



WE ARE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!

YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND

**A GUIDE TO BECOMING A MEMBER OF A
GREYHOUND SYNDICATE IN IRELAND**

**ENQUIRE TODAY AND LET US
HELP YOU TO FORM YOUR
GREYHOUND SYNDICATE**

**GREYHOUND
RACING
IRELAND**



LET'S GET RACING
OwnAGreyhound.ie

www.ownagreyhound.ie

Have you visited the dogs and loved the buzz of the night?

Do you enjoy the greyhound you've picked being first past the post? Felt like getting more involved? There's nothing like watching a dog you, or a group you're a part of, own. And getting involved is easier than you think!

Why own a greyhound?

- It's a social outlet that allows you to break free from the stress of everyday life
- Being part of a syndicate can bring together family, friends, colleagues and teammates in a relaxed social setting.
- It's fun! Unleash your inner quirkiness with your syndicate name with something different like these – *The We Can't Afford a Horse Syndicate*, *The Otter's Pocket Syndicate* and *The Ducking and Diving Syndicate*.



FAQ's: Becoming a Greyhound Owner

Who looks after my greyhound?

Your trainer will house, train and look after the day-to-day care of your greyhound.

How much does it cost to buy a greyhound?

The cost of buying a greyhound varies greatly depending on their breeding, racing experience etc. Buying experienced racing greyhounds with form on their card (i.e. previous trials and races by which you can judge their grade and performance) can vary from about €2,000 up to €10,000 or more, depending on their success and potential.

Buying a greyhound as a pup or sapling is a more affordable option but it does mean a little more time waiting for them to get racing ready. You also do not have racing experience to help inform your decision, but who knows, you may have the next Derby winner on your hands! The cost of pups varies depending on their breeding but you can expect to pay between €600 to €2,500.

How much does a greyhound's upkeep cost?

This can vary as each trainer will have their own fees and terms and is something you will need to negotiate with them. As a guide, this usually ranges from €55 to €100 per week. There may also be additional expenses for vet fees and travel - again check with your potential trainer.

Can I expect to make money from owning a greyhound?

Owning a greyhound is something that people do out of love of the sport or a social hobby or pastime. You will not always be on the winner's podium and sometimes your losses may outweigh your victories but with a little bit of luck you may earn a few quid along the way.

How many people can I have in my greyhound syndicate?

There's no limit on the numbers you can have in your syndicate, however, we would recommend that that you keep the numbers at 20 or less as managing a larger syndicate may be more difficult.

Can I opt out of a syndicate if I decide to?

A greyhound syndicate should be considered a business agreement or a partnership. In a business partnership, an agreement would be drafted upon formation. Similarly a greyhound syndicate should do likewise and set out the agreement for such eventualities e.g. a member must sell their share of the greyhound to the existing members for the original price paid.

If you are listed as the agent for the syndicate leaving will require a change of ownership to be registered with the Irish Coursing Club as keepers of the Greyhound Stud Book.

How often will my greyhound race?

This is ultimately a decision for your trainer, who will have the knowledge and experience of your greyhound's form, welfare and general health. Generally, a greyhound would run approximately once a week for 4 or 5 weeks and then take a little rest.

Who decides our greyhound's name?

Your syndicate can name your greyhound. If your greyhound already has a name, your syndicate can rename the greyhound by submitting the necessary forms and payments to the Irish Coursing Club.

You can check the ICC website to see if a name is available.



What is the difference between a Public Trainer and Private Trainer?

Public Trainers can hold unlimited numbers of greyhounds once they have suitable facilities. They must submit details monthly of their greyhounds in training to GRI Regulations Department and they automatically receive a 10% share of prizemoney for the greyhounds they train. Owners can designate the other 90% to their Private Trainer if they wish.

Private Trainers can hold up to 4 greyhounds for reward. Unlike the Public Trainers, they are not required to submit details monthly to GRI Regulations Department but they are required to inform them or a Racing Manager if a greyhound enters or leaves their kennels. Owners cannot nominate their Private Trainer to receive prizemoney.

Is there racing options for different grades of dogs?

So your new greyhound may not be a future Derby champion but there's still plenty of options for racing at your local Greyhound Stadium. Different race grades cater for different speeds and your greyhound will be graded with suitable competitors.

Is there someone who can help me to form a syndicate and get started?

Yes, Matthew, our Syndication Executive, is on hand to guide you through the process. He will help you to understand the process, advise you on budgets, finding a trainer and help in your greyhound search. Email Matthew on ownership@GRI.ie now to get started.

Greyhound Care Fund

In August 2019, the Irish Greyhound Board now GRI announced the establishment of a separate Care Fund dedicated to funding a variety of initiatives for the care and welfare of the greyhound, including:

- Various rehoming initiatives in conjunction with the Irish Retired Greyhound Trust (IRGT), established and operated by GRI, which assisted in the rehoming of over 1,000 greyhounds in 2018.
- The provision and upkeep of 'greyhound care centres', which are intended to help the transition of racing greyhounds from the track to retirement. GRI is currently seeking expressions of interest on this initiative and it is subject to a tender process.
- The "Injuries at Tracks Recovery Scheme", open to all owners and trainers who have incurred veterinary costs in the treatment of greyhounds to repair a career-ending orthopaedic (bone) injury sustained at an GRI licenced stadium.
- A full greyhound traceability system, as provided for in the Greyhound Racing Act 2019. When implemented, it will allow the whereabouts of a greyhound to be monitored by GRI throughout its life stages. It is hoped a draft set of regulations can underpin the system by the end of 2019.

What will the new 'Greyhound Care Fund' entail?

- The 'Greyhound Care Fund' is a fund that is solely dedicated to funding a variety of initiatives for the care and welfare of the greyhound.
- GRI is targeting the sum of €1 million to be raised for the Greyhound Care Fund in its first year of operation.
- Based on 2019 budget and activity levels, the funding will accrue from the following sources:
 - 10% of all admissions and restaurant packages. (€400k)
 - 5% of net Tote income. (€300k)
- GRI will engage with sponsors with a view to up to 50% of existing sponsorship being assigned directly to the Care Fund. It is estimated that this will yield €300,000 on the basis of existing sponsorship agreements.
- The establishment of the Care Fund will allow all who enjoy and participate in greyhound racing, from patrons to sponsors, to support the care and welfare of the racing greyhound. Every person walking through the turnstile of an GRI track will contribute to the Care Fund in some way.
- The Greyhound Care Fund will help to ensure that as many retired Irish greyhounds as possible can find loving, forever homes after their racing careers come to an end.





Would you like to speak with us about ownership & syndication?
Email: ownership@gireland.ie

Check out all details now
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