt quicker and be more confident and comfortable in the home making the transition much smoother and positive for both the greyhound and their new family.

When in the house, keep them on lead and walk them around the house and let them explore the new environment and all the smells, sounds and interesting items. After they have a look around, set up a bed for the greyhound to lay on where they can observe the household, ensure they learn to remain on the bed and not wander about.

Allow the greyhound to spend time loose in the backyard environment where they can learn to relax and begin to adjust from the routine of a race kennel that they are so familiar with.

In addition to home exposure, also take the greyhound out and about on excursions into the wide world to expose them to the public environments such as roads, parks, cafe's and shopping centres, where they will socialise with new people and children. These interactions and exposures will again assist the greyhound with confidence building and rehoming suitability and success.

SOCIALISATION SESSIONS

Most greyhounds grow up in a racing kennel environment and their exposure to other breeds of dogs and animals can be limited.

Always introduce to other breeds and animals under controlled circumstances. when introducing to other dogs ensure all dogs are on lead and initially have a muzzle on the greyhound. Ensure greetings are slow and controlled. Initial greetings should be for 2 seconds then move on, repeating several times. Avoid face to face greetings, try to allow dogs to sniff the rear of the other dog.

Going for a walk together with some distance initially between the dogs, walking parallel to each other and slowly decreasing the distance between them.

If the greyhound shows negative or predatory behavior such as lunging, barking, snapping and tracking then cease the interactions and seek assistance from someone experienced and trained in dealing with these behaviors. GAP will be able to assist you with sessions.

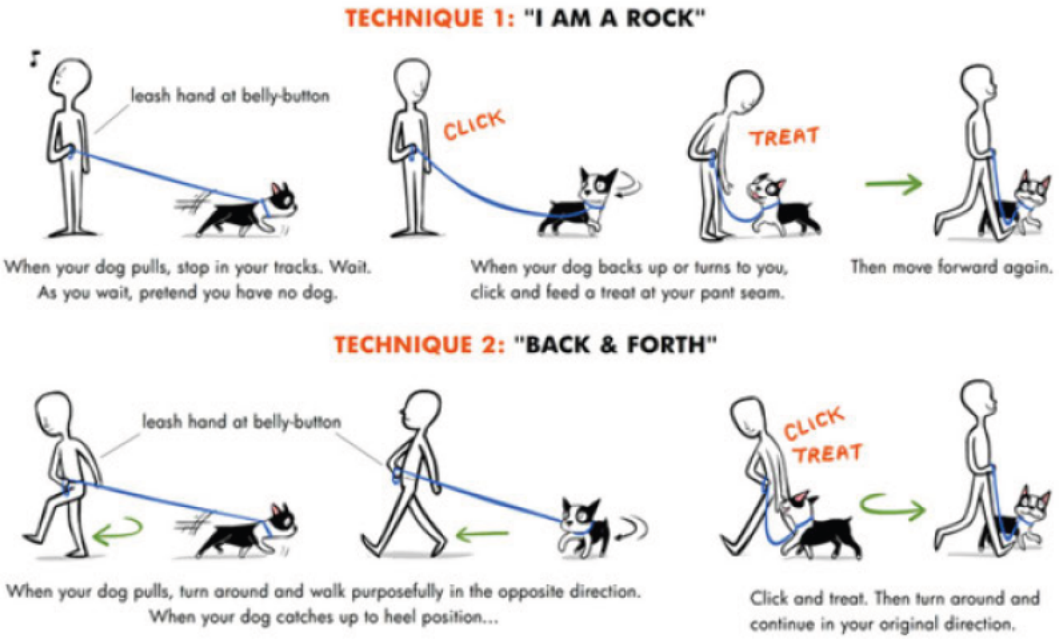
BASIC OBEDIENCE

Improving these basic obedience skills will make a greyhound more desirable as they wont require much training in their new home. Behaviors to work on are;

- Loose lead training
- General household manners
- Getting in and out of the car unassisted.
- Taking treats/food from your hand
- Toys

Loose Lead Training

Teach your greyhound to walk calmly by your side on a loose lead in a variety of environments such as a street, past the local shopping center, near a park or school to get them familiar and comfortable with the new sights and sounds that they may encounter such as crowds of people, prams, bikes etc. Below are two easy methods to begin working on loose lead training



General household manners

Introduce the greyhound to the inside of the home, including the different surfaces such as floorboards, tiles and carpet. Take time to help them negotiate stairs.

Teach them to stay on their designated bed in the home rather than wandering around the home, an easy option is to keep their collar and lead on and hook their lead onto something sturdy near the dog bed. Allow them the opportunity to observe and become comfortable with household items like a TV, vacuum cleaner etc.

Let the greyhound spend time in the backyard environment where they can learn to relax and not have expectation to return to the kennels in a set time frame.

Treats and Toys

Get your greyhound comfortable with accepting treats from your hand, many greyhounds are only familiar with food in a bowl and find it quite weird when you are trying to hand them food. Teaching them to take the treats will assist in other training.

Generally you will need a high value treat, at GAP we use diced Prime 100 meat rolls, these are available from Petstock and Petbarn. If initially your greyhound is unwilling to take the treat from your hand, drop it on the ground in front of them, as they decide it is delicious they will become more willing to take them from your hand.
Once you achieve this begin to reward your dog with a treat everytime they do something positive, this will begin to condition the behaviors you desire.

Work out the toys your dog likes best, stuffed toys, balls, puzzle mats. Encourage play with them and see if your dog is willing to give up the toy when you play. Seek advice if your greyhound displays any resource guarding.

