

Dogs A.C.T.

A.C.T Canine Association inc.

Dogs A.C.T. Regulations - Part 9 - Judges.

Amended in its entirety – 1 January 2010

Amended in line with ANKC regulation Part 2– July 2011

Amended to include Rally – November 2022

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9.1 General.

- a) Unless otherwise stated all approved events in the Australian Capital Territory (A.C.T.) are run under the rules and regulations of the A.C.T. Canine Association (Dogs A.C.T.) in conjunction with the regulations of the ANKC.
- b) Only judges on the official Dogs A.C.T Panel or a controlling body in another State or Territory of Australia or New Zealand may be appointed to Judge at Championship Shows, Trials or at Parades.
- c) Judges approved by the ANKC are not authorised to officiate at manifestations organised by dissent associations and that before accepting an invitation the judge must make all the necessary enquiries to ascertain that the show organization comes under the jurisdiction of the FCI.
- d) Judges Licences are issued after approval by the Dogs A.C.T Council, only after all requirements are met for that licence under the ANKC Judges Training Scheme and Dogs A.C.T.'s Judges Training Scheme.
- e) Or being a person who has been recognised by another State Controlling Body as a Judge or Trainee Judge (or the equivalent thereof) and in the opinion of the Council is sufficiently well qualified to be licensed as a Judge or Trainee Judge.
- f) Dogs A.C.T. shall maintain a register of Judges, Aspirant Judges or Trainee Judges who are a permanent resident of the A.C.T. or other place on approval of a written application to Council; and is a current financial member of Dogs A.C.T.
- g) All appointments to the Panel of licensed Judges shall take effect immediately following Council's approval and shall remain in force until the 30th June, following the date on which the license was granted.
- h) A licensed judge may apply to renew their license and where a licence is granted it is subject to payment of an annual licence fee as prescribed by Council, and the license shall continue in force for a further period of twelve (12) months.
- i) A judge's qualifications must be linked to a (continuous financial) membership and any period of non-financial membership must be paid in full before the Judge's qualifications are renewed/restored following that period of non-financial membership.
- j) Every application to renew shall be lodged with the Administrative Officer prior to the date stipulated by Council for the lodgement of such applications.

- k) The Council may for any reasonable cause:
 - 1. Refuse any application for a licence/cancel any licence;
 - 2. Suspend any licence for such a period as it thinks fit; or
 - 3. Vary the terms and conditions upon which any licence is granted.

9.2 Conduct of Judges.

- a) No Judge shall adjudicate upon or judge any dog within a period of twelve (12) calendar months after:
 - 1. That Judge or any family member of that Judge has owned or leased the dog concerned (either solely or in conjunction with any other person).
 - 2. That judge used the dog at stud or the dog is a result of the use of a judge's dog at stud.
 - 3. That Judge has boarded the dog concerned either privately or in any boarding kennel in which that Judge has an interest or is employed.
 - 4. That Judge has trained or handled the dog concerned in any activity in conformation classes.
 - 5. This does not apply to:
 - 5.1 The provision of veterinary care or attention.
 - 5.2 Affiliate member activities such as any Dogs A.C.T. judges training scheme.
 - 5.3 Where a dog is judged in breed by another judge and that dog progresses (such as General Specials) to be judged by that judge.
 - 5.4 Elimination awards where due to a Judge's decision on the day an exhibitor assists another exhibitor by handling a dog for an award where the owner has two or more dogs to be judged for that award.
 - 5.5 People holding dogs in an assembly area assisting a person who is showing two or more dogs at the time.
 - 5.6 In emergency circumstances.
- b) No member of a judge's family or household shall exhibit or handle a dog at any conformation event at which the judge officiates or in the same ring or test at an obedience, rally or retrieving trial, endurance test, tracking, field, herding or/and agility activity.
- c) No Judge shall handle any dog at any Exhibition for fee or reward; shall not act as a Handler at or enter or exhibit a dog in a Conformation Exhibition at which he is appointed to judge; shall not act as a Handler in an Exhibition for Obedience, Rally, Agility, Tracking, Field, Herding or Endurance Tests at which they are appointed to judge.
- d) A judge shall avoid duplicating assignments in the same breed within a minimum of three (3) months of each other and within a minimum of a two hundred (200) kilometre radius of Championship Shows, Open Shows and Parades.
- e) Any Judge invited to judge at an Exhibition shall reply to that invitation within fourteen (14) days of the date of receipt of same.
- f) Substitute or emergency judges shall be designated as a Judge for that exhibition.
- g) A Judge shall not re-judge any competition because of the absence from the Judging Precinct of any Exhibit at the time of judging that competition.
- h) No Judge shall adjudicate upon or judge any dog outside the confines of the judging precinct. The assembly area is to be used for the assembly of dogs and only in exceptional circumstances is it to be used as a judging precinct.

9.3 Misconduct.

- a) No person shall act in a manner for either himself or for any other person; in soliciting an appointment to Judge or solicit or seek the entry of any particular dog or dogs at any fixture conducted or to be conducted under the Rules and Regulations of Dogs A.C.T. or any another Controlling Body.
- b) A Judge shall not act or comment on an exhibit or exhibitor in a manner, which is disrespectful or abusive, an inquiry may be conducted into the allegations and a report forwarded to the Council, who shall deal with the Judge, if any discipline is necessary.
- c) Where a Member is suspended in any State or Territory and if they are a Judge they will be unable to fulfil any judging contracts in their home State or any other State or Territory in Australia, or any overseas country.
- d) If a judge is accused of misbehaviour, outside his/her State or Territory, an inquiry shall be conducted into the allegations and a report forwarded to the home body, who shall deal with the Judge, if any discipline is necessary.

