DOGS VICTORIA

REG. NO. A0023882W

REGULATIONS

PART 3-GENERAL

Last update: 15 November 2026

To be read in conjunction with DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations, Codes & Policies

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3 – GENERAL

3.1 DOGS AUSTRALIA

3.1.1 All parts of Dogs Victoria Regulations are to be read in conjunction with the DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations, which take precedence.

DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 2 – Judges
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3 – Judges Training & Examination Scheme (Amended 15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3A – Retrieving Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3B – Field Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3C – Obedience Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3D – Endurance Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3E (a) – Tracking Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3E (b) – Track & Search Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3F – Rally Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3G – Agility Jumping & Games Trial Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3H – Dances with Dogs Competition Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3I – Retrieving Ability Test for Gundogs Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3J – Sled Dog Sports Judges Training & Assessment Program (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3K – Draft Test Judges Training & Assessment Program (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3L – Lure Coursing Judges Training & Assessment Program (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3M – Herding Judges Training & Assessment Program (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3N – Scent Work Trials Judges Training Scheme (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Park 3O – Selection & Training of Earthdog Judges
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 3P - Sprintdog Judges Training & Assessment Program
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 4 – Reserved
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 5 – Conformation Show (Amended 15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 6 – The Register and Registration
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 7 – Reserved (Amended 15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 8 – Member Bodies & Membership
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 9 – Non Resident Judges (Visiting Overseas Judges)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 10 – National Prefix Register
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 11 – Earthdog Tests for Small Terriers and Dachshunds
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 12 – New Rules now located under Rules (Amended 15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 13 – National Breed Councils / Use of the Word National in the name of an event (Championship Shows) (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 14 - National Breed Councils / Use of the Word National in the name of an event (other than a Championship Show) (15/11/21)
DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations – Part 15 – Regulations for Junior Handler Competition & DOGS AUSTRALIA Ltd Junior Handler Manual (15/11/21)

3.1.2 DOGS AUSTRALIA agenda items, proposals, minutes and decisions are to be posted on Dogs Victoria website as soon as practicable after receipt from the DOGS AUSTRALIA.

3.1.3 No heading to a Regulation or Sub-Regulation, nor any marginal notes or footnotes in these Regulations, shall be taken to be part of the Regulation.

3.1.4 Where the Management Committee makes, amends or repeals a Regulation, the change will have effect from the 15th day of the month in which the change is published.

3.2 DEFINITIONS

AIDS AND ABETS - the act of knowingly assisting, advising or obtaining another person or persons to participate in or be a party to the commission of a breach of the Rules, Regulations, Codes of Ethics or Practice of Dogs Victoria.

AIR QUALITY – means the air quality measured and reported by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). (15/12/25)

AMBIENT AIR TEMPERATURE – is the temperature of the surrounding air whether indoors or outdoors. It represents the actual air temperature, not how it might feel due to factors like humidity or wind. (15/12/25)

APPARENT TEMPERATURE – on the Bureau of Meteorology website and app, "App Temp (°C)" or "Apparent Temperature" refers to the "feels like" temperature, which is an estimation of how the current weather conditions would feel to the average person. It takes into account factors like wind chill and humidity, which can make the actual air temperature feel warmer or colder. (15/12/25)

ASSEMBLY STEWARD - A Fixture official who calls exhibits to a designated assembly area in preparation for the judging of classes.

ASSOCIATE DOG - means a neutered dog or bitch that is not a separate breed recognised by the DOGS AUSTRALIA or a neutered dog or bitch that is not eligible to be registered in the main or limited register for any reason.

ASSOCIATE REGISTER - means a separate register kept by Dogs Victoria for the purpose of recording unregistered purebred and mixed breed dogs defined as "Associate Dogs" for the purpose of competition in disciplines other than Conformation, Retrieving and Field trials or 'restricted to breed' or restricted to group' events. (15/07/16)

AUTHORISED PERSON – means an employee or member of Dogs Victoria whose role requires them to act on behalf of the organisation for the purpose of visiting and inspecting the premises of any member, collecting a written statement from any member or questioning any member in relation to the investigation of a complaint or incident.

BILLETED – means to provide accommodation for a Judge at the request of, or with the permission of, the host club.

BOM – means the Bureau of Meteorology, Australia. (15/12/25)

CANINE CONTROLLING BODY - means anybody recognised as such by Management Committee.

CENTRAL REGISTER - means the central register of prefixes kept by the DOGS AUSTRALIA.

CFA – means the Country Fire Authority. (15/12/25)

CHALLENGE CERTIFICATES - are certificates offered only at Championship Shows which provide points towards the title of Australian Champion. The points are calculated in accordance with DOGS AUSTRALIA determination. Subject to the provisions of these regulations one shall be available for competition by each sex of each breed exhibited at each Championship Show conducted by an Affiliate of Dogs Victoria

CHAMPION - Refer DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5 Section 7.7.

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - is an exhibition of registered dogs at which Challenge Certificates and prize cards are awarded and money prizes can be awarded.

COMMERCIAL SELLING - is where a person is making all or part of their regular income from selling.

COMPLAINT - an allegation which if proven would constitute a breach of Rules, Regulations, Codes of Ethics or Codes of Practice of Dogs Victoria.

CONFORMATION SHOW - means a Show that is either an All Breeds Show, Championship Show, General Show, Open Show, Parade, Competition, Sanctioned Show or Specialist Show.

CONSPIRACY - consists of the agreement of two or more persons to do an unlawful act or a lawful act by unlawful means. In this case it would apply to any case in which two or more persons - one being a suspended or disqualified member - planned together and agreed to commit an act which would constitute a breach of the Rules, Regulations or Codes of Dogs Victoria.

CRYPTORCHID - is a dog which has one or no testicles descended into the scrotum.

DAMAGING WINDS – means sustained winds of gale force (63 km/h) or more or wind gusts of 90 km/h or more.

DATE OF BIRTH - in relation to a dog means the actual date of birth of a dog provided that where puppies born of the same parturition are whelped on different days, the birth date of the whole litter shall be taken as the day on when the first puppy is whelped.

DEVELOPMENT REGISTER - means a separate register kept by Dogs Victoria for the purpose of recording a pure breed of dog undergoing a specific development process or for any other purpose considered appropriate by the Management Committee or other Registers as required.

DISTANCE – means where the context permits, the length of the shortest practicable route, by road, between fixture venues and/or other locations as measured by Google Maps (www.google.com/maps). (15/0725)

DISTRICT – for the purposes of weather, district means the forecast districts used by the BOM and the CFA. (15/12/25)

DOG - includes bitch where the context reasonably permits.

DOG MATCH - is an exhibition of two or more breeds or a combination of a breed or a number of breeds of dogs competing as a team, or breed or team against the other and in which the winning team is assessed by points allotted or by elimination of the losers.

DOGS AUSTRALIA - is a reference to the Australian National Kennel Council Limited (ABN 77 151 544 679) trading as Dogs Australia

DOGS VICTORIA - is a reference to the VICTORIAN CANINE ASSOCIATION INC (ABN 97 452 215 878) trading as Dogs Victoria

DOUBLE HANDLING - means any person other than the handler or Judge who, whilst exhibits are being judged, attracts or attempts the attraction of exhibits by verbalising or making signals or using any device.

E-MAIL - is electronic computer records or messages created, sent, transmitted, forwarded, replied to, stored, held, copied, downloaded, displayed, viewed, read or printed by any or several E-mail systems, such as Msmail, Internet E-mail and the like.

EPA – means the Environment Protection Authority. (15/12/25)

FILE - means a document, or documents; a computer file or files including computer file back-up disk or disks; written material of any sort including notes whether hand-written, typed or photocopied; audio tapes; film, whether cine film, video film or still photographs. BUT NOT including the Minutes or records of Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings of Dogs Victoria, the Management Committee or other Committee's or Sub-Committee's notes or records that are available for perusal by the general membership, or material that is for general distribution.

FIRE DANGER RATING – means the rating scale used by the CFA. (15/12/25)

FIXTURE – competition or activity sanctioned by Dogs Victoria.

FLOOD WATCH AREA – means the flood watch areas shown on the BOM website. (15/12/25)

FORECAST TEMPERATURE – means the forecast ambient air temperatures for the course of an event as shown on the BOM website or BOM Weather app. (15/12/25)

GALE FORCE WINDS – refer to Damaging Winds above. (15/12/25)

GRAND CHAMPION – refer DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5 Section 79.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY – of a person means a spouse, domestic partner, child (including stepchild, adopted child and child of a domestic partner), parent or sibling of the person. (15/02/24)

IMPORTED – in relation to a dog means a dog that has been born outside the three mile limit of Australia, and whose sire and dam are not registered in the Register(s) or in any register(s) kept within Australia but is otherwise eligible under the Regulations for registration in the Register(s).

IMPORTED DOG – is one that has been imported into Australia. Dogs whelped on route from overseas shall be deemed to be imported e.g. (Imp UK), (Imp NZ), (Imp USA) etc.

INCLEMENT WEATHER – includes thunder and lightning, damaging winds and heavy rain. Light to medium rain is not inclement weather. (15/12/25)

(15/02/12) INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION – refer DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5 Section 7.11.

JUDGING RING – means the area set aside and marked for the purpose of examining exhibits which includes the assembly area where such is marked or designated.

JUDGING TIMES – means the time at which the assessment of the first dog commences.

LIMITED REGISTER – means the canine register kept by Dogs Victoria for the purpose of recording dogs of a breed recognised by the DOGS AUSTRALIA and Dogs Victoria with restrictions as to Exhibition and breeding as detailed in the Regulations.

