



Australian Rat Fanciers Society

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Email: ausrfs@ausrfs.org.au
Website: www.ausrfs.org.au
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/AustralianRatFanciersSociety
Rat Advice Line: 0401 741 162 (If no answer please leave a message, or call the Rescue Service number if urgent).
Rescue Service: 0411 670 215

Updated 4.8.2026

BOARDING AGREEMENT

The Australian Rat Fanciers Society Inc. (AusRFS) offers a boarding service to look after pet rats when their owners go away on holidays etc. The rats are placed in the homes of AusRFS Boarding Service Team members

Bookings

All bookings and queries should to be directed to the AusRFS Boarding Co-ordinator Nichola Judd, via the AusRFS email address above, if urgent, phone Nichola on 0450 262 080.

Availability

The Boarding Service is dependent on suitable AusRFS members being available to take the boarders into their homes. The Boarding Co-ordinator will endeavour to find carers when required but the AusRFS does not guarantee that members will be available at all times. The more notice given, the better chance there is of a carer being arranged.

The AusRFS reserves the right to refuse or cancel any Boarding Agreement before the Boarding has commenced.

Boarding Fee

The full boarding fee goes to the carer. The AusRFS does not profit from the Boarding Service.

The fee per cage (recommended maximum 5 rats per cage) is: AusRFS Members: \$25.00 per week (or part thereof), Non-Members: \$35.00 per week (or part thereof).

The boarding fee is payable to the carer at time of drop off. Payment is in cash unless an alternative method has been prearranged with the carer.

Boarding Agreement

The Boarding Agreement sets out the terms and conditions of the Boarding and the responsibilities of the owner and the carer. On signing the agreement both parties are bound by the agreement.

Owners must fully complete and sign a Boarding Agreement before the rats are left with the carer. This includes:

- a) Setting a monetary amount for which they are prepared to reimburse the carer in the event that the rat needs veterinary care. This also covers euthanasia if recommended by the treating vet.
- b) Releasing the carer and the AusRFS of all responsibility in the case of sickness, injury or death of the rat/s while in their care.

The Carer must sign the agreement, on or before time of drop off.

Copies of the Agreement are to be retained by the owner, carer, and the Boarding Service Co-ordinator.

Drop off and Pick up of rats

The date and approximate time for drop off and pick up must be arranged at time of booking, unless previously agreed to by the carer. Times to be agreed to by both owner and carer.

The owner must contact the carer prior to the agreed date for collection of the rats if they are not able to drop off or pick up the rats on the agreed date or time.

Cages

If a cage cannot be provided by the owner, the owner must inform the Boarding Co-ordinator at the time of booking and the Boarding Co-ordinator will arrange for a cage to be provided to the carer. These arrangements must be in place prior to the rats being dropped off to the carer.

Food and Supplies

Owners must provide all food, supplies and accessories that the rat/s will require during their stay. Including such things as cage, water bottles, food dishes, bedding and favourite toys.

If the owner does not bring enough food etc then the owner must reimburse the carer for any expenses incurred.

Medications

Provide all medications which are clearly marked, along with full written instructions for administering the medication. On signing the agreement the owner authorises the carer to administer such medicine to the rat/s in accordance with the instructions provided.

Parasite Treatment

If a rats are not on a regular parasite treatment regime then the owner must treat the rats with Revolution spot on treatment or similar AusRFS recommended product, as per instructions on the AusRFS website, 2 days prior to the boarding date.

If the rats are not treated then the carer may at their discretion treat the rats with as described above. The carer must inform the owner that they will treat the rats and the owner is responsible for reimbursing the carer for the cost of the treatment.

Vet Treatment

Provide details of their vet. The rats will not necessarily be taken to this vet but the details may be required in case the treating vet wishes to discuss the health history or treatment of the rat/s.

Care of the Rats during Boarding

Carers will care for the rats as they would their own rats. Providing them with:

- a) A safe, comfortable, clean environment with protection from extremes of temperature
- b) Appropriate food (as supplied or agreed) and clean water at all times.
- c) Human contact and socialisation.
- d) Veterinary care as deemed appropriate by the carer (if necessary in consultation with the Boarding Service Co-ordinator), to the amount as set out in the Boarding Agreement.

Collection of Rats after Boarding

If the rats are to be collected by a person other than the owner, then the owner must inform the carer provide written permission for this prior to the date of collection.

Reimbursement for Additional costs

Owners must reimburse the carer for all monies owed, including food supplies and vet fees as agreed to in the Boarding Agreement at time of collection.

Extension of Boarding

If the owner requires the rats to be boarded longer than the agreed date, and the carer is not able to continue to board the rats, then the AusRFS will endeavour to arrange for another carer to board the rats, under the same conditions, but this is not guaranteed.

If an extension isn't possible the owners must pick up the rats or arrange to have the rats collected, in line with this the boarding agreement, on the date previously agreed to.

If the rats are not picked up by this date, then the rats will be considered to be abandoned and the appropriate procedures, listed in the following section (Non-collection of rats) will be followed.

Non Collection Rats

If rats that have been left for boarding are not collected as agreed, or the carer or AusRFS have been unable to contact the owner, after one week the rats will be considered to be abandoned. The Boarding Service Co-ordinator will consult with the AusRFS Rescue Service Co-ordinator to decide what to do with the rats as per the procedures set out in the following point.

If the Boarding Service Co-ordinator and Rescue Service Co-ordinator agree then the rats shall become wards of the AusRFS Rescue Service. Rescue Service will keep the rats in good faith for a short period of time at the discretion of the Rescue Service Co-ordinator. After such time the rats will be put up for adoption. The carer who has boarded the rat/s shall be given first preference to adopt the rat/s if they wish to.

If the rats are not collected by the owner and the owner has not reimbursed the carer for any fees as agreed in the Boarding Agreement, the AusRFS will reimburse the carer and endeavour to recoup the amount from the owner.

THE OWNER**This section to be completed by the owner**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Contact details when away _____

Email Address _____

DETAILS OF BOARDING REQUIRED

DATES

From

To

(Estimated times of drop off and pick up to be arranged with the carer when contact is made.)

RATS TO BE BOARDED

Number of rats to be boarded _____

Rats Name

Sex

Desexed?

Age

Any health issues
& medicationAnything else that the carer
should be aware of.

Can you bring a cage or do you need a cage supplied? _____

If supplying a cage, please describe
and give dimensions of the cage _____**VET'S CONTACT DETAILS**

Vet's name _____

Vet Clinic Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

I Agree that, in the event of any illness or accident, the carer has authority to seek veterinary care the amount of \$_____ per rat, and I will reimburse the carer for all expenses incurred up to that amount. This also covers euthanasia if recommended by the treating vet.

I understand that the carer will care for the rats to the best of their ability, but release the carer and the AusRFS of all responsibility in the case of sickness, injury or death of the rat/s while in their care.

I have read and agree to the Boarding Terms and Conditions as set out in this document.

The Boarding Fee of \$_____ has been paid to the carer.

Signature _____

Date _____

THE AusRFS CARER**This section to be completed by the carer.**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

I agree that I will care for said rat/s in my home to the best of my ability, including seeking veterinary treatment if required. I have read and agree to the Boarding Terms and Conditions as set out in this document, and the AusRFS Boarding Service Code of Conduct & Boarding Service Team Job Description (AusRFS Bylaws)

The Boarding Fee of \$_____ has been received from the Owner.

Signature _____

Date _____

A copy of this agreement is to be retained by the owner, carer, and AusRFS Boarding Co-ordinator