9.4 Cancellation of Appointment to Judge.

- a) Any Judge having accepted an appointment as a Judge at any approved Event who fails, without just cause, to attend and judge at an approved Event at the appointed time (or within reasonable time from the start of the event) shall be guilty of a breach of these Rules.
- b) Where a Judge is unable to meet the requirements of his/her agreement, he/she shall within seven (7) days of the date of the appointment, advise the Dogs A.C.T. Administrative Officer in writing of the circumstances.
- c) Where any person cancels an agreement to judge at any fixture conducted in Australia, the affiliate conducting the fixture shall be required to submit full details of the reason for the cancellation to their Controlling Body in the State or Territory in which the fixture is to be conducted, within seven (7) days of receipt of the notice of cancellation.
- d) The Controlling Body on receipt of the notice of cancellation shall forward a copy to the Control in the State or Territory in which the invited judge resides, who shall be required to investigate the reason for cancellation and if necessary, take appropriate action.
- e) A Judge who withdraws from a contracted appointment, for any reason, shall not be permitted to judge at any other canine event wherever held on any date that would prevent him/her from attending the original contracted event.
- f) Where a judge is contracted in the situation of 9.2d) "duplicate appointment", the judge has no choice to which appointment they take but is obligated to the appointment they were first contracted to (earliest signed contract not the date of the show).

9.5 Judging Requirements.

- a) It is the Judge's responsibility to see that Judging Charts are checked, scores correctly recorded, signed and delivered to a responsible Trial / Event Official immediately each chart is completed. (Added 12/23)
- b) All judges are required to report any incidents of dogs showing aggressive tendencies in accordance to Dogs A.C.T. Regulations - Part 17 – Aggressive Dogs.
- c) All conformation judges are required to report any incidents of dogs from six (6) months of age suspected of not being entire.
- d) Best of Breed must be judged by a person judging those breed classes.
- e) Only All Breeds Judges shall judge General Specials.
- f) The maximum number of entries to be catalogued for a single conformation judge on any one day shall not exceed two hundred and twenty-five (225) excluding sweepstakes entries.
- g) An Endurance Test Judge shall not judge more than twenty (20) dogs per test.
- h) The number of dogs to be judged by a judge at Obedience trials shall not be expected to exceed six (6) for Novice, five (5) for Open, four (4) for Utility and Utility Excellent, per hour and an Obedience judge shall not be required to judge for more than seven (7) hours.

- i) The maximum number of dogs to be judged by a judge at a Tracking Trial on any one day will be ten (10) x TD or seven (7) x TDX or seven (7) by CH.
- j) A combination of TD, TDX and/or CH Tracks must not exceed twenty-seven (27) points for any judge on one day. Judges may specify on their contracts how many points they are willing to judge.

9.6 Overseas Conformation Judges.

- a) The Judge may be approved to judge in Australia where:
 - 1) The person must be approved and have awarded in his/her country of residence Challenge Certificates or the equivalent to 70% of the breeds in a Group, but must have awarded Challenge Certificates or their equivalent in their Country of Residence to 100% of the major breeds in the group.
 - 2) The overseas judge must have completed the appropriate ANKC form which must have the state qualifications authenticated by the relevant controlling body Major breeds in a group be defined as follows: Any breed where the number of registrations in the previous year was greater than sixty (60) is considered to be a major breed.
- b) Any person who is not approved to judge dogs in their country of residence, or by the FCI, shall not be approved to judge dogs in Australia.
- c) Where an overseas judge defaults, full details of the incident shall be advised to other Member Bodies to enable a National decision to be made regarding future appointments in this country.
- d) A non-resident Judge on his/her first appointment may not judge more than four (4) shows in any one State or Territory.
- e) Overseas persons judging in Australia shall be committed to judge in accordance with Australian standards and recognised principals and procedures.
- f) Judges approved to judge Best in Show in their own country shall be permitted to judge the same awards in Australia.
- g) New Zealand Judges and any overseas Judge holding an Australian Permanent Resident Visa shall be exempt from completing the approved Overseas Judges Application Form. (Amended 07/11)
- h) All overseas Judges, other than those to which Section 9.6.g relates, shall be required to complete an official ANKC Ltd Overseas Judges Contract. (Amended 07/11)
- i) Subject to above hereof, following approval by the ANKC Ltd of an official Overseas Judges Contract, the overseas Judge is entitled to accept further appointments by way of sub-contract in accordance with that approval during the period one (1) calendar month before and one (1) calendar month after the date of the approved appointment. (Added 07/11)
- j) Overseas Judges holding an Australian Permanent Resident Visa shall be entitled to complete the "Permanent Resident Overseas Judge Registration Form" in July of each year in respect of the following calendar year or relevant part thereof and pay such registration fee as is determined by the ANKC Ltd. (Added 07/11)
- k) New Zealand Judges and registered Permanent Resident Overseas Judges are entitled to contract their services by completion of the standard ANKC Ltd Judges Contracts. (Added 07/11)

9.7 Verification of Australian Judges Wishing to Judge Overseas.

- a) A member of an ANKC Member Body who receives an invitation to judge overseas (except New Zealand) must obtain verification in writing of their current judging status, from their ANKC Member Body, prior to the formal acceptance of the appointment. The ANKC Member Body is to send the verification to the ANKC Administrator, with a copy sent to the requesting judge.
- b) The ANKC shall provide an official letter together with the verification to the Overseas Controlling Body stating exactly the person's current ANKC judging qualifications. If the overseas Controlling Body wishes the person to judge breed/s or Specials outside the person's ANKC qualification the ANKC will not forbid the person accepting the appointment.
- c) Approved ANKC Championship Judges may judge Open Shows in New Zealand.