LITTER – in relation to a dog means all the living progeny eligible for registration in the Register(s).

(15/11/11) MAIN REGISTER – means the canine register kept by Dogs Victoria for the purpose of recording dogs of a breed recognised by the DOGS AUSTRALIA and Dogs Victoria as eligible for Exhibition and breeding and admitted to registration in accordance with these Regulations and Dogs Victoria Constitution and Rules. A list of Breeds recognised by the DOGS AUSTRALIA and Dogs Victoria is published on the DOGS AUSTRALIA website.

MEMBERS COMPETITIONS – are competitions restricted to entries lodged by a member of the Affiliate.

MISCONDUCT – means any act or behaviour which is deemed to be contrary to the Rules, Regulations, Codes and/or the Objective and Statement of Purpose of Dogs Victoria or of the Australian National Kennel Council.

MONORCHID – common term for unilateral cryptorchid.

NAME – in relation to a dog registered in the Register(s) means the prefix, the registered number and the word or letters assigned to the dog upon registration.

OPEN SHOW – is an exhibition of registered dogs at which Challenge Certificates are not awarded.

ORDINARY CLASS – means DOGS AUSTRALIA General Classes, DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5, Section 1, 1.1.1-1.1.11 inclusive.

PARADE – is an exhibition of registered dogs at which Prize Money is not awarded in breed classes, Champions cannot compete and Challenge Certificates are not awarded.

PERVERT – to turn from truth or proper purpose; to corrupt; to misinterpret; or to misapply the Rules, Regulations and/or Codes of Dogs Victoria.

PREJUDICIAL CONDUCT – means any conduct or breach of Rules, Regulations or Codes that is" prejudicial to the objectives or purposes of Dogs Victoria.

PRIOR TO THE EVENT – means prior to the scheduled commencement date and time for the event. (15/12/25)

PRIZE – includes any award, whether in the form of a certificate, a card, a ribbon, a rosette, a sash, a monetary payment, a trophy or otherwise.

PROCURE – to obtain, to cause, effect contrive.

PROPER RECORDS – means the keeping of accurate details of all dogs owned, leased, including litters bred, names and registered numbers of sire and dam, date whelped and to whom sold or disposed.

PROPRIETARY INTEREST – means having some legal or equitable interest in an animal on an on-going basis. For the purposes of these Regulations the definition does not include using a Judge's stud dog or boarding a dog at a Judge's boarding kennel.

PUBLISH – means to make publicly or generally known by advertisement, magazine, printed document or electronic means including posting on Dogs Victoria website.

(15/11/11) REGISTERED – in relation to a dog means that it is registered in the Main, Limited or Associate Register, or in any other DOGS AUSTRALIA or Dogs Victoria approved register as the case may be.

(15/11/11) REGISTERED NUMBER – in relation to a dog means the number allocated to it upon its registration in Main, Limited or Associate Register, or in any other DOGS AUSTRALIA or Dogs Victoria approved register as the case maybe.

REGISTERED OWNER – in relation to a dog means the person registered with Dogs Victoria, or other recognised canine Control, as the owner of such dog.

RESERVE CHALLENGE CERTIFICATES – are certificates offered only at Championship Shows which may be awarded to the runner-up to a challenge winner, entitling that exhibit to the Challenge Certificate should the Challenge winner become ineligible, except where the Challenge is withheld under the Regulations.

RING STEWARD – a fixture official responsible for the management of a judging ring in accordance with regulations and the Judge's directions.

SANCTIONED FIXTURES – may be conducted upon approval of Dogs Victoria by non-Affiliates only, for fund raising or Agricultural display promotions.

SAVAGE DOG – means any dog which without provocation attacks, bites or displays excessive aggression to attack or bite a person or another animal shall be deemed to be a savage dog.

SERVICE CERTIFICATE – means a certificate -

.1 Certifying the date of the service of a registered bitch by a registered dog; and
.2 Specifying the registered name of such dog; and
.3 Signed by the registered owner of the Dog.

SEVERE WEATHER – is as defined by the BOM. It includes severe thunderstorms, bushfires, damaging winds, heavy rain which may lead to localised flooding. (15/12/25)

SHOW MANAGER – the fixture official responsible for the management of the fixture in accordance with Regulations and the direction of the Fixture Committee.

SPECIAL PRIZE – is a prize of any description offered for competition for other than an ordinary class.

(15/02/12) SUPREME CHAMPION – refer DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5 Section 7.10.

(15/11/11) SUSPENDED DOG – means a dog whose DOGS AUSTRALIA or Dogs Victoria registration has been suspended rendering the dog ineligible to participate in any DOGS AUSTRALIA and Dogs Victoria approved activity including, but not limited to, exhibition and breeding.

TEMPERATURE LIMITS – unless otherwise stated, temperature limits are the ambient temperatures reported by the BOM at which action must be taken to cancel, suspend, postpone, move indoors or change the commencement time of an event. The temperature limits do not apply to events held indoors in air-conditioned buildings. (15/12/25)

TETHERED – means secured to a stake, post or other like object by means of a chain, rope or similar restraint.

THE BREEDER of an animal is:

.1 The owner of its dam at time of whelping or;

.2 The person to whom its dam is Leased by the owner provided that prior to the whelping that person has lodged with the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria, together with the prescribed fee, a declaration of the lease signed by that person and the owner of the dam on the prescribed Dogs Victoria documentation.

THE REGISTERS – means the various canine registers kept by Dogs Victoria for the purposes of recording dogs admitted to registration in accordance with these Regulations and Dogs Victoria Constitution and Rules. Only those breeds recognised by the DOGS AUSTRALIA and Dogs Victoria, from time to time, are eligible for registration on the Main or Limited Registers.

TICKET WRITER – a fixture official responsible for the marking of official catalogues and the entering of awards on prize certificates.

(15/08/10) WHELPING – means the birth of puppies whether by natural means or by caesarean section or by a combination of natural means and caesarean section.

NOTE: The definitions contained in the Constitution and Rules of Dogs Victoria shall also apply to these Regulations; and the word Australia wherever used in these Regulations shall be construed to include all territories and possessions of Australia.

3.3 MEMBERSHIP

3.3.1 A person cannot exhibit, handle or officiate at a Dogs Victoria approved exhibition, or participate in Dogs Victoria breeding activities, unless that person is a financial member of an DOGS AUSTRALIA recognised state member canine controlling body. (15/06/17)

3.3.2 Where a member or new member nominates an address other than residential, the Management Committee shall require the member to state their residential address. Such information may be required by Statutory Declaration.

3.3.3 Junior Membership

3.3.3.1 A person aged 7 years but less than 18 years is eligible to apply for Junior Membership.

3.3.3.2 Subject to the approval of Management Committee and upon payment of the prescribed fee a Junior member shall be entitled to the following privileges:

3.3.3.2.1 the right of access to Dogs Victoria's library

3.3.3.2.2 the right to register in the pure breeds register such dogs purchased by them as are eligible for such registration;

3.3.3.2.3 the right to exhibit or handle a dog at approved Exhibitions;

3.3.3.2.4 the right to compete for any prize available for competition by members of Dogs Victoria.

3.3.3.3 Subject to the approval of Management Committee and upon payment of the prescribed fee a Junior member shall be entitled to own, register, train, exhibit and handle an associate dog.

3.3.3.4 The privileges of membership of a Junior Membership is conditional upon a parent or guardian of the Junior member being an Ordinary, Dual or Life member and accepting responsibility for the actions of the Junior member.

3.3.4 Junior Handlers Membership

3.3.4.1 A person aged seven (7) years but less than eighteen (18) years who is not a Junior Member is eligible to apply for Junior Handlers Membership.

3.3.4.2 Subject to the approval of Management Committee and upon payment of the prescribed fee a Junior Handlers Member shall be entitled to only handle purebred and/or de-sexed purebred dogs in approved Junior Handlers classes, and shall not be entitled to other membership privileges.

3.3.4.3 The privileges of membership of a Junior Handlers membership is conditional upon a parent or guardian of the Junior Handlers member being an Ordinary, Dual or Life member and accepting responsibility for the actions of the Junior Handlers member. (14/02/13)

3.3.5 Companion Membership

3.3.5.1 A person aged 18 years or over may apply for Dogs Victoria membership as Single or Dual Companion Members

3.3.5.2 A family comprising one or two persons aged 18 years of age and any number of dependents aged 7 but less than 18 years may apply for Family Companion Membership.

3.3.5.3 Companion Members are subject to the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Codes of Dogs Victoria, and are limited to the privileges stated in VCA Rule 2.12. (Amended 15/08/26)

3.3.5.2.1 Deleted (Amended 15/08/26, 15/04/25)

3.3.5.2.2 Deleted (Amended 15/08/26)

3.3.5.2.3 Deleted (Amended 15/08/26)

3.3.5.2.4 Deleted (Amended 15/08/26)

(15/11/11) 3.3.5.2.5 Deleted (Amended 15/08/26)

3.3.6 Date of Membership

Membership shall take effect when the applicable membership fee has been credited to Dogs Victoria and the application for membership has been approved by the Management Committee or the Chief Executive as the case may be.

3.3.7 Eligibility to Vote at the AGM (Amended 15/06/24)

(15/11/11) Every member, other than a junior member, associate member or companion member who was a financial member of the Victorian Canine Association Inc for at least the three months preceding the annual general meeting and is currently a financial member shall be entitled to vote at the annual general meeting.

