Congratulations! You have just acquired one of the noblest of breeds. The Greyhound has been the ultimate hunter of many kinds of prey, as well as the personal companion of kings and queens. Greyhounds have been depicted through many centuries, hunting a wide variety of game from large to small, on Greek vases, on Flemish tapestries, in Italian paintings, and in French books on hunting. More recently, Greyhounds in England went from being used in large-scale hunts with the nobility in royal forests, to the more contemporary sport of coursing hare in judged competitions, like the famous Waterloo Cup. The Greyhound is a member of the Sighthound family, which pursues game by virtue of keen vision and speed. Like most hounds, Greyhounds are independent in mind and spirit, but centuries as treasured companions have made them sweet and personable. As pack dogs, they enjoy and thrive on the company of other dogs.

**Activity and Identification**

An active dog when outdoors, but not wise in the ways of the modern world, the Greyhound needs a large, fenced area, safe from cars and other dangers. Its instincts are such that to deny its heritage of free running is to deny its very reason for existence. If allowed ample exercise on a daily basis, you will be rewarded with a dog that is sound in mind and body, and is a joy in the home.

Protect your greyhound in case it is lost by identifying it with a collar and tags. A permanent identification with a microchip or tattoo can be registered with AKCs Companion Animal Recovery. A 24-hour toll-free hotline helps locate the owners. There is a 100% re-homing rate with enrolled animals. For information, call (800) 252-7894.

**You and Your Greyhound**

Besides the pleasure of his company, there are many activities available to enjoy with your Greyhound. If your dog is show quality, conformation showing is fun and interesting. Obedience training can develop a great rapport with your Greyhound, if you have the gentle patience to work with a dog who is smart and has a heritage more inclined to independence than service. Agility's fast pace can be suited to the breed's lively nature. Tracking can be a rewarding challenge. Lure coursing can appeal to the instinct and desire to run that most Greyhounds inherently possess.

**Health and Well Being**

Like any athlete, your Greyhound needs high quality nutrition for optimal growth and energy throughout life. A premium meat-based dog food with adequate fat and protein is necessary for proper development of bone and muscle and continued good health.

The breed has few major health problems. Gastric torsion and bloat are life-threatening and require immediate action and treatment. You should familiarize yourself with the symptoms, and talk with your dogs breeder and veterinarian. Because they are athletes, Greyhounds can be subject to sports injuries such as pulled muscles, broken toes or split pads, and their fine, taut skin can be prone to tears and lacerations. The long, whip-like tails can split or break from impact. Grooming is a simple matter of routine brushing with a soft bristle brush or rubber curry, in addition to bathing when needed.

Many Greyhound Club of America members support health research for the Greyhound through the AKC Canine Health Foundation—a nonprofit charitable organization whose mission is to help dogs live longer, healthier lives. Supporting the Canine Health Foundation will help ensure a healthy future for all dogs. For more information about ongoing health research to help the Greyhound, see www.akcchf.org or call toll free 1-888-682-9696.
**Hindquarters**
Long, very muscular and powerful, wide and well let down, well-bent stifles. Hocks well bent and rather close to the ground, wide but straight fore and aft.

**Feet**
Hard and close, rather more hare than catfeet, well knuckled up with good strong claws.

**Tail**
Long, fine and tapering with a slight upward curve.

**Coat**
Short, smooth and firm in texture.

**Color**
Immaterial.

**Weight**
Dogs, 65-70 pounds; bitches 60-65 pounds.

**Scale of Points**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General symmetry and quality</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head and neck</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest and shoulders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Back</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarters</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legs and feet</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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**Learning More**
Attending a Greyhound Specialty is an excellent way to see many Greyhounds at one time, and to talk with their owners and breeders. The GCA can help you locate experienced mentors on the breed who will be valuable resources for more in-depth study.

The AKC Greyhound video, made with the assistance of the Greyhound Club of America, is an outstanding source of information, as well as a guided tour of the breed standard. The video is available from the American Kennel Club (www.AKC.org).

The GCA publishes a bi-monthly Newsletter, available from the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Sheryl Bartel (sbartel@sos.net). For more breed information, lists of resources, and upcoming events, please contact the GCA corresponding secretary, Tamara Depue, (tarmars@gmail.com) or visit the club’s Web site, www.GreyhoundClubofAmerica.org.