9.8 Conformation Judges.

- a) Conformation Judges' training and examinations will be conducted according to the Dogs A.C.T. Conformation Judges' Education Policy that reflects ANKC Regulations Part 3, Judges Training & Examination Scheme, and embraces the Dogs A.C.T. approach to Conformation Judges' Training. (Amended 03/19)
- b) A person cannot judge a Property Class outside of his/her State or Territory unless they are an approved ANKC judge.
- c) Open Show Judges may judge in other States and Territories.

9.9 Agility and Jumping Trial Judges.

- a) Members of Dogs A.C.T. who aspire to become Agility and or Jumping Trial judges must, at the time of application, meet the following requirements:
 1. Have been a member of either Dogs A.C.T. or another controlling body for at least five (5) years and be a current Dogs A.C.T. member.
 2. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
 3. Be resident in the A.C.T.
 4. Have trained and titled a dog to a minimum standard of Agility Dog.
 5. Have been an active instructor in the sport of Agility for a minimum period of two (2) years.
 6. Recognition of equivalent experience and/or qualifications as approved by Council on recommendation of the Agility Sub-Committee.
- b) Revalidation of Agility/Jumping Judges Licences.
 1. All Agility and Jumping Judges Licences are required to be revalidated every five (5) years to coincide with the introduction of new rule books or the like.
 2. Revalidation procedures will be determined by Council.

9.10 Endurance Judges.

- a) For members of Dogs A.C.T. who aspire to become Endurance judges they must, at the time of application, meet the following requirements:
 1. Have been a member of either the Dogs A.C.T. or another Controlling body for at least five (5) years and be a current Dogs A.C.T. member.
 2. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
 3. Be resident in the A.C.T.
 4. Has been an active obedience/agility instructor for the period of the previous two (2) years.
 5. Be medically fit and capable of undertaking the judging. In addition, the following specific qualifications are required:
 - 5.1 Has trained for and trialed a dog in an Endurance Trial.

9.11 Field & Retrieving Judges.

Members of Dogs A.C.T. who aspire to become Field Trial, or Pointer and Setter Field Trial, Retrieving Trial judges must, at the time of application, meet the following requirements:

- a) **Field Trial Judges.**
 1. Must have been a member of the Dogs A.C.T. or other State or Territory canine control body for at least five (5) years, and been actively involved in field trials at club level for at least three (3) years - "actively involved" being defined as stewarding at trials, managing trials and organising the use of trial grounds with land owners.
 2. An applicant must be endorsed in writing by his or her club.
 3. Have trained a dog and completed regularly in Open All Age or Championship Stakes for at least three (3) years - "regularly" being defined as being a minimum of ten (10) Open, All Age or Championship Stakes during that three (3) year period.

4. Dogs A.C.T. has the right to approve other people who do not fit these criteria. In such case, the onus for proving eligibility rests with the applicant.
- b) **Pointer and Setter Field Trial Judges.**
1. Be over twenty-one (21) years.
 2. Be a resident of the A.C.T.
 3. Be a financial member of Dogs A.C.T.
 4. Be a member of Dogs A.C.T. Field Trial Steward Panel.
 5. Have other such qualifications as may be determined by Council.
- c) **Retrieving Trial Judges.**
1. Have been a financial member of Dogs A.C.T. or another State or Territory canine control body for a period of at least five (5) years, and been actively involved in retrieving trials at club level for at least two (2) years.
 2. An applicant must be endorsed in writing by his or her club.
 3. Have trained a dog and competed regularly in All Age Stakes for a period of at least three (3) years - regularly is defined as being a minimum of ten (10) All Age or Championship Stakes during that three (3) year period.
 4. Dogs A.C.T. has the right to approve other people who do not fit these criteria. In such case the onus for proving eligibility rests with the applicant.

9.12 Flyball Judges.

- a) For members of Dogs A.C.T. who aspire to become Flyball judges they must, at the time of application, meet the following requirements:
1. Have been a member of either the Dogs A.C.T. or another Controlling body for at least five (5) years and be a current Dogs A.C.T. member.
 2. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
 3. Be resident in the A.C.T.
 4. Has been actively participating in Flyball for the period of the previous two (2) years.
 5. In addition, the following specific qualifications are required:
 - 5.1 Have trained for and titled a dog to Flyball Dog.

9.13 Obedience Judges. (Amended 12/23)

9.13.1 Training Scheme - Obedience Judges Course.

- a) Courses for the training, testing and assessment of Obedience Judges in the Australian Capital Territory ("A.C.T.") are conducted by Dogs A.C.T. The requirements for the Obedience Judges Course ("Course") are set out in these Regulations.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may appoint a Course Convenor who shall organise and administer the Course and, for this purpose, may do all things that may be done by Dogs A.C.T. under these Regulations.
- c) These Regulations implement Part 3C ANKC Regulations for the Conduct of Obedience Trial Judges Training Scheme. Where these Regulations require a higher standard than the ANKC Regulations, these Regulations will take precedence over the ANKC Regulations.

