

Greyhound Haven Tasmania

Responsible pet ownership guide



A large part of responsible pet ownership is being aware of state and council laws regarding the care and control of your pet. Ignorance of the laws is never a good defence so we strongly encourage new adopters to make themselves familiar with their local laws regarding dogs (in particular, greyhounds, as the laws often vary for the breed).

Breaking these laws can result in fines and other, more serious penalties; including the impoundment and destruction of your dog.

In Tasmania, there are two main pieces of legislation to be aware of-

[The Dog Control Act 200](#)

[Animal Welfare Act 1993](#)

Beside these, there are also-

[Animal health Regulations 2006](#) (this relates to the feeding of offal to dogs)

And also the dog management laws for each council area.

[Launceston City Council](#)

Council laws tend to change more frequently than state laws so it's important to review these at least once a year (when you re-register your dog is a good time to do this).

A few points to remember

- Never walk your greyhound off leash. It remains illegal to do so in Tasmania and you may be fined for having a dog at large (currently a \$200 fine).
- When walking other breeds, never allow them off leash unless you are in an area signed as being off leash. If you can't see a sign in an area, assume it is on leash area.
- Your greyhound must be muzzled at all times in public. There are a few exceptions to this law but it's unlikely the average adopter would ever be within those exceptions.
- Ensure your dog is contained within your property. Fines apply for dogs caught at large. In cases of repeated offenses, your dog could be impounded until you rectify any problems with your fencing.
- Ensure your dog is a good neighbour. Barking can cause serious issues between neighbours, despite generally being a fairly easy problem to resolve in greyhounds.

Irresponsible pet owners can do untold damage to the reputations of the breeds they own (bull breed dogs are an unfortunate example of this) and so one of the most important things you can do as a greyhound owner is obey laws relating to dog control.