

**THE CANINE ASSOCIATION  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INCORPORATED)**



**REGULATIONS**

**SECTION H  
CODES OF ETHICS**

*Latest amendment December 2025*

## SECTION H – CODES OF ETHICS

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**Any breach of the regulations in this section is an offence (08/20)**

## SECTION H - CODES OF ETHICS

### **HM - MEMBERS' CODE OF ETHICS** *(effective 1 March 2008)*

#### **HM1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

- 1.1 Each person, when signing an application for membership or renewal of membership Dogs West agrees to the following:
- to be bound by the ANKC Ltd regulations and rules
  - to be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Association
  - to be bound by the Association's Code of Ethics
  - to allow the inspection of the member's premises as required for the purpose of investigating compliance with the regulations and the code of ethics. 04/17
- 1.2 Each member by signing any document shall be certifying that the information contained therein is true and correct.
- 1.3 A Member shall not forge, falsify or misrepresent the signature of another Member or person on any document relating to the activities of Dogs West or the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd. (05/21)

#### **HM2 CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 2.1 A member shall not knowingly or recklessly misrepresent the ANKC or the member's Member Body.
- 2.2 A member shall not engage in any behaviour that is contrary to the standards accepted by the community. Members and others defined in HM2.3 will not engage in bullying or harassing or unacceptable behaviours towards other members, staff, volunteers or contractors or disorderly conduct.
- 2.2.1 Bullying is defined as repeated inappropriate behaviour direct or indirect, whether verbal, gesture, physical or otherwise, conducted by one person or persons against another person or persons. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - 2.2.2 Cyber bullying – placing an offensive or hurtful public message, image or statement on a social network site or other public forum where that message, image or statement can be viewed and/or repeated by other people will be regarded as bullying behaviour.
  - 2.2.3 Unacceptable behaviour is defined as any behaviour that a reasonable person, having regard for the circumstances, would see as victimising, humiliating, undermining or threatening.
  - 2.2.4 Disorderly conduct is defined as disturbing the peace or endangering the morals, health or safety of others. 12/24
  - 2.2.5 A member shall not, on more than 2 occasions in an 18 month period, lodge complaints that are found by the Investigations Committee to be Vexatious or Frivolous, as outlined in Regulation A22.
  - 2.2.6 A member shall not engage in unreasonable conduct with staff or volunteers, as outlined in Regulation A23.(06/25)
- 2.3 Members shall be responsible for any and all actions by themselves, their family members or guests when attending sanctioned events and their interactions with other members at all times. This includes but is not limited to:
- 2.3.1 Littering
  - 2.3.2 Damage
  - 2.3.3 Unacceptable behaviour
  - 2.3.4 Bullying

- 2.4 A member shall not indulge in false or misleading advertising relating to the conformation, characteristics or performance of that member's dog. **12/24**
- 2.5 A member shall not misrepresent nor malign the conformation, characteristics or performance of another member's dog.
- 2.6 A member shall at all times and in all forums, including at DogsWest approved events, in dealings in wider forums including chat lists on the internet and in all other communications, conduct themselves in a manner respectful of the reputation of the ANKC and DogsWest members, judges, staff and officials. **08/11**
- 2.7 An exhibitor is not to contact a judge after the announcement of that judge's appointment by any means that may be interpreted as promoting that exhibitor or exhibitor's exhibits. This includes social networking sites, email, and all electronic forms of communication as well as traditional forms of communication. Should a judge receive such an approach, they are required to make a report to the appropriate member body and disciplinary action may be taken against the exhibitor. **08/11**
- 2.8 Members shall constantly strive to improve their knowledge of their chosen breed or breeds, and their knowledge of the requirements for the care, welfare and betterment of dogs.
- 2.9 Members shall ensure that all dogs under their care are properly controlled, housed, fed, watered, exercised and receive veterinary care as and when required.  
It is an offence for a member to allow any dogs under their care to;
- 2.9.1 suffer neglect due to lack of any or all of the following
- adequate food,
  - water,
  - shelter,
  - exercise,
  - grooming,
  - veterinary care,
  - other basic requirements
- 2.9.2 knowingly roam at large.(06/25)
- 2.10 A member shall permit any person authorised in writing by the Administrative Officer, following a resolution of the Governing Council, to enter and inspect any premises owned or occupied by the member for the purpose of investigating compliance with HM2.9 of this Code.
- 2.10.1 During the conduct of the inspection the member will permit the authorised person to record any necessary details by tape, video or photographs.
- 2.10.2 Failure to permit the inspection of the premises without reasonable cause shall result in suspension of the member's privileges until that inspection has taken place. **04/17**
- 2.11 The registered owner of a dog shall remain ultimately responsible for said dog, including if left in the care of another person.
- 2.12 A member shall take all appropriate lawful measures to assist a dog in distress.
- 2.13 A member shall positively enhance the reputation of dog breeders and owners by ensuring that dogs owned by the member are not a danger or nuisance to the community.  
When the dog is away from home a member shall ensure that it is kept on a leash and/or effective control at all times.
- 2.14 A member shall not participate in nor support any activity that involves cruelty or damage to animals, excluding legal hunting activities.