9.13.2 Content of Course.

- a) The Course comprises:
1. Preliminary Theory Examination
 2. Lectures
 3. Practical Training Sessions
 4. Final Theory Examination
 5. Final Practical Examination

- b) Subject to Regulation 9.13.2(c) below, Dogs A.C.T. will assess aspiring Obedience Judges (“aspirants”) in the following sequential order:
 - 1. Community Companion Dog (CCD) class
 - 2. Novice (CD) class
 - 3. Open (CDX) class
 - 4. Utility Dog (UD) class
 - 5. Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) class.
- c) At its absolute discretion, Dogs A.C.T. may assess aspirants in the Community Companion Dog and Novice classes simultaneously.

9.13.3 Application for Course.

- a) Dogs A.C.T. will advertise the conduct of a Course by notice on the Dogs A.C.T. website and/or any other media platforms available to Dogs A.C.T. The notice will include dates for the receipt of the application form, commencement of the Course and for the Final Theory and Practical Examinations, availability of application form, requirements for eligibility to apply for the Course and the fee payable.
- b) An application for the Course must be made on the application form approved by Dogs A.C.T. by the date specified in the notice referred to in (a) above and must be accompanied by the required fee. The application form must contain the declaration set out in Regulation 9.13.14 (Fitness to Judge).
- c) An application will not be considered by Dogs A.C.T. until the required fee has been received.
- d) All requirements for the Preliminary Theory Examination, Lectures and Practical Training Sessions must be fulfilled prior to the applicant undertaking the Final Theory and Practical Examinations.
- e) Dogs A.C.T. has the right to seek written or other verification of any information provided by the applicant.

9.13.4 Eligibility to Apply for Course.

- a) The Applicant must, at the time of making the application:
 - 1. Have been a member of Dogs A.C.T. or another Member Body of the ANKC (“another Member Body”) for at least three (3) years prior to the application and be a current financial member of Dogs A.C.T.
 - 2. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
 - 3. Be a resident of the A.C.T.
 - 4. For the Community Companion Dog class, have personally trained and trialed a dog to its Community Companion Dog or higher title.
 - 5. For the Novice class, have personally trained and trialed a dog to its Novice or higher title.
 - 6. For the Open class, hold an ANKC Novice Judge’s licence and have personally trained and trialed a dog to its Open or higher title.
 - 7. For the Utility Dog class, hold an ANKC Open Judge’s licence and have personally trained and trialed a dog in the Utility ring on at least three (3) occasions.
 - 8. For the Utility Dog Excellent class, hold an ANKC Utility Dog Judge’s licence.
 - 9. Demonstrate skills and experience in instructing in Obedience at a Dogs A.C.T. affiliated Club or at a Club affiliated with another Member Body and/or active participation in Obedience trials including as a steward, organiser or other official and/or have experience in related club or training activities, whether in Obedience or another related ANKC discipline in the two (2) years prior to the application.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may approve an application received from a member who does not meet the above criteria provided that they are a permanent resident of Australia and can effectively demonstrate and produce documentation verifying experience, skills and qualifications to meet the above standards gained in a prior country of residence.
- c) An application from a member who meets the above criteria may be refused if Dogs A.C.T. considers that the member is otherwise not a person suitable to be approved as a judge.
- d) Subject to the agreement of both Dogs A.C.T. and another Member Body, an application from a person residing in the jurisdiction of the other Member Body may be approved where, due to the geographic

location of that person, it would be more convenient for that person to undergo the course in the A.C.T.

9.13.5 Preliminary Theory Examination.

- a) At the discretion of Dogs A.C.T., an aspirant for the Community Companion Dog and/or the Novice class may be required to undertake a preliminary written theory examination set by Dogs A.C.T. covering the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations and the general requirements of the ANKC Rule Book for the Conduct of Obedience Trials. An aspirant will not be examined on the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations if the aspirant holds an ANKC Sporting Judge's licence and is actively engaged in judging or has been previously examined whilst undertaking an ANKC Judges Training course in the past five (5) years in another discipline, e.g., Rally. If the aspirant requests, an oral theory examination may be undertaken. At the discretion of Dogs A.C.T., the examination may be conducted as a closed or open book examination.
- b) An aspirant must pass the preliminary theory examination before attending the Course Lectures or undertaking Practical Training Sessions.
- c) The pass mark for the preliminary theory examination is a minimum of 80% of the questions required to be answered.
- d) Marking is to be undertaken by ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. who will mark examination papers independently. An aspirant must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.
- e) An examination paper must be marked by at least two (2) and, if necessary, three (3) ANKC judges.
- f) An aspirant shall be advised of the result of the marking of their examination paper as soon as practical after the paper has been marked.
- g) An aspirant who has failed a preliminary theory examination may make, within fourteen (14) days of the advice of the result, a written request for a review of the marking of the paper. A different panel of three (3) ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. shall, without conferring, separately remark the paper.
- h) On request by an aspirant, all questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the aspirant with the correct answers.

9.13.6 Self-Education.

- a) An aspirant is expected to study and become conversant with the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations relating to the Conduct of Obedience Trials and the ANKC Rules for the Conduct of Obedience Trials.