3.3.8 Non Dogs Victoria Exhibitors

Exhibitors who are members of another DOGS AUSTRALIA Member Body are to comply with the Constitution, Rules, Regulations, policies and procedures of Dogs Victoria whilst participating in any Dogs Victoria approved activity.

3.3.9 Reserved (15/12/11)

3.3.10 Digital Signatures

(15/11/11) Unless Management Committee determines otherwise, digital signatures are acceptable for Dogs Victoria documentation. (Amended 15/12/19)

3.3.10.1 Deleted (15/12/19)
3.3.10.2 Deleted (15/12/19)
3.3.10.3 Deleted (15/12/19)
3.3.10.4 Deleted (15/12/19)

3.4 AFFILIATED BODIES

3.4.1 Eligibility for Affiliation

3.4.1.1 Any incorporated body may apply for affiliation with Dogs Victoria.

3.4.1.2 Reserved.

3.4.1.3 Any incorporated body desirous of providing services to canine activities, other than the holding of exhibitions, may apply to Dogs Victoria for "Associate Affiliation" which if approved will entitle such body to any privileges and benefits which are approved by Dogs Victoria from time to time.

3.4.1.4 Associate Affiliation will be granted subject to such terms and conditions as decided by Management Committee at the time which may or may not include the other provisions relating to Affiliates under these Regulations.

3.4.1.5 Except for Clubs affiliated prior to 1st July 1996 a Breed or variety of a breed can only be represented by one affiliated Breed Club. Affiliation of a Breed Club is on the understanding that the Breed Club will be responsible for the promotion and welfare of the breed within the State. In particular but not exclusively the Breed Club is to:

3.4.1.5.1 promote and encourage the responsible breeding of pure breed dogs in accordance with Dogs Victoria Codes of Ethics and Practices;

3.4.1.5.2 promote and raise the standard and exhibition of pure breed dogs;

3.4.1.5.3 promote the holding of Exhibitions under Dogs Victoria Rules and Regulations and to promote and conduct training of dogs;

3.4.1.5.4 foster, promote and protect the interest of exhibition of dogs at exhibitions;

3.4.1.5.5 collect, verify and publish information relating to dogs and the breeding and exhibition of dogs;

3.4.1.5.6 educate and encourage members, breeders and judges to abide by the requirements and standards approved by Dogs Victoria for the conduct of Exhibitions;

3.4.1.5.7 promote good fellowship and fair play amongst members and those participating in Dogs Victoria activities;

3.4.1.5.8 hold functions and lectures relating to dogs;

3.4.1.5.9 initiate measures to ensure improvement of quality and the continued health and wellbeing of purebred dogs.

3.4.1.5.10 promote and encourage responsibility amongst breeders in all matters relating to their activities as breeders and the provision of pure breed dogs.

3.4.1.6 Affiliates are required to adopt and maintain sound club management practices. (15/05/16)

3.4.1.7 Management Committee may appoint a person or persons to monitor an Affiliate's management and to offer assistance, and such assistance may include attending meetings of the Affiliate.

3.4.2 Affiliation

3.4.2.1 New affiliation applications shall be made in writing to the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria and must include:

3.4.2.1.1 a statement of the reasons for the application;

3.4.2.1.2 the current affiliation fee and insurance levy for members of the affiliate who are not members of Dogs Victoria;

3.4.2.1.3 a copy of the Constitution or Rules and any Regulations and/or By-Laws of the body.

3.4.2.1.4 an undertaking by the Committee of the body that the body and its office bearers will be bound, upon affiliation, by the Constitution, Rules, Regulations, Codes and directives of Dogs Victoria.

3.4.2.1.5 a copy of the Certificate of Registration as an incorporated body.

3.4.2.2 (15/11/11)

3.4.2.2.1 The application for affiliation shall be referred to the Constitution Rules and Regulations Committee for vetting against the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Codes of Dogs Victoria and the DOGS AUSTRALIA.

3.4.2.2.2 The application for affiliation shall be referred to the committee of the applicable discipline(s) for a recommendation to Management Committee.

3.4.2.2.3 Affiliations granted by Dogs Victoria are for the residual part of the current year unless specified otherwise in the approval.

3.4.2.2.4 It shall be a condition of affiliation that the incorporated body holds its Annual General Meeting in a public place and not in the private property of a member or person associated with a member of the affiliate. (15/05/18)

3.4.2.3 Renewal of Affiliation

For continuity of affiliation, applications for renewal with the prescribed affiliation fee and insurance levy for members of the affiliate who are not members of Dogs Victoria, are to be lodged with Dogs Victoria within thirty (30) days of the due date. Applications and/or fees/levies lodged after that thirty days, if approved, may incur a financial penalty.

3.4.3 Obligations of an Affiliate

3.4.3.1 An Affiliate that is classified as a Tier 1 association under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (the Act) is not required to have its annual financial statements externally audited or reviewed unless its rules state otherwise. An Affiliate that is classified as a Tier 2 or Tier 3 association under the Act must appoint an independent Accountant or Auditor to review or audit its financial statements in accordance with the Act and the Affiliate's own rules. (Amended 15/12/21).

3.4.3.2 Each Affiliate when applying to renew its affiliation shall forward to the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria copies of documents showing the following:

- Evidence that the Affiliate is incorporated under the Act;
- Evidence that a current annual return has been lodged with Consumer Affairs Victoria;
- Name, address and membership number of each office bearer;
- A statement signed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer certifying that the Affiliate is financially able to continue its activities for the following year;
- A statement providing details of any financial assistance that may be required from Dogs Victoria;
- Receipts and expenditure (Income Statement) for the most recent financial year; Assets and liabilities (Balance Sheet) at the end of the most recent financial year;
- The report provided by the auditor or reviewer (if applicable) OR copies of bank statements for all accounts held by the Affiliate for the most recent financial year**.** (Amended 15/12/21)

3.4.3.3 Reserved. (Amended 15/12/21)

3.4.3.4 All office bearers of Affiliates must be Ordinary, Dual or Life Members of Dogs Victoria Inc. A successful nominee for an office bearer position must, if not a DOGS VICTORIA member, apply for Dogs Victoria membership within 14 days of becoming an office bearer. All Committee members of Affiliates must be resident in Victoria unless Management approves otherwise. Changes to Office Bearers and Committee must be notified to Dogs Victoria within fourteen (14) days of such changes.

3.4.3.5 Where an Affiliate amends its Constitution or Rules in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act, and submits the amendments to the Department of Justice for approval, the Affiliate is to forward a copy of the revised Constitution or Rules to Dogs Victoria within fourteen days of such approval.

3.4.3.6 The Constitution, Rules, Regulations, Codes and Policies of Dogs Victoria shall prevail over those of any Affiliate.

3.4.3.7 An Affiliate shall not deal with a complaint, report or other matter which has been or is being dealt with by Dogs Victoria, without consultation with Dogs Victoria.

3.4.3.8 Affiliates are to comply with the following for the retention of books, documents and securities:

3.4.3.8.1 Minute Books: Permanent

3.4.3.8.2 Association Incorporation Act 1981 Section 30 (3) Statements (attached to Annual General Meeting Minutes): Permanent

3.4.3.8.3 Securities: Permanent

3.4.3.8.4 Financial records (bank statements; receipt books; cheque butts etc.): 5 years minimum

3.4.3.8.5 Correspondence: 5 years minimum

3.4.3.8.6 Other: As determined by Club Rules

3.4.3.9 Where a change in Office Bearer or Committee Member occurs, the outgoing Office Bearer or Committee Member is to return all Club monies and property, books, documents and securities as described in Regulation 3.4.3.8 to the Committee within 14 days.

3.4.3.10 Show Passes

A dog exhibitor who has already paid an entry fee or fees to the dog section of a show shall not be required to pay a gate admission into the fixture. Exhibitors will be supplied with passes on the following scale:

one pass for one or two exhibits;
two passes for three or four exhibits;
three passes for five or six exhibits;
four passes for seven or more exhibits.

3.4.3.11 Vehicle Admission

Where facilities allow for admission of vehicles to the exhibition ground, a ground usage fee may be charged. The fee must be payable with entries, and must not exceed the fee payable at KCC Park.

3.4.3.12 An Affiliate's affiliation shall be suspended in the event that there is owing by the Affiliate to the Dogs Victoria any monies and such monies have been outstanding for more than 60 days provided that the suspension shall cease upon payment of the outstanding monies.

3.4.4 Dishonoured Cheques

3.4.4.1 Where an Affiliate receives advice from its Bankers that a cheque for payment of entry fees has been dishonoured, the Affiliate is to:

3.4.4.1.1 write to the exhibitor quoting the advice from the Bank and requiring payment of the outstanding amount plus any bank charges by money order or bank cheque or cash within 14 days; and.

3.4.4.1.2 notify Dogs Victoria Office if payment is not received within fourteen days.

3.4.4.2 Affiliates are to bank cheques promptly so that early advice from the Bank will enable exhibit numbers to be withheld pending cash payment of the fees.

3.4.5 Cancellation or Suspension of Affiliation

3.4.5.1 Management Committee of Dogs Victoria may, at any time, cancel or suspend the affiliation of any affiliated body, in which case, no refund of affiliation fee or any part thereof shall be made.

3.4.5.2 Where a Club, affiliated with Dogs Victoria Inc., is the subject of a disciplinary action by Dogs Victoria Inc. the Club should, upon completion of the matter, close the file and deposit it with the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria Inc. for security. No other record of the matter, except minutes of the meetings of the Club, should be retained by the Club.

