

Dogs and the Law

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05/03/2014

1 Contract Law

1.1 Rules of Dogs NSW

1.2 Ethics and minimum standards

2 Statute Law and Regulations

2.1 Companion Animals Act 1998

2.2 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Act 1979

Points of contacts with law:

- 1 Local Council – a noise complaint can move through a number of council departments:
 - 1.1 Ranger;
 - 1.2 Health & Building
 - 1.3 Planning
- 2 Police
- 3 R.S.P.C.A
- 4 Courts and Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunals

The degree of regulation increases from (1) through to (4):

- (1) Working dogs
- (2) Ordinary dogs
- (3) Dangerous dogs - including Greyhounds
- (4) Restricted dogs

Level of regulation depends on activities which increases from (1) through to (6):

- (1) Simple pet
- (2) Exhibition and sport
- (3) Breeding
- (4) Boarding
- (5) Grooming
- (6) Security

Dealing in Dogs

- (1) Codes of Practice – there being seven (7) including NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No 2 – Breeding Dogs and Cats
- (2) Trade Practices (Australian Consumer Law)

Cruelty (Crime)

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979

Liability for injuries and damage regulated by Companion Animals Act 1998

Strict Liability – against owner

IMPORTANT: you should have insurance for your dogs under your contents/public liability.

Power of entry and seizure

- 1 RSPCA limited unless with search warrant
- 2 Police under Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and general police powers
- 3 Local council authorised officers can seize within 72 hours of an attack. Ranger etc is an Authorised Officer.

Time for a Break



Closer look at Animal Code of Practice – Breeding of Dogs and Cats

Important Sections:

- 6.1 Accommodation

- 7.1 Animal Care
- 7.2 Food and Water
- 7.3 Cleaning and disinfection
- 7.4 Transport

- 8.2 Veterinary care
- 8.3 Humane destruction

- 9 Transfer of Ownership

- 10 Breeding and Rearing