9.13.7 Lectures and Assignments.

- a) Dogs A.C.T. will arrange for a series of lectures covering matters relevant to judging obedience trials.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may require an aspirant to submit to the Course Convenor written or electronically recorded assignments on topics covered by the course including, but not limited to, heel patterns and judging.
- c) An aspirant is expected to attend all lectures and to submit all assignments unless otherwise approved by Dogs A.C.T.

9.13.8 Practical Training Sessions.

- a) An aspirant must take part in at least two (2) Judge's Practical Training Sessions before undertaking Final Assessment.
- b) Trainers will be appointed by Dogs A.C.T. and must be qualified to judge Obedience trials in the class being assessed. The aspirant will arrange the venue to be used and for the attendance of dogs and handlers to be judged by the aspirant in the training session.
- c) The Trainers shall, at each training session:
 1. Supervise the aspirant's judging of at least three (3) dogs in each of the classes in which they are being assessed except in the Utility Dog Excellent class where a minimum of one (1) dog can be judged.
 2. Advise the aspirant of ways in which they feel the aspirant's judging could be improved.
 3. Sign the aspiring Judge's Practical Training Form provided by Dogs A.C.T. after completing details of suggested modification or reinforcement of the aspirant's judging.

- d) The form is to be signed and retained by the aspirant and then forwarded to the Course Convenor by the date set by Dogs A.C.T. A copy may be retained by the aspirant.

9.13.9 Final Assessment.

- a) The Final Assessment will be carried out in the following sequential order:
 1. Written or Oral Theory Examination
 2. Practical Examination
- b) In order to undertake the Final Assessment, an aspirant must provide to Dogs A.C.T.:
 1. A completed and signed Judge's Practical Training Form for at least two (2) Judge's Practical Training Sessions.
 2. Details (affiliate and date) of at least three (3) official judging appointments completed before the date of the Final Theory Exam: Community Companion Dog appointments where the aspirant is being assessed for the Novice class only; Novice appointments where the aspirant is being assessed for the Open class; Open appointments for the Utility class; and Utility appointments for the Utility Dog Excellent class.

9.13.10 Final Assessment – Written or Oral Theory Examination.

- a) An aspirant shall undertake a written theory examination set by Dogs A.C.T. covering the requirements of the ANKC Rule Book for the Conduct of Obedience Trials specifically relating to the classes in which they are being assessed, including principal features of exercises. If the aspirant requests, an oral theory examination may be undertaken.
- b) The pass mark for the theory examination is a minimum of 80%.
- c) An aspirant must pass the theory examination in order to undertake the practical examination.
- d) Marking is to be undertaken by ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. who will mark examination papers independently. The aspirant must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.
- e) An examination paper must be marked by at least two (2) and, if necessary, three (3) ANKC judges.
- f) An aspirant shall be advised of the result of the marking of the examination paper as soon as practical after the paper has been marked.
- g) An aspirant who has failed a theory examination may make, within fourteen (14) days of the advice of the result, a written request for the marking of the paper to be reviewed. A different panel of three (3) ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. shall, without conferring, separately remark the paper.
- h) On request by an aspirant, all questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the aspirant with the correct answers.
- i) At the discretion of Dogs A.C.T., the theory examination may be conducted as a closed or open book examination. An open book examination may be conducted under direct supervision or as an assignment to be submitted as required by Dogs A.C.T.

9.13.11 Final Assessment – Practical Examination.

- a) An aspirant must pass the final theory examination in order to undertake the practical examination.
- b) An aspirant shall undertake a practical examination assessed by at least three (3) ANKC judges, at Utility level or higher, appointed by Dogs A.C.T. Dogs A.C.T. will arrange for the venue to be used and the attendance of the dogs and handlers to be judged by the aspirant in the examination.
- c) The following are the requirements for a pass in the practical examination:
 1. An aspirant must judge at least three (3) dogs in each of the classes in which they are being assessed except in the Utility Dog Excellent class where a minimum of one (1) dog can be judged.
 2. At the judge's discretion, an aspirant may be asked to judge additional dogs.
 3. Each judge will individually make a recommendation as to whether an aspirant has passed or failed.
 4. A majority of the judges must recommend a pass in order for the aspirant to pass the examination.

- d) Following a practical examination, a Practical Assessment Form provided by Dogs A.C.T. will be completed and signed by each of the judges and submitted to the Course Convenor.

9.13.12 Re-Assessment – Practical Examination.

- a) An aspirant who fails a practical examination may apply for re-assessment.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. is not obliged to automatically agree to a re-assessment and each case will be reviewed on its merits.
- c) A re-assessment should not be granted earlier than three (3) months or later than six (6) months following the original assessment.
- d) A re-assessment should take place at a mutually agreed time and Dogs A.C.T. must take into account the need for further practical training of the aspirant and the availability of suitable handlers and dogs, and facilities.

9.13.13 Dress Code – Practical Training Sessions & Practical Examination.

- a) While an aspirant need not comply strictly with a Dress Code at all the practical training sessions leading up to their final practical examination, they should meet generally acceptable standards (i.e., neat, sensible clothes, appropriate footwear, no open-toed sandals, thongs etc.) when judging at practical training sessions.
- b) However, the final practical examination is a formal occasion and must be treated in the same manner as an official Obedience Trial. As such, an aspirant must wear an appropriate form of dress befitting an official at such an event, and will be marked accordingly.