3.4.6 Club Magazines and Newsletters

A copy of Club Newsletters or Magazines must be forwarded to Dogs Victoria Office. Secretaries are to ensure that Dogs Victoria Office is included in the mailing list, so that a copy of their publication is forwarded regularly.

3.4.7 Perpetual Trophies

Where Affiliates award perpetual trophies, the Affiliate is to make provisions within its Rules for the award and control of such trophies.

3.4.8 Winding up of an Affiliate (Amended 15/02/24)

3.4.8.1 Where an Affiliate is an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (or other relevant legislation at that time), the process required under the legislation with regard to winding up of the Affiliate must be followed in accordance with that legislation.

3.4.8.2 In the event that an affiliated Club is wound up, all records related to that Club should be lodged with the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria Inc. within 28 days of its final constituted meeting.

3.4.8.3 All remaining Club monies must be distributed in accordance with the applicable legislation and the Club's Constitution, Statement of Purposes and/or Rules.

3.4.9 Dogs Victoria Application Forms

Applications to Dogs Victoria for:

3.4.9.1 membership and renewal of membership;

3.4.9.2 an Affiliate to be approved to conduct Conformation, Obedience, Tracking, Retrieving and Field, Agility, Endurance Exhibitions and the like;

3.4.9.3 registration, de registration and transfer of a kennel prefix;

3.4.9.4 to become approved or licensed as a Judge;

3.4.9.5 permission to conduct an exhibition;

3.4.9.6 registration as a Junior Handler;

3.4.9.7 registration or de registration of a litter of puppies and of individual dogs incorporating the service declaration;

3.4.9.8 registration on the Associate or Sporting Register, or other Register;

3.4.9.9 transfer or lease of a dog;

3.4.9.10 the affiliation of a club or other body;

3.4.9.11 the allocation of dates for the purpose of conducting an Exhibition;

3.4.9.12 the approval to conduct a sanctioned event;

3.4.9.13 the granting of any DOGS AUSTRALIA title;

3.4.9.14 any other matter for which application is to be made pursuant to the Constitution, Rules, or Regulations of Dogs Victoria or directions of the Management Committee;

shall be made in the form prescribed by Dogs Victoria for that purpose from time to time and be;

completed in full, in block capitals, in ink; and

accompanied by the prescribed fee and by such other information and documents as may be required by the Constitution, Rules, Regulations or directions of the Management Committee; and

lodged with Dogs Victoria office.

3.4.10 Lost Dogs Australia/Dogs Victoria Forms.

Where any document issued under the authority of Dogs Victoria is lost stolen or destroyed, any member requesting replacement of the document may be required to provide a Statutory Declaration evidencing the loss theft or destruction and may be charged a fee for the replacement as Dogs Victoria sees fit from time to time.

3.4.11 Where any contractual arrangements conflict with Dogs Victoria Rules, Regulations, Codes or Policies, then (15/08/10) Dogs Victoria Rules, Regulations, Codes or Policies shall prevail.

3.4.12 All fixture schedules must be published in the Gazette. Draft schedules and judges' contracts must be submitted to Dogs Victoria office for approval at least four months prior to the first of the month in which the fixture is being held. Failure to comply may result in the application of a financial penalty, of an amount determined by the Management Committee from time to time. (Amended 15/01/26,15/03/22, 15/11/11)

3.4.13 Schedules for all fixtures must contain the name of any applicable online entry provider and the telephone number of the club, committee, show or trial secretary. Additional contact details may be provided at the discretion of the club or committee. For conformation shows, entries shall not be accepted by a person residing at the same address or using the same postal address as an appointed judge for the relevant fixture. (15/12/25, 15/02/12)

3.5 FIXTURES

3.5.1 An affiliated body shall:

3.5.1.1 not hold or conduct any exhibition, without approval from Management Committee.

3.5.1.2 not cancel or postpone an approved exhibition without prior approval of the Management Committee.

3.5.2 Where an exhibition cannot proceed due to a government direction, where possible the Management Committee will offer the affected affiliated club or subcommittee a selection of available dates and/or Dogs Victoria alternate venues for the exhibition to be held. (15/03/21) 15/09/19)

3.5.2.1 The show is to be rescheduled to an offered date suitable for the affiliated club or subcommittee

3.5.2.2 Where a judge is unable to fulfil the conditions of their judging contract on the rescheduled date, the affiliated club or subcommittee may contract a replacement judge on written notification to the Management Committee and Dogs Victoria shall publish the replacement schedule at no cost to the affiliated club or subcommittee, and the provisions of Regulation 7.6.4.3 shall not apply

3.5.2.3 Where there is a change to a judge or to the venue, the provisions of Regulation 7.5.18 and 7.5.19 apply

3.5.2.4 Where the exhibition is postponed for not more than one (1) month of its original date the provisions of Regulation 7.5.16 apply;

3.5.2.5 Where the exhibition is postponed for more than one (1) month, the affiliated club or

Subcommittee may at its discretion re-open entries and will be required where necessary to adjust for age of exhibits

3.5.2.6 All efforts to reschedule the exhibition must be made and the exhibition must not be cancelled without the prior approval of the Management Committee, save that during the continuation of the government restrictions during the Covid-19 pandemic, any application to cancel an event should be submitted via the CE to the Chair of the relevant Lead Committee in consultation with the Calendar & Events Committee who shall be delegated by Management Committee with the authority to approve such application to cancel. (Amended 15/11/21)

3.5.2.7 Where an exhibition is rescheduled in accordance with this regulation, Dogs Victoria will waive compliance with all other regulations imposing timeframes for submission of schedules and judges' contracts.

3.5.3 Applications to hold Exhibitions

3.5.3.1 Any affiliated body that wishes to change the date that has been allocated for the holding of a Championship Show, Open Show, Parade or Trial, shall make application to the Management Committee for the change. No application will be considered within six (6) months of the scheduled date of such fixture unless the requested change is out of the affiliated bodies control. (15/01/23, 15/11/11)

3.5.3.2 Management Committee may impose a penalty not exceeding $100 on any Affiliate which lodges an application for an exhibition after the closing date as referred to above. (15/01/23)

3.5.4 Handling of Complaints at Fixtures

Where a complaint arises from an incident at a Dogs Victoria approved exhibition, a complainant is to direct their complaint in the first instance to the Show Secretary.

3.5.5 Marked Catalogue and Levy to Dogs Victoria Office

After each fixture, a copy of the catalogue marked with all the awards, including those for special prizes, and the absentees must be sent to the Dogs Victoria Office accompanied by a completed fixture levy form and levy payment. The catalogue, levy form and payment must be sent within ten (10) days of the fixture unless a regulation that specifies a different interval applies to the fixture. A penalty may be applied to the Affiliate for non-compliance.

3.5.6 Dog Incidents (15/03/12 Amended 15/11/26, 15/09/25)

These Dog Incident Regulations govern the management of Dog Incidents at events and members and club officials are to be fully conversant with them. Attached to Part 3 of the Regulations is a Dog Incident Checklist – Affiliate form to be completed by the Panel Chair on behalf of the Affiliate, which must be lodged together with reports and statements in the event that an inquiry is conducted into a Dog Incident.

The Levels of Disruptive or Aggressive behaviour that comprise a Dog Incident are:

Level 1 Unruly behaviour not affecting the performance of another dog or handler.
Level 2 Unruly behaviour that significantly affects the performance of another dog or handler.
Level 3 Threatening or intimidating behaviour towards another dog, livestock or a person.
Level 4 Aggression towards another dog or livestock.
Level 5 Aggression towards a person that causes injury or is likely to cause injury.

3.5.6.1 It is the obligation of each owner, exhibitor and handler at a DOGS VICTORIA approved activity to take all such steps as may be necessary to ensure that any dog under that person's care or control or for which that person is responsible does not behave in an unruly, disruptive or aggressive manner. Where a dog is dismissed from the ring for unruly or disruptive behaviour or aggression

or is otherwise the subject of a Dog Incident Report, the owner, exhibitor, handler or person responsible for the dog as the case may be, is to immediately secure the dog and is to remain at the venue until otherwise advised by the fixture Secretary or Dogs Victoria Representative. (Amended 15/09/25)

3.5.6.2 It is the obligation of any person at an activity who observes a dog behaving in an unruly, disruptive or aggressive manner to report the incident either orally or in writing to the fixture Secretary or a club official as soon as possible after the incident.

3.5.6.3 The official to whom an alleged incident involving unruly, disruptive or aggressive behaviour by a dog is first reported is to immediately instruct the owner/handler of the dog to secure the dog and remain at the venue until the Panel has inquired into the incident. The Panel shall meet as soon as practicable on the day to consider the matter in accordance with the procedures for dealing with Dog Incidents. (Amended 15/09/25)

3.5.6.3.1 If illness, injury or other unexpected occurrence prevents the person making the report, the owner/handler of the dog or another key witness from providing a written statement or verbal evidence on the day, the Panel must consider all the evidence that is available on the day and then adjourn. The Panel's deliberations must resume within 14 days when the additional evidence is available, and witnesses are available. In the event no further evidence is available 14 days after the initial hearing, the Panel will determine the matter on the evidence before it (Amended 15/09/25,15/02/22, 15/10/21)

3.5.6.4 If the Panel is satisfied that the incident comprised or included the dog behaving in an unruly, disruptive or aggressive manner, the Panel may officially warn or suspend the dog. (Amended 15/09/25)

3.5.6.5 Any suspension applied to a dog by a Panel shall apply to Dogs Victoria activities immediately and the activities of all other DOGS AUSTRALIA Member Bodies. Any suspension applied to a dog by another DOGS AUSTRALIA Member Body shall be upheld by Dogs Victoria.