- 2.15 A member shall not dispose of dogs owned or bred by the member to a pound or animal refuge. Breed Rescue Clubs run by ANKC Ltd members are exempt. (04/20)
- 2.16 A member shall display good sportsmanship and conduct at all times so as to reflect credit upon themselves, the ANKC Ltd and the member's Member Body. (08/22)
- 2.17 A Member shall at all times comply with all relevant consumer laws and regulations, both State and Federal. (04/23)

## **BREEDING**

- 2.18 A member shall breed primarily for the purpose of improving and / or maintaining the health, quality and / or working ability of the breed, and for breed preservation, in accordance with the breed standard.  
A member retains the right of free trade, to advertise directly and sell dogs not kept for line maintenance purposes by that member. **12/24**
- 2.19 A member shall not breed with a bitch unless the bitch has reached adequate maturity for that breed as determined by the member's Member Body. The minimum breeding age for bitches across all breeds is twelve (12) months at the time of mating. Except in extenuating circumstances or with the approval of Governing Council prior to the mating, a member shall not breed from any bitch causing it to be mated before it is twelve months of age. **08/14**
- 2.20 A member shall not breed a bitch causing it to whelp **more than twice in any eighteen month period (11/22)**
- 2.21 Number of Litters
- 2.21.1 A member shall not breed a bitch causing it to whelp more than five (5) times.
- 2.21.2 It is the responsibility of the current registered owner to verify the number of litters a bitch may have had prior to their ownership of said bitch. **(03/23)**
- 2.22 Maximum Breeding Age
- 2.22.1 A member shall not mate a bitch over the age of seven (7) years.  
Note: after the bitch's seventh birthday. **(07/18)**
- 2.22.2 Extenuating Circumstances
- 2.22.2.1 A member may apply to Dogs West for permission to mate a bitch over seven years of age. The application is to include:
- a veterinary certification of fitness for further breeding issued in the last **30** days
  - the positive identification of the bitch – microchip
  - reasons for the need for a litter from a bitch of this age
- 2.22.2.2 The member must have obtained written permission **PRIOR** to mating the bitch
- 2.22.2.3 The permission is valid for a period of six months – after this permission must be re-applied for.
- 2.22.2.4 Under no circumstances will permission for a further litter be granted. **(04/17) (11/22)**
- 2.23 First generation (father/daughter, mother/son, brother/sister) matings are not permitted. ANKC Ltd Member Bodies will not register the progeny of father/daughter, mother/son, brother/sister matings on the Main Register unless application was made to the Member Body and approval was given prior to the mating on the basis of health or genetic reasons to the benefit of the breed.

Any breach of this regulation will constitute an offence by the member(s) who are the owners of the sire and the dam of the litter.