9.13.14 Fitness to Judge.

- a) To comply with the ANKC Ltd Regulations (Part 2, Point 1.4) the form for an application to undertake an Obedience Judges Course, and the application for renewal of a judge's licence, shall contain the following declaration which shall be signed by the applicant:

"I declare that I am physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Rules and, if required, I am prepared to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test at the discretion of Dogs A.C.T. I further accept that Dogs A.C.T. may, at its absolute discretion, refuse to grant any renewal of licence and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted or to be granted."

- b) Should Dogs A.C.T. consider that either an applicant or a licensed judge is not physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations or the ANKC Rules for the conduct of Obedience Trials, Dogs A.C.T. may:
 1. Refuse the application.
 2. Refuse to grant any renewal of the licence to any person and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted.
 3. Direct any applicant or licensed judge to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test by a nominated medical office for the purpose of assessing the persons fitness to judge.
 4. Grant in part only an application for renewal of the licence.

9.13.15 Maintenance of Skills and Knowledge.

- a) All judges are expected to actively maintain their knowledge and understanding of the Rules and their interpretations as deemed by the ANKC Ltd and Dogs A.C.T.
- b) In the event that a Judge fails to fulfil this responsibility, or to follow directions issued by Dogs A.C.T.:
 1. Dogs A.C.T. may refuse to grant any renewal of licence or may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way, any licence already granted; and/or
 2. Dogs A.C.T. may direct any Judge within its jurisdiction to undergo additional training or counselling by a specified person or body.

9.13.16 Documentation provided by an aspirant.

- a) Any documentation provided to Dogs A.C.T. by an aspirant under these Regulations becomes the property of Dogs A.C.T. and may be used by Dogs A.C.T. for training or promotional purposes.

9.14 Rally Judges.**9.14.1 Training Scheme- Rally Judges Course.**

- a) Courses for the training, testing and assessment of Rally Judges in the Australian Capital Territory (“A.C.T.”) are conducted by Dogs A.C.T. The requirements for the Rally Judges Course (“Course”) are set out in these Regulations.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may appoint a Course Convenor who shall organize and administer the Course and, for this purpose, may do all things that may be done by Dogs A.C.T. under these Regulations.
- c) These Regulations implement Part 3F ANKC Regulations for the Conduct of Rally Obedience Trial Judges Training Scheme. Where these Regulations require a higher standard than the ANKC Regulations, these Regulations will take precedence over the ANKC Regulations.

9.14.2 Content of Course.

- a) The Course comprises:
 1. Preliminary Theory Examination
 2. Lectures
 3. Practical Training Sessions
 4. Final Theory Examination
 5. Final Practical Examination
- b) Subject to Regulation 9.14.2(c) below, aspiring Rally Judges (“aspirants”) will be assessed in the following classes simultaneously:
 1. Novice
 2. Advanced
 3. Excellent
 4. Master
- c) At its absolute discretion, Dogs A.C.T. may assess aspirants:
 1. In each of the classes separately.
 2. In the Novice and Advanced classes simultaneously.
 3. In the Novice, Advanced and Excellent classes simultaneously.

9.14.3 Application for Course.

- a) Dogs A.C.T. will advertise the conduct of a Course by notice on the Dogs A.C.T. website and/or any other media platforms available to Dogs A.C.T. The notice will include dates for the receipt of the application form, commencement of the Course and for the Final Theory and Practical Examinations, availability of application form, requirements for eligibility to apply for the Course and the fee payable.
- b) An application for the Course must be made on the application form approved by Dogs A.C.T. by the date specified in the notice referred to in (a) above and must be accompanied by the required fee. The application form must contain the declaration set out in Regulation 9.14.14 (Fitness to Judge).
- c) An application will not be considered by Dogs A.C.T. until the required fee has been received.
- d) All requirements for the Preliminary Theory Examination, Lectures and Practical Training Sessions must be fulfilled prior to the applicant undertaking the Final Theory and Practical Examinations.
- e) Dogs A.C.T. has the right to seek written or other verification of any information provided by the applicant.

9.14.4 Eligibility to Apply for Course.

- a) The Applicant must:
 1. Have been a member of Dogs A.C.T. or another Member Body of the ANKC (“another Member Body”) for at least three (3) years prior to the application and be a current financial member of Dogs A.C.T.

2. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
 3. Be a resident of the A.C.T.
 4. Have personally trained and trialed a dog to a minimum of a Rally Excellent Title.
 5. Demonstrate skills and experience in instructing in Rally at a Dogs A.C.T. affiliated Club or at a Club affiliated with another Member Body and/or active participation in Rally trials including as an organizer, steward or other official and/or have experience in related club or training activities, whether in Rally or another related ANKC discipline in the two (2) years prior to the application.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may approve an application received from a member who does not meet the above criteria provided that they are a permanent resident of Australia and can effectively demonstrate and produce documentation verifying experience, skills and qualifications to meet the above standards gained in a prior country of residence.
 - c) An application from a member who meets the above criteria may be refused if Dogs A.C.T. considers that the member is otherwise not a person suitable to be approved as a judge.
 - d) Subject to the agreement of both Dogs A.C.T. and another Member Body, an application from a person residing in the jurisdiction of the other Member Body may be approved where, due to the geographic location of that person, it would be more convenient for that person to undergo the course in the A.C.T.