3.5.6.6 Any suspension applied to a dog by a Panel shall include exclusion from Dogs Victoria properties. The only exception will be after approval has been sought from and approved by Dogs Victoria to attend formal training sessions with an instructor approved by Dogs Victoria.
Approval will involve strict compliance with conditions which may be imposed according to the circumstances involved in the original complaint. (Amended 15/09/25, 15/02/16)

3.5.7 Disqualifications

A dog may be disqualified from competition or exhibition and/or the exhibitor from retaining any prizes awarded in connection with it at a Show, or other exhibition concerned, where the dog has been exhibited in contravention of Rules or Regulations.

3.5.8 Fun Days

Any function or event held by an Affiliate other than official Shows or competitions no recognition of awards or subsequent use of any such awards will be permitted, without prior DOGS VICTORIA approval.

3.5.9 Dogs Victoria Reps

3.5.9.1 All Clubs must engage a DOGS VICTORIA Representative for all official events, with the exception of Members Competitions and Dog Matches, from the published list of accredited members, and publish the name of the representative in the event catalogue. (15/10/21)

Where two or more clubs share a venue on the same day, the appointed co-ordinating Secretary may in consultation with the other Clubs engage a DOGS VICTORIA Representative for the day and advise the other Clubs accordingly. Alternatively, a Club may engage its own Representative.

3.5.9.2 Deleted. (15/10/21) (15/06/12) (15/08/17)

3.5.9.2 Eligibility (15/10/21)

Any Ordinary, Dual or Life member who has been a member of Dogs Victoria for at least five (5) consecutive years and not been suspended for a breach of any rule, regulation or code within the preceding five years may apply or reapply to become a DOGS VICTORIA Representative. (Amended 15/02/023)

3.5.9.2.1 Training (15/10/21)

Eligible applicants who are approved by Dogs Victoria will be required to undertake training based on DOGS VICTORIA Regulations pertinent to the role of DOGS VICTORIA Representatives and to complete an open book examination on the Regulations. Those who successfully complete the training and examination will be included on the list of accredited DOGS VICTORIA Representatives. (Amended 15/03/23)

3.5.9.2.2 Term of office (Amended 15/06/24) (15/10/21)

Dogs Victoria Representatives will be appointed for an initial term of three (3) years. Representatives whose term has expired will be eligible for reappointment subject to completion of refresher training similar to the original training.

3.5.9.3 A judge, affiliate committee member or event official or a spouse, partner or other immediate family member of a judge, affiliate committee member or event official on the day cannot be Dogs Victoria Representative. The affiliate may at its discretion allow the owner or handler of an exhibit to be appointed as Dogs Victoria Representative. If the affiliate determines that Dogs Victoria Representative shall not exhibit or handle at the event, then this restriction should be noted in the schedule. Where an incident occurs and there is a conflict or perceived conflict of interest with the appointed Dogs Victoria Representative, the affiliate shall appoint an alternative Dogs Victoria Representative to deal with that incident. (Amended 15/06/24), (15/10/21)

3.5.9.3.1 The fact that a Dogs Victoria Representative has observed an incident and may be the only witness of that incident does not, of itself, constitute a conflict of interest. (15/10/21)

3.5.9.4 Roles (15/10/21)

Dogs Victoria Representative is appointed to attend, observe and report to the Management Committee on the general administration and conduct of the Committee conducting the event, to assist the Committee in an advisory role with regard to the relevant Rules and Regulations, in managing any dog incidents and to report on any other incident which occurs at the fixture that may involve a breach of Dogs Victoria Rules, Regulations or Codes. In the case of a dog incident, Dogs Victoria Representative should attend the hearing and may advise the Committee on the interpretation and application of the Regulations but should not have any other role in the decision-making process. (Amended 15/03/22)

3.5.9.4.1 If a Dogs Victoria Representative's report contains evidence of an incident of alleged misconduct, other than a person-to-person dispute, the matter may be referred for investigation without the affiliate or any DOGS VICTORIA member being required to pay the fee prescribed for lodging a complaint. (15/10/21)

3.5.10 Judges Fees

Judges' fees must be paid before the expiration of the fixture.

3.5.11 Objectionable Behaviour

3.5.11.1 Any person causing annoyance by loud comments on a decision of a judge or behaving in an unsportsmanlike manner or unseemly action while in the precincts of a Show shall be dealt with in accordance with the Rules/Regulations/Codes/Procedures.

3.5.11.2 Regulations applying to use of the Boxhall Pavilion KCC Park and the Bulla Exhibition Centre

- Mat or tarps must be placed under crates and equipment
- Exhibitors must be considerate of space being used and mats should not exceed the area required for crates and equipment
- Exercise pens are not permitted for toileting of dogs
- Space is not permitted to be saved by exhibitors or reserved in advance of the start of a show
- No exhibitor may toilet their dog in the Boxhall Pavilion or inside the Bulla pavilion

(15/05/18) (15/12/18)

3.5.11.3 That at KCC Park and the Bulla Exhibition Centre tent pegs or any other fastening devices must not penetrate more than 25cms into the ground. Star pickets are not permitted. (15/03/22)

3.5.11.4 At indoor event areas, the use of footwear with soles that have inflexible protrusions, either fixed or removable, that may be described as lugs, cleats or stops is not permitted. (15/04/25)

3.5.11.5 Powdering of dogs, and/or use of high velocity dryers / blowers indoors at DOGS VICTORIA venues is not permitted. (Amended 15/04/25, 15/07/24, 15/04/16)

3.5.11.6 A Judge approved by the Dogs Australia or a Judge approved by the Victorian Canine Association Inc. shall not engage in misconduct or a breach of the Rules, Regulations, Codes of Ethics or Codes of Practice of Dogs Victoria or breach the Dogs Australia "Judges' Code of Practice and Conduct". (15/09/25)

3.5.12 Show Responsibility

Where an Affiliate has been granted approval to conduct a Show, the Affiliate shall be responsible for all matters covered by Dogs Victoria Constitution, Rules and Regulations relating to the conduct and administration of its Show. For the purpose of this Regulation, the duration of the Show shall be from two hours before the scheduled start of the Show until all activity relating to the Show is concluded.

3.5.13 Entry Requirements

3.5.13.1 The entry to a fixture is to be in the approved form and accompanied by the appropriate fee.

3.5.13.2 Any person making an entry shall be liable for the fees payable whether or not the dog entered is exhibited.

3.5.13.3 Every person who enters a dog in any fixture conducted under these Regulations shall be responsible for the correctness of details on the entry form. An Affiliate shall not accept an entry that does not include all the details required by the entry form.

3.5.13.4 The dog entered is to be owned or leased by the person who is named as the exhibitor on the entry form and registered as such with the State Controlling Body in which the exhibitor resides.

3.5.13.5 Exhibitors and dogs participating at an exhibition do so at their own risk.

3.5.13.6 The Committee of any body holding an approved exhibition shall have the right to refuse or return any entry if;

- the exhibition is cancelled,
- the member or dog is under suspension, or
- the entry is incomplete, has not been submitted appropriately, in the required timeframe, or with the appropriate fee enclosed

Any other recommendation to refuse or return an entry must be agreed at a properly convened and constituted meeting of that Committee, and referred with sufficient detail to support the recommendation to the chair or delegate of the relevant Dogs Victoria subcommittee for approval. Where one does not exist, this is to be referred to Management Committee via the Chief Executive. If approved, the decision must be communicated by the affiliate in writing to the intending exhibitor at least three clear days before the exhibition is scheduled to be held. Entry fees shall be returned in the case of rejected entries. (15/09/18)

3.5.13.7 The Affiliate or Committee conducting an exhibition shall be responsible for observing the closing date for entries for that exhibition. Where no time for the closure of entries has been specified, online entries must not be closed before midnight on the latest advertised closing date of entry. (Amended 15/04/25)

3.5.13.8 Where an Affiliate conducts an Exhibition over two (2) or more days, the age of exhibits shall be calculated from the first day of the Exhibition. (15/11/11)

3.5.13.9 Where an Affiliate conducts two or more fixtures in conjunction, an exhibit entered in two or more fixtures may be withdrawn from any fixture and such withdrawal shall not affect the eligibility of the exhibit to compete in the remaining fixture or fixtures for which it is entered.

3.5.13.10 The entry forms must be kept for at least three months from the last day of the exhibition and, on request, be delivered to the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria.

3.5.14 All Affiliates are to ensure that a first aid box is available at all fixtures.

3.5.15 Unless rules and regulations provide otherwise dogs must be at all times on a lead or chain or crated or otherwise contained securely whilst in the precincts of any exhibition. (21/03/12)

3.5.16 Infectious Diseases or Viruses (15/11/21)

(a) If a dog has been in a kennel or premises affected with distemper, canine hepatitis, parvovirus or any other virulent contagious disease (except Kennel Cough), it shall not be permitted to attend any Dogs Victoria event or grounds for a period of 12 weeks from the date of the first diagnosis or onset of symptoms.

(b) If a dog has been in a kennel or premises affected with or diagnosed with Canine Cough (also referred to as Kennel Cough or Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex) it shall not be permitted to attend any Dogs Victoria event or grounds for a period of three weeks after the date of the first diagnosis or onset of symptoms.

