

# **Dogs A.C.T.**

**A.C.T Canine Association inc.**

## **Dogs A.C.T Regulations - Part 18 - Disciplinary.**

Updated 1 August 2009.  
Amended 1 August 2012

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### **PART A**

#### **18.1 General:**

- a) In respect of a breach of Rules by a member of any Controlling Body:
  1. When a report of an alleged offence in the ACT is received, Dogs A.C.T shall investigate the complaint and conduct an investigation under the Rules of Natural Justice and lay a charge if it seems necessary, such charge to be determined by a hearing conducted for the purpose of determining innocence or guilt by Dogs A.C.T.
  2. If the Member is from an interstate controlling body, Dogs A.C.T shall submit a report with recommendations to the Member Body in the state or Territory in which the person resides.
  3. Such Members Body shall examine the evidence and if satisfied that the appropriate measures with regard to Natural Justice have been undertaken in the process, they may impose a penalty.
  4. Any witnesses or parties shall be given the opportunity to submit evidence in person if they wish, or may submit evidence by way of affidavit.
- b) In respect of field trials and retrieving trials conducted by Dogs A.C.T or an affiliate:
  1. No member of Dogs A.C.T participating or officiating in or observing such trials shall revisit a trial venue for any reason whatsoever without the permission of the landowner of that venue;
  2. No member of Dogs A.C.T participating or officiating in or observing such trials shall subsequently contact the landowner for the purpose of revisiting the trial without the prior approval of the person responsible for negotiating the use of the venue for the above mentioned trials and such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- c) In respect to anyone taking part in a show, trial or parade:
  1. A person who contravenes this Regulation - Part B Section 18.4 may be cautioned by an official of the Show or Trial.
  2. If thereafter they again contravene this Regulation Part B Section 18.4, they may be requested by an official to leave the event grounds (and to remove any exhibit thereon); and, if so requested shall leave forthwith.
  3. Anyone taking part in a show, trial or parade who openly impugns the actions or decisions of a judge, a steward or an official shall render himself or herself liable to be debarred from further participation in that event.

#### **18.2 Exhibitors and Visitors.**

- a) Exhibitors and Visitors who are members of a Controlling Body.

1. Exhibitors and Visitors who are members of a Controlling Body at any Show, Trial or Parade are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner.
  2. All sanctioned events in the ACT are conducted in accordance to the Rules and Regulations of controlling canine body of the ACT being the ACT Canine Association (Dogs ACT); visiting exhibitors who compete at these events will abide by the ACT Rules and Regulations.
  3. All Exhibitors and Visitors who are members of a controlling body who cause disruption, uses abusive or threatening language or otherwise impugning fellow exhibitors, judges or officials shall be disciplined by the Dogs A.C.T Council in a manner decided by the Dogs A.C.T Council which may include suspension and or disqualification.
  4. In such cases Exhibitors retain the right to appeal the Council's decision and to have representation at the Council Meeting where the matter is to be discussed.
- b) Judges and Officials Complaints.
1. Any Judge, Steward or Official who observes an exhibitor in contravention of this regulation, must report the incident in writing to the Show Secretary.
  2. The Show Secretary shall ensure that the report is lodged with the Dogs A.C.T Administrator within seven days of the Show or Trial with any supporting documents that may be available.
  3. Dogs A.C.T Council will consider the report and may take disciplinary action against the exhibitor.

## **PART B**

### **18.3 General complaint:**

In respect of a breach of Dogs A.C.T Rules or Regulations, Code of Ethics or Constitution by a member of Dogs A.C.T, not subject to Section 18.4 of this regulation:

