GREYHOUND
ADOPTION PROGRAM QLD

NEWS HOUNDS

Greyhound Adoption Program QLD Newsletter
June 2025

The Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) QLD is run by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) and is dedicated to finding homes for greyhounds that have retired from racing or are otherwise in need of a family.

HELPFUL GREYHOUND CARE TIPS

Osteoarthritis in greyhounds

Osteoarthritis is a degenerative joint disease. It's a progressive inflammation caused by the breakdown of joint cartilage which usually acts as a cushion, allowing the joint to move through its natural range of motion. Osteoarthritis can develop in younger greyhounds due to their athletic history prior to retirement.

To minimise the risk of osteoarthritis, ensure your greyhound has regular veterinary checkups (especially as they age), maintain an active lifestyle and healthy weight, and have appropriate nutrition.

Early identification is key to ensure appropriate management is initiated to help keep your greyhound active and maintain a good quality of life.

Common signs of osteoarthritis:

- Stiffness, lameness/limping, difficulty getting up particularly on cooler days

- Lethargy
- Reluctance to run, jump, use stairs or play
- Weight gain
- Irritability or changes in behaviour
- Pain when petted or touched
- Unusual licking or chewing over certain areas
- Difficulty posturing to toilet or having accidents
- Loss of muscle mass over limbs or spine
- Know your dog's normal, so you notice the abnormal!

Always consult your local vet if you think your greyhound may be showing signs of arthritis or you aren't sure. There are many treatment options available, and the vet will help tailor a program specifically for your greyhound.

NEWS FROM THE SEQ GAP TEAM 👩 🧍

Morning feeding time

Every morning the dogs are taken for a short toilet walk and then put into individual empty out yards where they are given their breakfast and watch the birds and the rising sun whilst their kennels are cleaned.

We feed our greys Royal Canin Maxi and they receive between 1 1/2 to 2 cups depending on the size of the dog (and who's on a diet). We always recommend high grade kibble as they have different dietary requirements to some other breeds and can lose weight easily if not given good quality food.

Some of our dogs are a little fussy and require a little "extra". We sometimes try a couple of combinations until we get it Goldilocks just right. Slow feeders are also needed for those in too much of a hurry to finish.

Once the food is loaded up, the familiar rattle of the food trolly leaving the kitchen signals BREAKFAST TIME!

NEWS FROM THE NQ GAP TEAM 👩 👨

Our NQ GAP team are out and about with retired greyhounds that are looking for their home, if you see us don't hesitate to stop and have a chat with us.

We will be at Our Townsville on Sunday 15 June and can't wait to see everyone there. Details about the event are listed below.

GREYHOUND BEHAVIOUR 🏆

Socialisation

Why is socialisation so important?

Socialisation helps to create a stable foundation in building relationships, through their interactions with new dogs and people and being exposed to new and different situations. This helps to create a much more confident and adaptable individual.

What is socialisation?

Socialisation involves exposing your greyhound to different experiences such as people, children, dogs, environments and sounds. Some ways are listed below:

- Taking your greyhound to a different park or simply going the opposite direction on your regular trail/walk.
- Taking them to Bunnings, the beach, lake or dog friendly cafés.
- Friends and family coming over for a visit or going to a friend's place for a playdate.
- Being exposed to different noises such as trains, ferry's, bike bells and different animals they may not have heard or seen before such as cows, birds etc.

Always start slowly and with short, controlled interactions, moving at your greyhound's individual pace.

Watch your greyhound's body language as everyone is different and what is okay for another dog may be too much for yours. Always temper any new interaction or experiences to your greyhound's personality as some are big homebodies and not keen on going to cafés and busy parks, but like the more sedate and quiet outings.

Associate any new interaction or experience with positive things like treats, lots of praise or playtime afterwards to assist in them associating this potentially scary new experience as something positive.

If you are experiencing behavioural issues with your GAP greyhound, please reach out to the GAP team.

More greyhound care and behaviour tips can be found here.

WHAT'S ON 👀

Our Townsville
Our Townsville is a must event on the Townsville event calendar and the GAP team are excited to be a part of the festivities. Join us and pat our greyhounds and make a new best friend.
More information and details here.

🗓️ Sunday 15 June
⏰ 9am – 4pm
📍 Anderson Gardens, 41 Gulliver Street, Mundingburra 4812

Homeward Hounds
Thinking of adopting a GAP greyhound? Then Homeward Hounds is the event for you! Head along and chat to the GAP team about adopting, fostering, behaviour and greyhound health. For more information and to register your attendance, visit our website.

🗓️ Saturday 21 June
⏰ 9am – 12pm
📍 Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club, 16 Old Cleveland Road, **Capalaba** 4157
📍 Townsville Showground, West End, Ingham Rd, **Townsville** 4812

GAP Open Day: Winter Woofland
Welcome to our SEQ GAP Kennels. Head out to our kennels and watch the GAP team in action. We will be conducting guided kennel tours; canine health chats and we're offering both pre-matched and on the day adoptions. More information can be found here.

🗓️ Saturday 28 June
⏰ 9am – 12pm
📍 985 Atkinsons Dam Road, Churchable 4311

MONTHLY FUN FACT 🤓

Greyhounds are the second fastest animals on earth, after cheetahs – why not adopt a fast friend today?

GREEN COLLAR ASSESSMENT 💚

If you didn't adopt your greyhound with GAP, did you know you can still have your retired racer assessed for a green collar?

Green collar accreditation provides an exemption from muzzling in a local council area where muzzling would otherwise be required under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

Further information can be found here.

FOSTER FAMILIES 💕

Fostering plays an important role in our retired greyhounds transitioning to pet life. Foster carers provide essential care through enrichment activities such as walking, making friends and everyday interactions - with new sights and smells.

The GAP team provide ongoing support and advice to foster families. If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, visit here.

Our ever-sweet Molly is currently in foster care and is ready to find her home. This snuggle-bug needs experienced dog parents to continue with her training. This people dog needs to be the only 4-legged love of your life in the house.

More information on Molly's profile can be found here.

ADOPTION SPOTLIGHT 🐾

Meet Jimmy.
Location: South-East Queensland

Our energiser dog, Jimmy, has been wishing for his perfect home. He is a playful boy who is full of energy and will need an active and experienced greyhound family. He would love to attend obedience classes; he loves training and of course snacks to reinforce his five-star efforts.

View Jimmy's profile

View Luki's profile

Meet Luki and Bruno.
Location: North Queensland

Luki and Bruno have been patiently waiting for their retirement homes and would love a family to adopt them. Head over to their profiles and show them some love.

Luki has had a doggy friend and would love another one to spend his days with.

Bruno is a shy boy who is looking for a male to help him in the wide world.

View Bruno's profile

If Jimmy, Luki and Bruno are not your perfect match, check out all GAP greyhounds looking for their retirement home here.

Further information on our adoption process can be found here.

GAP UPDATES 🐕

We are very excited to watch our GAP family grow. We would like to welcome all our new GAP family members. Don't forget to send us your updates: gap@qric.qld.gov.au.

ALL YOUR GREYHOUND QUESTIONS ANSWERED 🙋

Do you have questions on our adoption process, behaviour, health? Check out our website that is jammed packed with factsheets.

A topic not covered. Want more information? Reach out to our GAP team at gap@qric.qld.gov.au.

More greyhound care and behaviour tips can be found here.

Our team are here to help you.

BARK ABOUT US! 🗣️

We have greyhounds available now who are looking for their retirement homes. Can you help?

Follow and share the GAP's updates on social media, forward this newsletter to your friends and tell the dog lovers in your life about the GAP! Help us to match our greyhounds with a happy home.