(c) An event organiser or affiliate official may ask for a dog to be immediately removed from any Dogs Victoria event or grounds if that dog is visibly unwell or showing symptoms of the contagious diseases listed in (a) or (b). This shall be recorded in Dogs Victoria Representative's report.

3.5.17 Compliance at Dogs Victoria Events and Grounds (15/01/23 15/11/21)

Dogs Victoria Regulation 3.5.17 only applies during Victorian Government State of Emergency (15/01/23)
A requirement of entry to a Dogs Victoria approved event or grounds is subject to compliance with Victorian Government Public Health orders in force at the time of the event and any additional Public Health Policies made by Dogs Victoria.

Dogs Victoria authorises all affiliates, committees and officials to enforce Public Health Compliance at Dogs Victoria approved events and grounds. Officials include but are not limited to marshals, check-in marshals, club/committee officials, Dogs Victoria representatives, Dogs Victoria Management Committee and Dogs Victoria employees.

3.5.17.1 Failure by a person to:

a) check-in or provide proof of check-in at a Dogs Victoria approved event or grounds via the Service Victoria app or kiosk, or where this is not reasonably practicable via an alternative record keeping method implemented by the affiliate or committee controlling the event; or

b) provide proof of vaccination, medical exemption, or age (for those not required to be vaccinated) on request by an official, shall result in the person being denied entry and/or the person being required to immediately leave the event and/or grounds.

3.5.17.2 The COVID-19 Compliance at Dogs Victoria Approved Events and Grounds Refusal of Entry Form shall be completed by any official taking action under 3.5.17.1. A copy must be provided on request by the affiliate/committee to the member or the person who was denied entry/required to leave, or from Dogs Victoria where this action has been taken directly by a Dogs Victoria employee outside of an approved event. Where the member contests the decision of the official, the member may request a review by either the event manager or secretary at the earliest opportunity following the contest being raised.

3.5.17.3 Any dogs owned and/or entered by a member who has been excluded from the event/grounds or required to leave under 3.5.17.1 will be disqualified from competition or exhibition on that day and will be ineligible to retain any awards or prizes gained by the member's dogs or any dogs exhibited by the member. This must be noted on Dogs Victoria Representative's report.

3.5.17.4 A member may seek an administrative review by the Chief Executive of action taken under 3.5.17.1 providing such application is lodged in writing with the Chief Executive within seven (7) days of the incident, and includes evidence of 3.5.17.1(a) and (b). The Chief Executive shall notify the member of their determination within seven (7) days of receipt. If the Chief Executive is satisfied that the member complied with the requirements of 3.5.17.1(a) and (b), the affiliate/committee shall be required to remit the member's entry fees for the event. The Chief Executive shall maintain a register of such reviews and outcomes and report these to the Management Committee.

3.5.17.5 An official observing any member behaving in an unruly, disruptive or aggressive manner or refusing to leave the approved event or grounds in relation to the requirements of 3.5.17.1 must report the incident to the affiliate or committee, who shall notify the Police. The affiliate or committee must report the incident to the Chief Executive by way, including statements from any witnesses about the behaviour within seven (7) days of the event. The Chief Executive shall cause the complaint to be progressed pursuant to Rule 2.20. Where the unacceptable behaviour occurs outside an event on Dogs Victoria grounds and is observed by an employee of Dogs Victoria or Management Committee member, the report will be made directly to the Chief Executive who shall cause the complaint to be progressed pursuant to Rule 2.20. The prescribed fee shall be waived in relation complaints made under this Regulation.

If the complaint progresses to a disciplinary hearing, and Disciplinary Committee finds the complaint proven, the relevant penalty to be applied is as set out in the Penalty Guidelines at 2.2 being a minimum suspension of 12 months and/or a fine of $300.

3.5.18 Smoking and Vaping (15/01/23, Amended 15/09/25)

Smoking and vaping, which includes the use of e-cigarettes, are not permitted:

- Inside any building owned or managed by Dogs Victoria or an affiliate; or
- In use by Dogs Victoria or an affiliate; or
- Within 20 metres of a judging ring or other area where dogs and/or handlers participate in competition; or
- Within 20 metres of any food vendor located on the grounds where an event is being held.

Smoking and vaping are also prohibited within 20 metres of the entrance to or exit from any of the above buildings. Cigarette butts and used vape containers must be disposed of in the receptacles provided.

It is the responsibility of the affiliate conducting an event to ensure that it is conducted in accordance with Dogs Victoria Regulations.

3.5.19. Judging Rings (15/09/23)

This regulation applies to all exhibitions where dogs are judged in rings, either indoor or outdoor, including agility, conformation, dances with dogs, obedience, rally and trick dog. It does not apply to activities conducted in larger arenas and fields such as herding and lure coursing.

3.5.19.1 The perimeter of each judging ring shall be formed by highly visible fencing, gates, suspended rope, chain, flexible mesh or other drapery with a height of at least 500 mm or by lines marked on the ground or grass using a surface coating.

3.5.19.2 Any equipment used in the formation of a ring must be safe for dogs, officials and handlers and shall not include sharp objects or trip hazards. The use of tape, cord, rope or other similar material at floor or ground level is not permitted. If a surface coating is used to mark the perimeter, it must be white, and the lines must be at least 50 mm wide.

3.5.19.3 The floor of indoor rings shall have a non-slip surface that provides a firm footing for all dogs and handlers.

3.5.19.4 The ground in outdoor rings shall be level and the grass, if any, shall be cut short.

3.5.19.5 Any equipment and other items in the ring or on its perimeter must be approved by the affiliate, must not be hazardous for exhibits, officials or any other person authorised to enter the ring and must not impede the movement of exhibits or the judge's ability to view and assess the exhibits. (Amended 15/02/24)

3.5.20 EXTREME WEATHER - GENERAL (15/12/25)

3.5.20 Scope (amended 15/06/26)

This regulation applies to all types of events conducted by Dogs Victoria and its Affiliates, involving dogs, including those whose rules and regulations do not otherwise contain an Extreme Weather or Heat Policy. Where Dogs Australia and/or other Dogs Victoria rules and/or regulations conflict with or are inconsistent with this regulation those rules and regulations prevail and override regulation 3.5.20 and its sub regulations

3.5.20.1 Discipline specific rules and regulations.

- Agility - refer to Dogs Australia Rule 8.11 and Dogs Victoria Regulations 8.1.5 and 8.12
- Conformation - refer to Dogs Australia Regulations Part 5, Regulation 2.5 and Dogs Victoria Regulation 7.6.8
- Dances With Dogs - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulation 12.3
- Draft Test - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulation 3.5.20
- Earthdog - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulation 3.5.20
- Endurance Tests - refer to Dogs Australia Rules for the Conduct of Endurance Test (General Rule 7) and Dogs Victoria Regulations 9.1.3 and 9.6
- Herding trials, tests and training - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulations 3.5.20 and 11.9
- Lure Coursing trials and training - refer to Dogs Australia Rule 5.21 and Dogs Victoria Regulation 15.9
- Obedience - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulations 9.1.3 and 9.6
- Rally - Refer to Obedience above
- RATG - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulation 3.5.20

- Retrieving and Field - refer to Dogs Victoria Regulation 10.2.27
- Scent Work - refer to Dogs Australia Rule 9.3.2 and Dogs Victoria Regulations 14.1.5 and 14.2
- Sled Sports - refer to Dogs Australia Rules for the Conduct of Sled Sport Events Section 5.9, 18 and 23 and Annex/Appendix B, and Dogs Victoria Regulation 13.7
- SprintDog - refer to Dogs Australia Rule 2.8 and Dogs Victoria Regulation 16.10
- Tracking and Track and Search Trials - refer to Obedience above
- Trick Dog - refer to Dances with Dogs above

3.5.20.2 DEFINITIONS

Refer to Regulation 3.2 Definitions.

Unless otherwise stated references to Regulations mean Dogs Victoria Regulations.

3.5.20.3 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are to be alert to potential extreme weather conditions and monitor available information before travelling to/from an event and while at an event. The welfare of people and their dogs is to be the paramount consideration. Members are to be familiar with the Dogs Victoria Extreme Weather Guidelines and are required to take reasonable steps to protect themselves, their dogs and others from danger.

3.5.20.4 AFFILIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting an event to monitor the forecast and current weather conditions and warnings.

The Affiliate must comply with any laws, Government Declarations/Directions (such as a State of Disaster or State of Emergency) and the applicable Dogs Australia and Dogs Victoria rules and regulations.

Affiliates are to:

- check the forecast temperature on the BOM website (www.bom.gov.au) or BOM Weather app 48 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the event
- check the Fire Danger Rating for the district where the event is to be held, using the CFA website, (www.cfa.vic.gov.au) 48 hours prior to the commencement of the event and 24 hours prior to the commencement of the event
- check wind, storm and flood forecasts and warnings on the BOM website or BOM Weather app 48 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the event
- check air quality forecasts on the EPA website (www.epa.vic.gov.au) at 5pm on the day before the event, when the forecast is published
- monitor the temperature on the BOM website or BOM Weather app, during the event if the temperature is likely to reach, exceed or (if applicable) fall below the temperature limit. The temperature is to be monitored hourly
- alert attendees to seek the safest possible shelter immediately, when lightning can be seen or thunder heard according to the "30/30 lightning safety rule" or other reliable tracking system that is in use
- be familiar with the Dogs Victoria Extreme Weather Guidelines; and
- contact the Office Operations Manager of Dogs Victoria by email at the earliest possible time but not more than 48 hours before the scheduled commencement time for an event if it is proposed that an event be cancelled, postponed, moved indoors or the commencement time changed. Once the proposal has been approved by the President or Vice President or as otherwise delegated, the affiliate must take all reasonable action to advise affected people via immediate means of communication, such as social media.