- a) Where a report of an alleged offence by a Dogs A.C.T member is received, Dogs A.C.T shall investigate the complaint and conduct an investigation as to its validity under the Rules of Natural Justice and lay a charge if it seems necessary.
- b) The Complaint must be written with a detailed description of the complaint matter or incident and include any evidence supporting the complaint matter and where possible written and signed witness statements.
- c) The complaint must be accompanied by a fee of \$150.00. Dogs A.C.T may determine that this fee is not applicable if the allegation is related to a substantive offence determined by a Law Enforcement or Government investigative body.
- d) Should such an allegation determine that an investigation be required and a hearing conducted for the purpose of determining innocence or guilt, Dogs A.C.T may call any witnesses or parties who shall be given the opportunity to submit further relevant evidence in person or evidence by way of affidavit.
- e) The Dogs A.C.T Council shall examine the evidence and if satisfied that the appropriate measures with regard to Natural Justice have been undertaken in the process, they may impose a penalty.
- f) The Complainant should note that should the complaint or allegation be considered frivolous by the Dogs A.C.T Council or deemed to be invalid then the fee is forfeit and the Complainant may be disciplined by the Council.
- g) If the alleged offence by a Dogs A.C.T member occurs interstate, then the complaint should be investigated by that interstate controlling body.

### **18.4 Misconduct in connection with a Show or Trial.**

(Amended to read Show & Trials 1Aug2012)

- a) A person shall not at or within the precincts of a Show or Trial:

1. Causes disruption, or behave contrary to the manner in which a reasonable person ought properly to conduct themselves;
  2. Disparage the decision of a judge;
  3. Cause embarrassment to a judge or other persons at the Show or Trial;
  4. Attempt to influence a judge's decision;
  5. Threaten, menace or impedes a club official;
  6. Uses abusive or threatening language or otherwise impugning fellow exhibitors;
  7. Cause harm to any animal whether under their control or the control of another exhibitor.
  8. Unless authorized use a mobile telephone in a ring in which judging is taking place;
  9. Smokes in the ring, the entrance to the ring, the area used to form up and subsequently enter any ring.
  10. Double handle an exhibit;
  11. Exhibitors are responsible for both their children's actions and behaviour at any Show, Trial or Parade.
  12. Otherwise commit misconduct.
- b) For the purposes of this Regulation "person" includes, but is not limited to, an officiating judge, an official of the show, a steward, an exhibitor and a member of Dogs ACT or other State Canine Control.

**18.5 Process in relation to misconduct in relation to a show or trial.** (Amended to read Show & Trials 1Aug2012)

- a) A complaint alleging a breach of this Regulation Section 18.4 shall be made to the Event Secretary at the show or trial, shall be in writing and, if not made by an official of the Show, shall be accompanied by a lodgment fee of \$100 payable to Dogs ACT.
- b) An exhibitor who wishes to lodge a complaint against another exhibitor or an official at a Show or Trial must lodge the protest in writing with the event Secretary before the conclusion of that event. Where the event is held over a number of days, the complaint is to be lodged with the event Secretary before the close of the event that day.
- c) The complaint handed to the event Secretary must include written and signed witness statements from all parties and be accompanied by the lodgement fee.
- d) The only actions available to the Show/Trial Committee on the day is to caution the person/s and if the action is repeated to request the person/ persons to leave the grounds. (See Part A Section 18.1.c).
- e) The Event Secretary shall, within 7 days of receipt of a complaint referred to in this Regulation or becoming aware of a contravention of this Regulation, forward details thereof to the Dogs ACT Administration, together with all documents received together with the applicable lodgment fee and the Dogs ACT Representatives Report.
- e) A complaint not lodged in accordance with this Regulation Part B Section 18.3 will not be accepted by Dogs ACT unless received within 14 days of the event giving rise to the complaint and accompanied by a late fee of \$100, (in addition to the applicable lodgment fee of \$100).
- f) No further action is required by the Show/Trial Committee on the day.
- g) The Dogs ACT Council may waive either or both of the original lodgment fee and the late fee upon receipt of a reasonable and acceptable explanation.
- h) The complaint will then be dealt with by an investigative panel authorized by the Dogs ACT Council. (In accordance with Section 18.1.a)
- i) The Complainant/s should note that should the complaint be considered frivolous by the Dogs A.C.T Council or deemed to be invalid then the fee is forfeit and the Complainant may be disciplined by the Council.