The progeny resulting from such a breach will be registered on the Limited Register and endorsed 'never to be upgraded' and any further penalties as may be determined by the member's Member Body. Refer ANKC Part 6 – 8.4 (**Added 10/10, Amended EAP 12/14**)

- 2.24 A member shall not permit any of that members' ANKC Pure Bred Registered dogs, without prior approval from the Association, to be used in any mating which would result in a litter being ineligible for registration on the ANKC Register. This includes
- 2.24.1 To a dog of a different breed
  - 2.24.2 To a cross bred dog
  - 2.24.3 to a non ANKC registered dog of the same breed or
  - 2.24.4 to a dog not on the ANKC Main Register
  - 2.24.5 a mating not in compliance with R2.1. (**04/21**)
- 2.25 Breaches of Breeding Regulations are considered to be serious. For that reason, offences in relation to each of the separate regulations may incur higher penalties (**07/25**)
- 2.26 A member shall take responsible action to reduce the incidence of hereditary diseases in accordance with the ANKC Code of Practice for Hereditary Diseases.
- 2.27 A member shall not, within Australia, sell or otherwise transfer from that member's care any puppy under eight [8] weeks of age without the approval of the member's Member Body. Puppies are to be microchipped and vaccinated prior to leaving the Member's care.
- 2.28 A member shall not export a puppy under the age of eleven [11] weeks, or such greater age permitted under the livestock import requirements of the country to which the puppy is being exported.
- 2.29 A member shall not knowingly sell a dog to any person residing in an overseas country known to be involved in the utilisation of dogs for the meat trade without first satisfying the member's Member Body that the purchaser is a member of an ANKC recognised canine controlling body in the overseas country. The member and purchaser must further acknowledge in writing to the member's Member Body that the intention of the sale is for the improvement of the quality of that breed in the overseas country, and not for any other purpose.
- 2.30 A member shall ensure that persons acquiring dogs from that member understand the requirements for the care, welfare and responsible ownership of the dog, and that they have the time and facilities, e.g. adequate fences, sufficient room and proper shelter, to fulfil their responsibilities.
- 2.31 A breeder shall be expected to maintain reasonable contact with the purchasers of dogs from that breeder and to offer continued advice and reasonable assistance.
- 2.32 A member **must** register all puppies bred by that member that are living at the date of registration. Such registration must include all living puppies from the litter on the one litter registration application form and must be applied for within six [6] months of the date of whelping.
- 2.33 A member shall provide to all recipients of dogs sold or otherwise disposed of by that member, written details of:
- 2.33.1 The breed characteristics;
  - 2.33.2 Current Vaccination certificate signed by a Veterinary Surgeon evidencing that the dog has been immunised against Canine Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvo Virus

- 2.33.3 Microchip number verification – transfer is the responsibility of the vendor in accordance with R19.
- 2.33.4 Responsible dog ownership information; and
- 2.33.5 All documentation required by the member's Member Body, including-
  - 2.33.5.1 a written receipt clearly stating whether, in accordance with R11.1, the dog is to be transferred to the purchaser or a Non-Transfer Agreement executed. **(05/22)**
  - 2.33.5.2 any other conditions of sale and/or agreements **(04/17)**
- 2.34 A member shall not incorrectly describe nor knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of a breed.
- 2.35 A member shall ensure that all dogs sold or disposed of by that member are in the best possible state of health. Where a dog with a health issue or disability is disposed of the member must obtain from the recipient written and signed acknowledgement of the condition of the dog.
- 2.36 A member shall not:
  - 2.36.1 Sell or dispose of a dog to a commercial pet wholesaler or retail pet shop. Nor shall a member's dog/s be advertised, displayed or sold on commission by a commercial dog wholesaler or retail pet dealer. **[07/15]**
  - 2.36.2 Allow a dog owned by that member to be given as a prize or donation or to be auctioned.

