

HOT WEATHER & HEAT STRESS

WHAT IS HEAT STRESS?

Heat stress is a potentially life threatening condition caused by an elevation in body temperature. It can be due to high temperatures, excessive humidity and occurs when panting is not sufficient enough to cool the greyhound down.

Heat stress is completely preventable however, if the signs of heat stress are not treated appropriately, then heat stroke can occur with fatal consequences.

PREVENTING HEAT STRESS

The number one prevention of heat stress is good hydration and allowing the greyhound access to plenty of water.

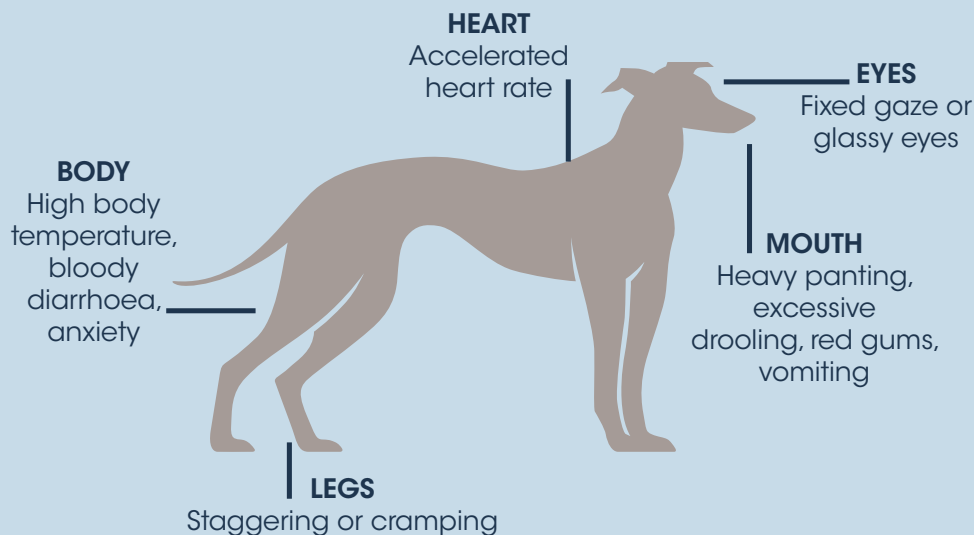
It is important to note that large, dark-coated dogs and nervous dogs are at increased risk of heat stress and should receive particular care in hot weather.

During hot weather it is best to avoid travelling long distances in trailers prior to racing. Any greyhound that is travelling should be well hydrated and contained in an air-conditioned vehicle that has been cooled before the greyhound enters.

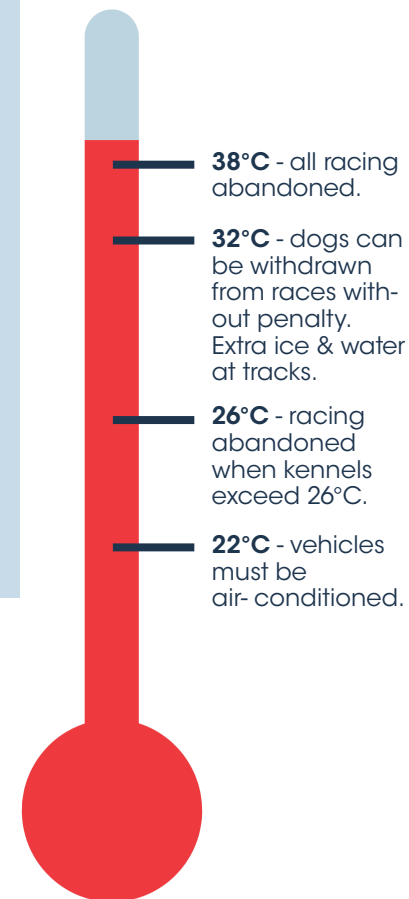
To prevent heat stress post-race it is important to:

- Monitor the greyhound closely for any signs of heat stress
- Provide plenty of water, but do not force the greyhound to drink
- Hose continuously or immerse the greyhound in water until panting decreases
- Hose the greyhound's feet, chest, back and groin
- Continually remove excess water by brushing against the hair to allow cool air to reach the skin.

RECOGNISE THE SIGNS AND SEEK VETERINARY ASSISTANCE IMMEDIATELY



THE IMPACT OF TEMPERATURE



For more information visit the Commission's website www.gwic.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 951 755