Getting in and out of the car unassisted

Many pet owners can't lift greyhounds in and or out of the car, it's very helpful if the greyhounds can learn to do this without needing assistance.

Where possible teach them to be comfortable getting in and out of the backseat as well.
Some owners will return an adopted dog that can't get in and out of the car without assistance as that are not able to take them anywhere including the vet if they need to.

Rewarding a dog with their favorite treats for completing this task will make them more willing to complete the task.

RECAP

Training doesn't stop when your greyhound retires -

It just changes from race training to pet prep training

What can you do from home:

You can help to increase your greyhound's desirability and rehoming success by:

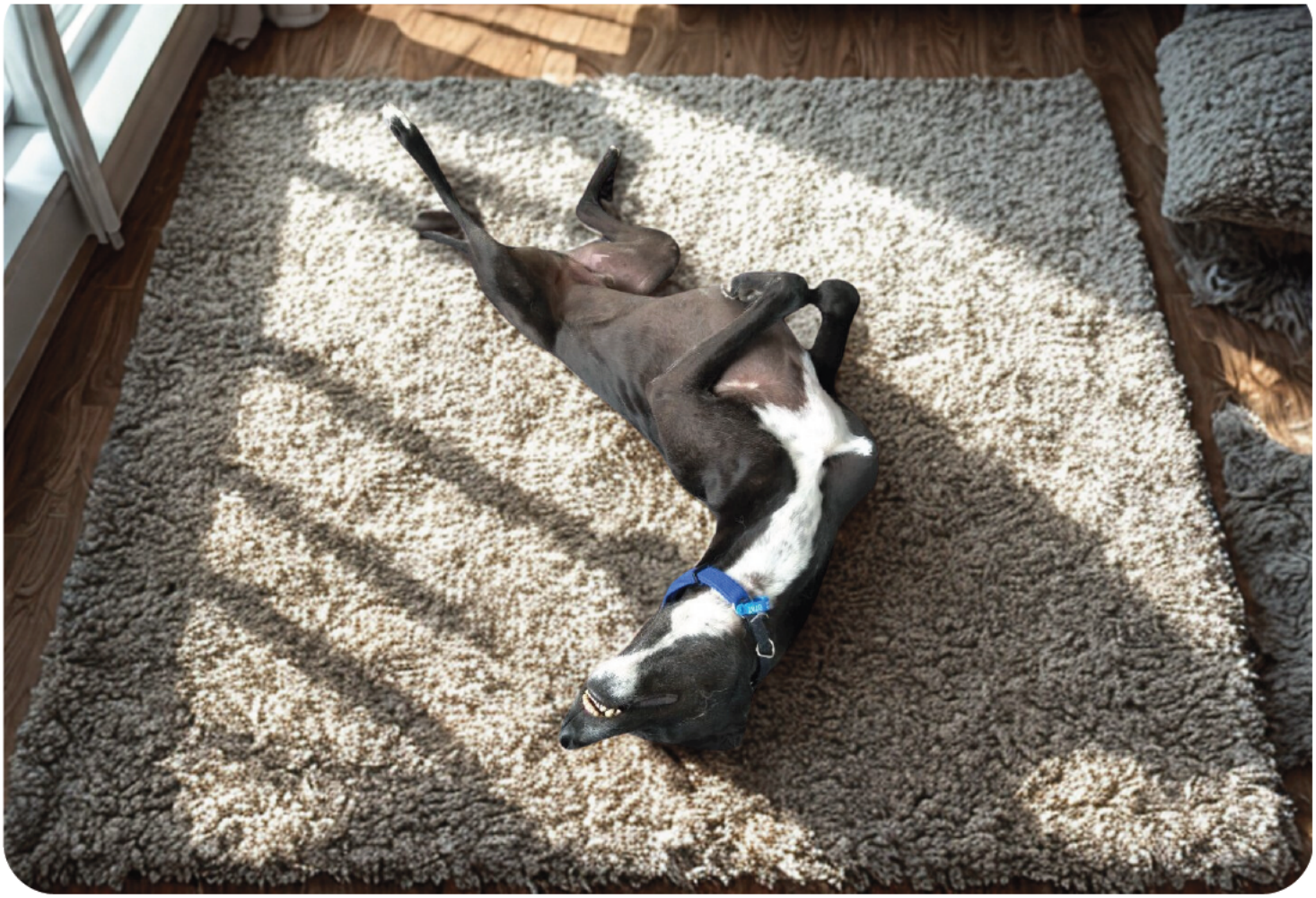
- Start Pet Prep training from a young age
- Interactions with your greyhound with other people and children
- Provide your greyhound with environmental enrichment to build on their independence
- Take your greyhound out for regular street walks where they can socialize with other dogs and visit new environments.
- Provide your greyhound with bones and long-lasting chew treats to upkeep dental health
- Regularly groom your greyhound to keep the coat health and shiny, use a grooming block to remove old coat
- Increase your greyhounds weight by approximately 2kg over their racing weight.
- GAP CAN ASSIST YOU - REACH OUT

RETIREMENT NOTICE

Once your greyhound has been taken into Greyhounds as Pets, privately rehomed, gone to an alternative agency or retained by the owner or trainer as a pet, you MUST complete a retirement form and lodge it completed along with the race card/ naming papers and a copy of the desexng certificate within 10 days.

This form can be at tasracing.com.au/integrity.
Click on the greyhound section, registration and licensing - greyhound, Welfare of greyhounds - Retirement notification.

Complete form and return to operations@tasracingintegrity.com.au



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