If an urgent decision needs to be made, immediately prior to commencement of an event or during competition, due to an unforeseen weather occurrence, the affiliate may make a decision in consultation with the officiating judges and VCA representative. The Office Operations Manager of Dogs Victoria must be advised, by email, of the decision and reasons for it, as soon as reasonably practicable.

3.5.20.5 CANCELLATION OF EVENTS (refer to Regulation 3.5.20.4 for approval requirements)

Unless otherwise provided in discipline specific regulations, an event must be cancelled where any one or more of the following apply:

- the forecast temperature for the location in which the event is to be held is 39 degrees Celsius or higher.
- the temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius during the course of the event, as measured by two successive readings taken at 15-minute intervals using the BOM Website or BOM Weather app, or if they are unavailable an outdoor thermometer located in an open south facing shaded location with maximum airflow, and if at all possible, no more than 10 metres from the competition area.

  For Earthdog and Herding competitions, the event is to be cancelled when the temperature reaches 34 degrees Celsius during the course of the event, as measured by two successive readings taken at 15-minute intervals using the BOM Website or BOM Weather app, or if they are unavailable a thermometer located in an open south facing shaded location with maximum airflow, and if at all possible, no more than 10 metres from the competition area.

  If in the reasonable opinion of the affiliate, using the BOM Website or BOM Weather app, an imminent drop in the temperature is expected, the cancellation may be deferred for 15 minutes at which time a third temperature reading must be taken. If at the time of the third reading, the temperature has not fallen below the applicable temperature limit the event must be cancelled.
- the Fire Danger Rating for the district in which the event is to be held is Catastrophic
- a Total Fire Ban has been declared for the State of Victoria or the Fire Weather District in which the event is to be held
- moderate or severe flooding is forecast for the Flood Watch Area where an event is to be held, and the event is to be held in a rural area. If moderate or severe flooding is forecast for the Flood Watch Area where an event is to be held in an urban location, then the event may be cancelled
- when the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) air quality forecast for the location nearest to the event is Very Poor or Extremely Poor
- inclement weather is forecast for the district where the event is to be held, and the affiliate reasonably considers the conditions to be unsafe
- 90 minutes has passed since the suspension of judging due to inclement weather or unsafe conditions and the inclement weather or unsafe conditions still exist; or
- a law or government Declaration or Direction requires cancellation.

3.5.20.6 'WAIT AND SEE' APPROACH - JUDGING TO BE SUSPENDED

Unless otherwise provided in discipline specific regulations, a 'wait and see' approach may be taken but judging must be suspended:

- in the period between the first and second (and if applicable) third temperature readings being obtained in accordance with the Regulations
- if inclement weather occurs during an event. Conditions must be reviewed every 15 minutes, and, subject to Regulation 3.5.20.9, the event may proceed if the weather subsequently clears
- if the affiliate committee considers the conditions to be unsafe once the event has commenced.

3.5.20.7 'WAIT AND SEE' APPROACH - JUDGING MAY CONTINUE

- if moderate or severe flooding is forecast for the Flood Watch Area where an event is to be held in an urban location, within that Flood Watch Area. Judging may continue if it is safe to do so
- if inclement weather is predicted during an event. Conditions must be reviewed every 15 minutes, and judging may continue if it is safe to do so.

3.5.20.8 POSTPONEMENT, RELOCATION (INCLUDES MOVE INDOORS) AND CHANGE OF EVENT COMMENCEMENT TIME DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER

- Postponement, relocation or change of event commencement time may be considered if weather, venue and the calendar of events permit.
- An earlier commencement time may be proposed where in the reasonable consideration of the affiliate, the event will be completed before the temperature reaches the applicable temperature limit. For Draft, the applicable temperature limit is 32 degrees Celsius.
- An event may be rescheduled to commence at 8pm where the forecast temperature is below the applicable temperature limit, and where the exhibition/competition area has lighting and is available for use. Exhibitors/competitors must be advised they are not to arrive at the location or set-up prior to 6.30pm

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.4 for approval requirements.

3.5.20.9 LIGHTNING AND THUNDER

If lightning can be seen or thunder heard, judging is to be suspended immediately, and anyone outdoors should seek shelter indoors, in a substantial building if at all possible, or in a closed metal-roofed vehicle unless the lightning is more than 10 kilometres away. In the absence of specific information from BOM Weather Radar or the BOM Weather app or a reliable lightning location system, the "30/30 lightning safety rule" must be used which means that all outdoor activity must cease immediately if the time between seeing a lightning flash and hearing the resultant thunder is less than 30 seconds. Outdoor activities must not resume until at least 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder is heard.

3.5.20.10 REFUNDS OF ENTRY FEES FOR EVENTS CANCELLED DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER

Except where regulation 3.5.20.10.1 applies, a refund of the entry fee will be available if an event is cancelled due to extreme weather and the entry is withdrawn within 14 days from the date of cancellation.

3.5.20.10.1 - If an event is cancelled after commencement, only dogs that are yet to compete will be eligible to have their entry fee refunded.

3.5.20.10.2 - The affiliate must submit a copy of the catalogue, if it has been prepared before cancellation of the event, to Dogs Victoria within 21 days of the cancellation of the event.

3.6 TITLES (See DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations Part 5 Section 5)

3.6.1 A dog which is eligible for the title of Champion in accordance with Regulations shall be ineligible to compete in any class at any fixture or Show as a non-Champion, except where the last qualifying Challenge is awarded after the closing date of entries for a non-Championship Show.

3.6.2 No Affiliated body may offer group points unless its classes are open to all dogs of the breeds defined in the Group.

3.6.3 On application, Management Committee may grant the title "Tri Champion" to any dog which is awarded the title Champion in breed judging and Champion for any two of the canine disciplines as referred to in the Regulations.

3.6.4 In every discipline where a Championship Title is awarded a separate Championship Certificate will be issued.

3.6.5 Only titles approved by Management Committee may be used in a dog's name.

3.7. RECOGNITION OF APPROVED AUTHORITY

3.7.1 Management Committee may declare that the member body of the Australian National Kennel Council responsible for the maintenance of the pure breed animal registers in any State or Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be an "Approved Authority" for the purposes of these Regulations, and may revoke or amend any such declaration.

3.7.2 Any person who is a member of or any animal which is registered with an "Approved Authority" as defined in Regulations shall, while such authority remains an "Approved Authority" and while such person or animal remains a resident outside Victoria, be deemed to be registered with Dogs Victoria for the purpose of these Regulations.

3.7.3 Any termination of suspension of such registration or disqualification of such person or animal by the "Approved Authority" shall constitute a simultaneous termination, suspension or disqualification by Dogs Victoria.

3.7.4 The participation by any person who is deemed to be registered with Dogs Victoria by virtue of recognition of Approved Authority in any activity in Victoria over which Dogs Victoria has control or which is subject to regulation by Dogs Victoria shall constitute a submission by that person to the authority of Dogs Victoria.

3.7.5 In DOGS VICTORIA Regulations any reference to a first or subsequent offence shall be deemed to include a reference to a first or subsequent offence of a similar nature occurring at any place outside Victoria but in which an "Approved Authority" has jurisdiction and which would, if committed in Victoria, constitute an offence under these Regulations.

3.7.6 Where a "Body corporate" is registered as a member, the membership privileges shall be restricted to four (4) only persons who are members of that corporate body and who were appointed by that body as their nominees. The names of the nominees must be submitted to Management Committee for approval prior to appointment by the corporate body member.

3.7.7 Inspection of Member Premises

It shall be a condition of membership that a person, or persons, so authorised by Management Committee may inspect the premises of any member and examine the dogs on the premises at that time.

3.7.7.1 If a member cancels or otherwise prevents an inspection of their premises, a second inspection of the premises must be arranged and take place within a time agreed by the Dogs Victoria Office Operations Manager or delegate. Failing this, the member privileges of the member will be suspended until such time as that inspection has occurred, unless there is a reasonable cause. (15/02/17, Amended15/09/25, 15/01/26)

3.7.7.2 An inspection may include the collection of evidence using photography and audio-visual recording. (15/01/26)

3.7.7.3 If the Field Officer or any other authorised person is subjected to behaviour that threatens their physical health, psychological safety and/or mental wellbeing during an inspection, the inspection will be terminated, the result recorded as Unsatisfactory and the member's privileges suspended until a Satisfactory inspection is completed. (15/01/26)

3.7.8

3.7.8.1 Dogs Victoria logo, which is the official emblem of the Victorian Canine Association Inc. and/or the words Victorian Canine Association Inc. in full or in an abbreviated form may not be used for advertising, promotion or the like without the prior written approval of Dogs Victoria Management Committee.

3.7.8.2 The words "Registered with the Victorian Canine Association Inc." in full or in an abbreviated form with the same meaning, may be used by members in the text of advertisements relating to DOGS VICTORIA registered dogs owned by them.

3.8 FINANCING DEVELOPMENTS

3.8.1 Applications for financial assistance for building or ground development programs conducted by Affiliates will be considered by Management Committee only if the following is complied with -

3.8.1.1 The development program is of a "major" nature.

3.8.1.2 The written application accompanied by a plan or sketch of the existing Dog Area together with a plan or sketch of the proposed development.