## **GENERAL**

- 2.37 A member who provides or makes available a dog for use in a film, advertisement, promotion, or any media or public display must ensure that:
  - 2.37.1 The dog is portrayed in a manner consistent with its breed characteristics and temperament as described in the Standard for that breed; and
  - 2.37.2 The dog is presented in a manner that is unlikely to create a negative reaction to dogs generally or that breed in particular and that if there is any likelihood of a negative impression, this is at the same time corrected through the development of a story line that presents the dog or breed in a balanced manner.
- 2.38 A member shall oppose all activities which involve cruelty to dogs or in which dogs inflict damage on other dogs or other animals excluding the hunting of vermin.
- 2.39 A breeder must include their ANKC Ltd Member Body Membership Number in any advertisement for puppies whatever the media and all members must include the following wording in their advertisements:  
 "Please contact Dogs West on email: [k9@dogswest.com](mailto:k9@dogswest.com) to verify my membership."
- 2.40 A member shall not use or cause to be displayed, in any form or in any media, their Dogs West membership number in relation to any progeny, real or planned, from a dog not on the ANKC MAIN register. **(06/20)**
- 2.41 A member shall not declare, make or infer any relationship, in any form or in any media, between their membership of The Association, The Association and any dog not eligible for entry onto an ANKC register. **(06/20)**

## **HO - OBEDIENCE AND AGILITY JUDGES' CODE OF ETHICS**

### **HO1 JUDGING APPOINTMENTS:**

- 1.1 The maintenance of a list of assignments, complete with exact dates and other relevant details is the responsibility of each judge. This record is necessary so that all details can be presented when applying for elevation and to comply with HM1 above.
- 1.2 Every effort will be made to fulfil engagements. However, if this is not possible due to unforeseen circumstances, clubs should be notified promptly. Judges should accept a reasonable number of appointments each year, and should not make a practice of refusing appointments in order to compete themselves.

## **HO2 THE TRIAL**

### **Obedience**

A judge shall arrive at the venue at least **15 minutes** before starting time and report to the Chief Steward. An inspection of the ring and equipment and collection of score sheets should be made so that the trial can commence on time.

Judges need to remember to properly brief their stewards before judging commences.

A judge should make every effort to keep the trial moving to ensure that handlers and dogs are not kept waiting longer than absolutely necessary.

### **Agility:**

A judge shall arrive at least **45 minutes** prior to the commencement of the event and report to the Chief Steward. An inspection of ring and equipment and briefing of stewards regarding the judge's requirements should be carried out so that the trial may start on time.

## **HO3 SCORES AND RESULTS:**

- 3.1 Judges should ensure that score sheets are completed and results checked with the Chief Steward at the completion of their judging. This is to ensure that the information on award cards is correct.
- 3.2 If a judge disqualifies an exhibit, he must ensure that a report of the incident and actions accompanies the score sheets.

## **HO4 BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT:**

- 4.1 Judges will be dressed appropriately to the occasion in good taste.
- 4.2 During the day's judging, no alcohol will be consumed within the precincts of the ring, nor will the judge smoke in the ring.
- 4.3 At all times judges will conduct themselves with decorum. Judges should show integrity, patience and good humour throughout the day. At all times judges should be courteous to handlers, stewards and club officials. Full consideration should be given to every exhibitor and a dog lacking in ability shall not be regarded with contempt or belittled.
- 4.4 Judges will not discuss the decisions of other judges with any person.
- 4.5 Slow tedious judging is an imposition on exhibitors, and rough handling, together with slipshod, methods are to be deplored.
- 4.6 Judges must base their decisions on the rules.
- 4.7 When competing themselves, judges should set an example to other competitors by their behaviour and sportsmanship.

## **HR - RETRIEVING JUDGES' CODE OF ETHICS**

### **HR1 JUDGING APPOINTMENTS**



- 1.1 Judges should be mindful of following the CAWA Regulations when accepting appointments.
- 1.2 The maintenance of a list of assignments, complete with exact dates and other relevant details is the responsibility of each Judge. This record is necessary so that all details can be presented when applying for elevation and to comply with HM1 above.
- 1.3 Every effort will be made to fulfil engagements. However, if this is not possible due to unforeseen circumstances, clubs should be notified promptly. Judges should accept a reasonable number of appointments each year, and should not make a practice of refusing appointments in order to compete themselves.

## **HR2 ARRIVAL AT TRIAL**

A Judge shall arrive at the Trial at least fifteen (15) minutes before the starting time. Every effort should be made to be present at the setting of the course.