9.14.5 Preliminary Theory Examination.

- a) An aspirant shall undertake a preliminary written theory examination set by Dogs A.C.T. covering the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations and the general requirements of the ANKC Rule Book for the Conduct of Rally Trials. An aspirant will not be examined on the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations if the aspirant holds an ANKC Sporting Judge's licence and is actively engaged in judging or has been previously examined whilst undertaking an ANKC Judges Training course in the past five (5) years in another discipline, e.g., Obedience. If the aspirant requests, an oral theory examination may be undertaken.
- b) An aspirant must pass the preliminary theory examination before attending the Course lectures or undertaking Practical Training Sessions.
- c) The pass mark for the preliminary theory examination is a minimum of 80% of the questions required to be answered.
- d) Marking is to be undertaken by ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. who will mark examination papers independently. An aspirant must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.
- e) An examination paper must be marked by at least two and, if necessary, three (3) ANKC judges.
- f) An aspirant shall be advised of the result of the marking of their examination paper as soon as practical after the paper has been marked.
- g) An aspirant who has failed a preliminary theory examination may make, within fourteen (14) days of the advice of the result, a written request for a review of the marking of the paper. A different panel of three ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. shall, without conferring, separately remark the paper.
- h) On request by an aspirant, all questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the aspirant with the correct answers.

9.14.6 Self-Education.

- a) An aspirant is expected to study and become conversant with the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations relating to the conduct of Rally trials and the ANKC Rules for the Conduct of Rally Trials.

9.14.7 Lectures and Assignments.

- a) Dogs A.C.T. will arrange for a series of lectures covering matters relevant to judging rally trials.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. may require an aspirant to submit to the Course Convenor written or electronically recorded assignments on topics covered by the course including, but not limited to, course design and judging.
- c) An aspirant is expected to attend all lectures and submit all assignments unless otherwise approved by Dogs A.C.T.

9.14.8 Practical Training Sessions.

- a) An aspirant must take part in at least two (2) Judges Practical Training Sessions before undertaking Final Assessment.
- b) Trainers will be appointed by Dogs A.C.T. The aspirant will arrange the venue to be used and for the attendance of the dogs and handlers to be judged by the aspirant in the training session.
- c) The Trainers shall, at each training session:
 1. Supervise the aspirant's judging of at least four (4) dogs in each of the classes in which they are being assessed.
 2. Advise the aspirant of ways in which they feel the aspirant's judging could be improved.
 3. Sign the aspiring Judges Practical Training Form provided by Dogs A.C.T. after completing details of suggested modification or reinforcement of the aspirant's judging.
- d) The form is to be signed and retained by the aspirant and then forwarded to the Course Convenor by the date set by Dogs A.C.T. A copy may be retained by the aspirant.

9.14.9 Final Assessment.

- a) The Final Assessment will be carried out in the following sequential order:
 1. Written or Oral Theory Examination
 2. Practical examination
- b) In order to undertake Final Assessment, an aspirant must provide to Dogs A.C.T. a completed and signed Judges Practical Training Form for at least two (2) Judges Practical Training Sessions.

9.14.10 Final Assessment – Written or Oral Theory Examination.

- a) An aspirant shall undertake a written theory examination set by Dogs A.C.T. covering the requirements of the ANKC Rule Book for the Conduct of Rally Trials specifically relating to the classes in which they are being assessed and their signs. If the aspirant requests, an oral theory examination may be undertaken.
- b) The pass mark for the theory examination is a minimum of 80%.
- c) An aspirant must pass the theory examination in order to undertake the practical examination.
- d) Marking is to be undertaken by ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. who will mark examination papers independently. The aspirant must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.
- e) An examination paper must be marked by at least two (2) and, if necessary, three (3) ANKC judges.
- f) An aspirant shall be advised of the result of the marking of the examination paper as soon as practical after the paper has been marked.
- g) An aspirant who has failed a theory examination may make, within fourteen (14) days of the advice of the result, a written request for the marking of the paper to be reviewed. A different panel of three ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. shall, without conferring, separately remark the paper.
- h) On request by an aspirant, all questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the aspirant with the correct answers.
- i) At the discretion of Dogs A.C.T., the theory examination may be conducted as a closed or open book examination. An open book examination may be conducted under direct supervision or as an assignment to be submitted as required by Dogs A.C.T.

9.14.11 Final Assessment – Practical Examination.

- a) An aspirant must pass the theory examination in order to undertake the practical examination.
- b) An aspirant shall undertake a practical examination assessed by at least three (3) ANKC judges appointed by Dogs A.C.T. Dogs A.C.T. will arrange for the venue to be used and the attendance of the dogs and handlers to be judged by the aspirant in the examination.

- c) The course to be used by an aspirant in each class to be judged must be approved by the Course Convenor before the practical examination takes place.
- d) The following are the requirements for a pass in the practical examination:
 - 1. An aspirant must judge a minimum of three (3) dogs in each class.
 - 2. At the judge's discretion, an aspirant may be asked to judge additional dogs.
 - 3. Each judge will individually make a recommendation as to whether an aspirant has passed or failed.
 - 4. A majority of the judges must recommend a pass in order for the aspirant to pass the examination.
- e) Following a practical examination, a Practical Assessment Form provided by Dogs A.C.T. will be completed and signed by each of the judges and submitted to Dogs A.C.T. A copy of the assessment form will be provided to the aspirant as soon as possible after it is completed.

