



Australian Government

RGRPSG411 Interpret and manage greyhound behaviours

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with RGR Racing and Breeding Training Package Version 3.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop basic knowledge of greyhound breed-specific behaviour, read body language, and interpret and manage common behaviours.

The unit applies to individuals who work with greyhounds and are involved in greyhound education at all stages.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory animal welfare and health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Performance Services Greyhounds (PSG)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Identify key features of the greyhound breed	1.1 Describe greyhounds according to physical features using industry terminology 1.2 Outline the natural ethogram of the domestic dog 1.3 Identify how artificial selection has influenced the predominance

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	of certain behaviours in the working greyhound 1.4 Outline industry documentation used for greyhound identification
2. Interpret common behaviours in greyhounds	2.1 Identify common behavioural issues, including those related to anxiety and predation that impact on the ability of a greyhound to transition from racing to a pet 2.2 Observe and identify behavioural indicators of different emotional states in greyhounds and their potential consequences 2.3 Undertake a functional analysis to document greyhound behaviour
3. Provide constructive solutions to manage behaviour for transitioning to a pet	3.1 Source appropriate external reference material and resources to build knowledge of canine behaviour and current practices relating to behaviour modification 3.2 Evaluate common methods for modifying canine behaviour 3.3 Identify common approaches to address and manage canine behavioural issues 3.4 Identify best practice socialisation and environmental optimisation to assist greyhound transition to a pet at all life cycle stages

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Learning	- Actively update own knowledge of canine behaviour and modification techniques - Use industry and scientific terminology to describe greyhound behaviour and body language
Get the work done	Use common workplace technology and systems to gather, record and convey information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSG411 Interpret and manage greyhound behaviours	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0>

Assessment Requirements for RGRPSG411 Interpret and manage greyhound behaviours

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- observed and noted signs of the following behaviours in four individual greyhounds:
 - socially appropriate behaviour with a dog of a different breed, including signs of healthy play
 - socially affiliative behaviour with people
 - inappropriate predatory behaviour
 - anxiety or fearfulness
- carried out a functional behavioural analysis on two greyhounds and identified and justified the use of rewards-based activities to address their needs to transition to a pet.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- greyhound identification, including:
 - physical traits – colours, age, gender, conformation, scars or existing injuries
 - industry documentation – microchips, ear brands, racing papers, other registration papers
- meaning of key terminology, including ethogram, ethology and functional analysis
- natural ethogram of the domestic dog
- canine behavioural responses to negative emotional states (repulsion, avoidance, appeasement, inhibition)
- types of behaviours selected for in working/racing greyhounds, including prey drive
- basic meaning of a range of body language, including:
 - body positioning
 - position of ears and tail

- focus of eyes
- tongue/mouth
- common healthy social behavioural signs with dogs and people
- signs of problematic behaviour, including:
 - predation, including dog-dog predation
 - negative emotional indicators during handling and husbandry procedures
 - anxiety and fear, including social and environmental triggers
 - frustration
- scenarios that indicate the need for increased management or professional intervention post-adoption, including:
 - common presentations of problematic fears, phobias and anxiety in home environment, including isolation-distress
 - interspecific aggression and dog-dog predation within the home and in public
 - predation towards other animals both in public and in multi-pet households
 - common signs of human-directed aggression in the home, including resource guarding
- common activities required to successfully transition a greyhound to pet environment, including:
 - safe greetings with unfamiliar people, dogs and other animals
 - house training, including toilet training, chew training, bed/crate training, prevention of problem behaviours related to anxiety and fear
 - exposure to novel objects and experiences, including noise, food, walking harnesses, environments and surfaces
- application of functional behaviour analyses and use of common methods of behaviour modification for dogs, including efficacy and welfare considerations.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various greyhounds
 - videos of greyhounds displaying different behaviours, if required, to meet the performance evidence requirements.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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