## **HR3 SCORES AND RESULTS**

A Judge shall ensure that score sheets are completed and shall check results with the Chief Steward at the completion of the Trial. This is to ensure that dogs to which awards are made shall be recorded accurately on result sheets.

## **HR4 BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT**

- 4.1 Dress  
Judges will be dressed appropriately.
- 4.2 Alcoholic Liquor and Smoking  
No alcoholic liquor shall be consumed during the conduct of the Trial or within the precincts of the competition. Judges shall not smoke while they are judging and if they decide to smoke between breaks they should ensure it is not in the judging area. A Judge shall at all times ensure that no fire hazard is created if choosing to smoke.
- 4.3 Conduct  
Judges will conduct themselves with decorum at all times. Public relations and image shall be above reproach. They will show integrity, patience and good humour throughout the day. Judges will at all times be courteous to both handlers and stewards and will respect the right of the handler by giving full consideration to each dog.
- 4.4 They will not enter into any discussion during a retrieve.
- 4.5 Judges will not discuss with any other person the decisions of any other Judge.

## **HR5 GENERAL**

- 5.1 A dog lacking in ability shall not be regarded with contempt or belittled.
- 5.2 Judges when competing, should by their behaviour and sportsmanship, set an example to other competitors.

## **HS - SHOW JUDGES' CODE OF ETHICS**

- HS1 A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.

- HS2 A Judge shall give every exhibit and exhibitor fair and equal opportunity in each and every class.
- HS3 A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.
- HS4 A Judge shall dress in attire that is acceptable, appropriate and comfortable for each judging appointment.
- HS5 A Judge is required to be punctual for judging assignments and shall make every endeavour to report to the Chief Steward/Show Manager at least 15 minutes prior to the advertised commencement of judging time.
- HS6 A Judge shall not enter or exhibit any dog at any show or other exhibition at which he or she is appointed to judge.
- HS7 No member of a Judge's household (i.e. any person who resides at the same address) shall exhibit or handle a dog at any fixture at which the judge officiates.
- HS8 Should an exhibitor offer information to the Judge that may be regarded as designed to influence the Judge, the Judge shall send the exhibitor and his/her exhibit from the ring and report the incident to the Chief Steward.
- HS9 Should a Judge be approached to favour or disfavour any exhibit the matter is to be reported in writing to the Controlling Body.
- HS10 Should a Judge be approached with an inducement and/or bribe to advantage or disadvantage an exhibit the Judge is to report the matter in writing to the Controlling Body.
- HS11 A Judge shall not solicit or cause to be solicited any judging appointment.
- HS12 A Judge shall not solicit or seek the entry of any particular dog or dogs.
- HS13 A Judge shall not allow entries for a Show at which that person is judging to be received or processed at the Judge's address nor have any involvement with receiving or processing such entries.
- HS14 A Judge shall complete all requirements of the judging contract within the prescribed time. Any verbal acceptance of an assignment by a Judge shall be subject to receipt of the contract within 14 days.
- HS15 A Judge shall honour all signed contracts and their conditions and is not free to accept an alternative contract that will affect his or her availability to fulfil the original contract except with the written dispensation of the original contracting body.
- HS16 A Judge shall not accept any contract to judge that is to the detriment of a previously contracted assignment without the written permission of the first contracting party.
- HS17 At the time of completing a contract the Judge shall inform the inviting body of any disability or limitation that could restrict carrying out in full the reasonable handling of all exhibits to be judged.
- HS18 A Judge shall abide by all Regulations pertaining to the acceptance of judging appointments.
- HS19 Accommodation provided for the Judge to fulfil an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.
- HS20 A Judge shall not arrange to travel to any show or exhibition with any exhibitor or exhibits.
- HS21 A Judge shall be responsible for the cost of all personal telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and any personal laundering during the period of any judging assignment except where mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body at the time the contract is accepted.
- HS22 A Judge shall not socialise on the day with any exhibitors until he/she has completed judging at that event.
- HS23 A Judge shall not publicly make disparaging comments regarding the decision of any other Judge.