9.14.12 Re-Assessment – Practical Examination.

- a) An aspirant who fails a practical examination may apply for re-assessment.
- b) Dogs A.C.T. is not obliged to automatically agree to a re-assessment and each case will be reviewed on its merits.
- c) A re-assessment should not be granted earlier than three (3) months or later than six (6) months following the original assessment.
- d) A re-assessment should take place at a mutually agreed time and Dogs A.C.T. must take into account the need for further practical training of the aspirant and the availability of suitable handlers and dogs and facilities.

9.14.13 Dress Code – Practical Training Sessions & Practical Examination.

- a) While an aspirant need not comply strictly with a Dress Code at all the practical training sessions leading up to their final practical examination, they should meet generally acceptable standards (i.e., neat, sensible clothes, appropriate footwear, no open-toed sandals, thongs etc.) when judging at practical training sessions.
- b) However, the final practical examination is a formal occasion and must be treated in the same manner as an official Rally Trial. As such, an aspirant must wear an appropriate form of dress befitting an official at such an event and will be marked accordingly.

9.14.14 Fitness to Judge.

- a) To comply with the ANKC Ltd Regulations (Part 2, Point 1.4) the form for an application to undertake a Rally Judges Course, and the application for renewal of a judge's licence, shall contain the following declaration which shall be signed by the applicant:

"I declare that I am physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Rules and if required I am prepared to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test at the discretion of Dogs A.C.T. I further accept that Dogs A.C.T. may at its absolute discretion refuse to grant any renewal of licence and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted or to be granted."
- b) Should Dogs A.C.T. consider that either an applicant or a licensed judge is not physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Dogs A.C.T. Rules and Regulations or the ANKC Rules for the conduct of Rally Trials, Dogs A.C.T. may:
 - 1. Refuse the application.
 - 2. Refuse to grant any renewal of the licence to any person and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted.
 - 3. Direct any applicant or licensed judge to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test by a nominated medical office for the purpose of assessing the persons fitness to judge.
 - 4. Grant in part only an application for renewal of the licence.

9.14.15 Maintenance of Skills and Knowledge.

- a) All judges are expected to actively maintain their knowledge and understanding of the Rules and their interpretations as deemed by the ANKC Ltd and Dogs A.C.T.
- b) In the event that a Judge fails to fulfil this responsibility or to follow directions issued by Dogs A.C.T.:

1. Dogs A.C.T. may refuse to grant any renewal of licence or may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way, any licence already granted; and/or
2. Dogs A.C.T. may direct any Judge within its jurisdiction to undergo additional training or counselling by a specified person or body.

9.14.16 Documentation provided by an aspirant.

- a) Any documentation provided to Dogs A.C.T. by an aspirant under these Regulations becomes the property of Dogs A.C.T. and may be used by Dogs A.C.T. for training or promotional purposes.

9.15 Tracking Judges.

- a) Members of the Dogs A.C.T. who aspire to become tracking judges must, at the time of application, meet the following requirements:
 1. Have been a member of either the Dogs A.C.T. or another Controlling body for at least five (5) years and be a current Dogs A.C.T member.
 2. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
 3. Be resident in the A.C.T.
 4. Be on Dogs A.C.T. Obedience Stewards Panel (or on another equivalent Controlling Body Panel).
 5. In addition, the following specific qualifications are required to have trained and trialled a dog to its TD Title have stewarded at Tracking Trials on at least three occasions over the preceding three (3) years.

9.16 Specialist Breed Judges.

A specialist license cannot be obtained where a trainee already holds a license for the group, e.g. A group five Judge cannot become a specialist for German Shepherd Dogs.

9.17 Junior Handler Judges.

- a) No person under the age of eighteen (18) years of age shall be permitted to officiate as judge at Junior Handler Classes.
- b) Junior Handler judges shall be eligible to enroll in a Junior Handler Judges Training Scheme whilst they are seventeen (17) years of age.
- c) The Junior Handler judge shall require the dog to be paraded and moved around the ring in the same manner or pattern as that required in ordinary show competition. The normal triangular course of movement is recommended. Unorthodox movements or attempts to confuse or trick the handler must be discouraged.

9.18 Documentation.

- a) Conformation Judges must receive a statement indicating the breeds entered and for which they are to adjudicate, by number (i.e., total per breed).
- b) The conformation Judge's declaration on the Challenge Certificate shall read: "*I am clearly of the opinion that this exhibit is of such outstanding merit as to be worthy to qualify for the title 'Australian Champion'*".
- c) Each Judge will be issued with Judges Sheets at each Exhibition. The Judges Sheets shall be in a form prescribed by Council. The Judge shall sign each sheet and complete in full as required by their discipline.
- d) The judge may decide to have the Judge's Book marked by the Ring Steward.
- e) A Judge may not place two (2) or more separate exhibits as equal for any award.
- f) A Judge may rectify a bona fide mistake, or correct an error, provided such mistake or error is discovered before the completion of the judging of the class in question.
- g) Any alterations made in the Judge's Sheets must be initialled by the Judge (except Conformation).
- h) Unless such decision is contrary to the Rules, a Judge's decision on the merits of an exhibit shall be final.
- i) Where any person considers the decision of a Judge to be contrary to the Rules, he/she may notify the Administrative Officer in writing within seven (7) days of the date of the Exhibition and Council shall enquire into the matter.