3.8.1.3 If the Affiliate does not own the land to be developed or on which the development is to occur, notice of lease or conditions of tenure from the owner/s should also be provided.

3.8.1.4 The Affiliate must demonstrate substantial equity of their own and provide full details of the total costs, the amount currently held by the Club, amount to be financed or borrowed from other sources and method of repayment.

3.8.1.5 Terms of the loan will be negotiable between Dogs Victoria and the Affiliate.

3.9 FILES

3.9.1 All files on all aspects related to or covered by Dogs Victoria shall normally be kept and retained at the office of Dogs Victoria except that this general rule may be overridden by decision of Management Committee.

3.9.2 All files that are the subject of a completed matter that has been investigated or discussed by any of the nominated members must be surrendered to the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria for retention as historical records and no copy thereof may be retained except as provided for in the Regulations. The nominated members referred to are members of Management Committee, any Investigations Committee, any Disciplinary Committee and any Appeals Committee.

3.9.3 No person who holds an official position within Dogs Victoria shall permit or cause any matter to be divulged to any other person, which may be used detrimentally against Dogs Victoria or any of its members.

3.10 OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS

3.10.1 Objection may be made against any dog by any financial member of Dogs Victoria or any exhibitor except by one who is under a term of suspension or disqualification or is otherwise ineligible to take part in exhibitions held under DOGS VICTORIA Rules. The objection must be in writing and be delivered to the Secretary or deputy at the office of the exhibition or at the address as advertised in the Prize Schedule.

If the objection is made by a person other than a member of the Committee or official of the Affiliate holding the exhibition, the sum of $50 must be deposited at the same time, which sum shall be returned unless the Committee of the Affiliate holding the exhibition deems the objection frivolous, in which case, it shall be forfeited to Dogs Victoria:

3.10.1.1 Where the objection relates to the natural formation or colour of an exhibit, it must be made before the exhibition closes.

3.10.1.2 Where the objection relates to any other grounds it must be made within seven days of the last day of the exhibition.

3.10.2 An objection shall be dealt with at a meeting convened by the Committee of the Affiliate concerned within 14 days of receipt of the objection. A copy of the objection shall be despatched by the Secretary within 48 hours to the registered owner of the dog at the address given on the entry form, and 48 hours notice of the meeting dealing with the matter shall be sent to all persons considered by the Committee of the Affiliate, to be concerned, who shall be entitled to appear for the purpose of giving evidence. The Committee of the Affiliate concerned shall cause notes of all evidence given at the inquiry to be taken in writing.

3.10.3 The decision of the Affiliate and advice of the right to appeal the decision to Appeals Committee shall be communicated to the parties concerned within 48 hours and, if the objection is upheld, a copy of the decision shall be sent to the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria. Should any person fail to appear in answer to the notice of meeting at which the objection is to be considered, the Committee of the Affiliate concerned may proceed to enquire into and deal with the objection, notwithstanding that person's absence.

3.10.4 Where an appeal is lodged in accordance with Regulations, the procedures in Appeals Procedure will apply.

3.11 PUBLICATION OF FINDINGS

3.11.1 Management Committee shall publish an account of any action taken against any person and/or dog, including any or all of the names, description and addresses of those concerned. Additionally, or alternatively Management Committee may publish the names of such disqualified or suspended persons and/or dogs which otherwise become ineligible in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations. (Amended 15/05/18)

3.12 DOG INSPECTION PANEL

3.12.1 Where a dog's mental or physical characteristics have been questioned an application for the inspection of a dog will not normally be approved unless that dog is at least 12 months of age, except when the dog has been reported for aggression. An examination will be organised by the CE in conjunction with the appropriate Committee. The examination shall be by three people acting together with at least one being a judge for that discipline and where possible one will be a Specialist Judge for that breed. In the case of aggression, the examination should as closely as possible duplicate the circumstances under which the aggression occurred. (15/12/10).

3.13 JUDGES APPEALS COMMITTEE

3.13.1 Management Committee shall appoint a trainee and aspiring Judges Appeals Committee of three (3) members, one of whom shall be appointed Chairperson. No member of the Judges Appeals Committee shall participate, in any way, in the training or testing of trainee or aspiring judges. Members of the Judges Appeals Committee shall not be members of the Management Committee.

3.13.2 The Judges Appeals Committee shall consider and adjudicate on written appeals from trainee and aspiring judges, in all disciplines, where it is alleged by the candidate that proper procedures have not been followed and the examination has been conducted contrary to DOGS AUSTRALIA or DOGS VICTORIA Regulations and/or policies.

3.13.3 The Judges Appeals Committee shall dismiss an appeal if lodged after the results have been forwarded to the candidate by Dogs Victoria office.

3.13.4 The Judges Appeals Committee shall not have power to grant a licence, but may declare an examination null and void and order that the candidate be re-examined as soon as practicable. The candidate shall not be required to obtain further qualifications.

3.13.5 The Judges Appeals Committee shall have power to require any member of Dogs Victoria who they consider may have information which may assist in resolving any appeal to make a written statement or appear before them for the purpose of giving evidence. Any member who fails to supply a written statement may be dealt with by the Management Committee in accordance with Rules 2.11.2 and 2.19.

3.13.6 The decision of the Judges Appeals Committee, made in accordance with these regulations, shall be final with regard to all written appeals lodged by trainee or aspiring judges.

3.13.7 The Chairperson shall without delay advise the Management Committee of the appeal decision in writing with a summary of the reasons. The Appellant must be advised of the decision in writing within 7 days from the date of the hearing.

3.13.8 Upon a request of the Appellant Management Committee will provide reasons for the decision of the Judges Appeals Committee.

3.14 E-MAIL

These regulations apply to all users of E-mail within Dogs Victoria environment where DOGS VICTORIA or DOGS VICTORIA related matters are communicated between members, between members and DOGS VICTORIA staff, or between DOGS VICTORIA staff. Non compliance with these regulations may be dealt with under Dogs Victoria Rules and Regulations.

3.14.1 Acknowledged Use.

E-mail is a part of the official communication environment within Dogs Victoria and is an efficient way to share information and improve communication. Dogs Victoria acknowledges the use of E-mail as an important part of its everyday work practice and encourages the productive use of E-mail by all staff and members but its unauthorised and improper use for DOGS VICTORIA matters or DOGS VICTORIA related matters will not be tolerated.

3.14.2 Appropriate use.

Staff and members are encouraged to use E-mail where practical and telephone calls or face to face meetings when appropriate or when E-mail addresses are not available.

3.14.3 Reliability.

Information received via E-mail is not reliable, so authentication, validation and checking for accuracy may be necessary.

3.14.4 Offensive material.

The transmission of offensive graphics, literature and messages will not be tolerated. The use of abusive, sexist, racist, obscene or other inappropriate language or comments contained in messages, jokes, or attachments or the use of E-mail to malign or harass employees or other members is not to be tolerated.

3.14.5 Personal Use.

Dogs Victoria allows staff to use E-mail for reasonable personal use, similar to telephones. Any opinions expressed in private E-mail by staff should be stated as being their opinion not that of Dogs Victoria. Any queries from staff about the appropriateness of private E-mails should be referred to the CEO.

3.14.6 Housekeeping.

DOGS VICTORIA staff are not to accumulate large volumes of E-mails in their folders. Unwanted or obsolete messages should be deleted and removed from the deleted items folder on a regular basis.

3.14.7 Writing Style.

In official correspondence DOGS VICTORIA staff are to give careful consideration to style and language, particularly where outside readers may be sensitive to specific content and the correspondence may be re transmitted to a wider audience. All external electronic messages will be treated as an official DOGS VICTORIA record and staff must word the contents accordingly.

3.14.8 Disclaimer.

All official DOGS VICTORIA E-mails should include a disclaimer as approved by the CEO from time to time.

3.14.9 Chain Letters.

Chain letters received by Dogs Victoria staff are to be deleted immediately and not forwarded to other recipients.

3.14.10 Games.

Dogs Victoria staff are not to use E-mail to receive or send games. Games are the most common cause of virus propagation and if received must be deleted immediately.

3.15 JUDGES TRAINING AND LICENCES (15/04/25)

3.15.1 Dogs Victoria shall administer, through the applicable subcommittee for each discipline, approved schemes for the training and testing of trainee judges to qualify for judge's licences issued by the DOGS AUSTRALIA.

3.15.2 To be eligible to enter a Judge's Training Scheme, an applicant must have been a financial member of Dogs Victoria or another DOGS AUSTRALIA Member Body continuously for the period of time stipulated in the conditions applicable to that scheme.

3.15.3 DOGS AUSTRALIA judge's licences will be issued to all applicants who have successfully completed all requirements of the applicable Judges Training Scheme.

3.15.4 All judge's licences shall expire in line with membership renewals and renewal of such licences will be approved provided that all fees that were due at the time of renewal have been paid.

3.15.5 Judges who fail to pay for renewal of membership or for renewal of their judge's licence within 30 days shall be ineligible to judge at any approved fixture until all outstanding fees have been paid.

3.16 WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

3.16.1 Effective from 31 March 2026, all Victorian Judges Including Junior Handler Judges and performance discipline judges must submit a Working with Children Check (WWCC) number and its expiry date annually when paying for their Judges renewal with Dogs Victoria. (15/12/25)

Dogs Victoria Dog Incident Checklist & Report

(Amended 15/08/26, 15/09/25,15/12/22)

Dogs Victoria Dog Incident and Report Form (Amended 15/08/26)