## **HSS - SHOW STEWARDS' CODE OF ETHICS**

- HSS1 At all times Stewards WILL CONDUCT THEMSELVES WITH DECORUM. Stewards should show integrity, patience and good humour throughout the stewarding appointment. They should at all times be courteous to judges, handlers and club officials. Full consideration should be given to each and every exhibit and handler.
- HSS2 A Chief Steward should arrive at least one (1) hour before the commencement of a show and remain in attendance until the completion of the show.
- HSS3 A Gate/Ring Steward is required to be punctual for stewarding duties and shall make every endeavour to report to the Chief Steward/Show Secretary at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the advertised commencement of the conformation event.
- HSS4 Chief/Ring/Gate Stewards shall dress in attire that is acceptable, appropriate and comfortable for each stewarding appointment.
- HSS5 A Steward shall not attempt at any time to influence the judging.
- HSS6 A Steward shall not show favour or disfavour towards any exhibit, exhibitor or handler at any time.
- HSS7 The Chief Steward shall not handle in the ring any dog at conformation shows at which they are officiating.
- HSS8 A Steward shall not smoke within the ring, marshalling area or whilst judging is in progress.
- HSS9 Any person accepting an appointment to steward shall honour that agreement to the best of their ability.

## **HT - TRACKING JUDGES' CODE OF ETHICS**

### **HT1 -JUDGING APPOINTMENTS**

- 1.1 Judges should ensure that the tracking venue is suitable for the track(s) being judged taking into consideration the terrain and proximity to habitation to lessen the chance of interference and general conditions for accurate map-making.
- 1.2 The maintenance of a list of assignments is the responsibility of each judge. This record is necessary so that all details can be presented when applying for elevation of status.
- 1.3 Every effort will be made to fulfil engagements. However, if this is not possible due to unforeseen circumstances, Clubs should be notified promptly. Judges should accept a reasonable number of appointments each year, and should not make a practice of refusing judging appointments in order to compete themselves.

### **HT2 - THE TRIAL**

Wherever possible, the Judge should:

- 2.1 Brief the Tracklayer(s) on the type of article(s) required, instruct them on what actions the judge will require during the laying of the track, and ensure that the tracklayers wear suitable footwear.
- 2.2 Accompany the track steward while mapping the tracks, and make duplicate maps for the track steward and track layer.
- 2.3 A judge shall arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before the advertised time of commencement, report to the Chief Steward and ensure nothing has happened to prevent the running of the trial.
- 2.4 A judge should brief the track layer and the steward, inspect all articles, note the time that the track layer commenced the track.
- 2.5 A judge should have previously arranged for a marshalling area at a place where preparations can not be seen by the competitors. A second steward who remains with the competitors is ideal, but not essential.
- 2.6 A judge should ensure that the handler and dog are called forward in sufficient time before the commencement of the track to settle and harness the dog.
- 2.7 A judge should previously have ensured that suitable arrangements have been made to control spectators before and during the test.

### **HT 3 - RESULTS AND GRADINGS**

- 3.1 At the end of each track, the judge must complete his judging sheet marking PASS or FAIL, and award the grading.  
At the end of the trial, results must be checked with the Chief Steward to ensure that certificates are made out correctly. **(11/24)**
- 3.2 If a judge disqualifies an exhibit, he must ensure that an account of the incident and actions accompanies the Report.

#### **HT4 - BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT**

- 4.1 Judges will be dressed appropriately for the occasion.
- 4.2 During the day's judging, no alcohol will be consumed within the precincts of the trial, nor will the judge smoke.
- 4.3 At all times Judges will conduct themselves with decorum. Judges should show integrity, patience and good humour throughout the day. At all times judges should be courteous to handlers, stewards and club officials. Full consideration should be given to every exhibitor and a dog lacking in ability shall not be regarded with contempt or belittled. Judges will not discuss the decisions of other judges with any other person.
- 4.4 Slow tedious judging is an imposition on exhibitors and slipshod methods are to be deplored.
- 4.5 Judges must base their decisions on the rules.
- 4.6 When competing themselves, judges should set an example to other competitors by their behaviour and sportsmanship.