



ROYAL NSW CANINE COUNCIL LTD

(trading as DOGS NSW)

Submission to

Georges River Council

Draft Keeping of Animals Policy



**30 July
2019**



DOGS NSW welcomes Georges River Council's interest in animal management issues. Our primary aim is the welfare of all dogs and we support any initiatives that work for the betterment of health and welfare issues related to dogs.

We would appreciate the opportunity to personally meet with Councillors of the Georges River Council and extend an invitation to those Councillors and Council Officers to visit our DOGS NSW facility, *The Bill Spilstead Complex for Canine Affairs* to gain an understanding of the scope and self-regulatory nature of our organisation.

1. WHO IS DOGS NSW?

- DOGS NSW is the trading name of *The Royal NSW Canine Council Limited*.
- Established by the NSW Minister for Agriculture in 1947, operating under the umbrella of the *Royal Agricultural Society of NSW* as the *RAS Kennel Club*.
- Incorporated as a company limited by guarantee (NSW Canine Council Ltd) in 1988, was granted Royal Assent in 1993.
- An organisation that operates as a self-regulating, licensing and registration body at no cost to the NSW Government.
- A member body of the *Australian National Kennel Council Ltd* (ANKC Ltd) who have in excess of 36,000 members and a registration database which currently holds the details of well over 100,000 dogs. DOGS NSW has approximately 10,000 members.
- Through ANKC Ltd, DOGS NSW is associated with the *Fédération Cynologique Internationale* (FCI) the World Canine Organisation which has 90 member countries.

2. WHAT DOES DOGS NSW DO?

- Promotes "fit for function, fit for life".
- Is the only NSW canine organisation recognised both Australia-wide and worldwide as the peak body that promotes the health and welfare of ANKC Ltd registered dogs.
- Maintains the NSW purebred register of all breeds.
- Promotes health improvement schemes and maintains registers for these schemes.
- Certifies breeder licences, monitors and regulates its members as responsible breeders of dogs through educational programs and examinations.
- All DOGS NSW licensed breeders must comply with our Code of Ethics (**Appendix 1**). Failure to comply with the Code of Ethics and welfare requirements, as outlined in the *Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals Act, 1979/2015* (POCTA), is subject to investigation and the application of penalties.
- DOGS NSW members must provide their breeder identification number in all advertisements.
- DOGS NSW members are prohibited from selling or supplying puppies to pet shops, selling by auction or providing them as prizes.
- Promotes all aspects of good canine socialisation and education. Many of these activities are also open to non-pedigree dogs.
- Provides social activities for both owners and dogs through a range of recreational events such as obedience and agility.
- Supports rescue groups and clubs and currently has in excess of 70 breed rescue groups.
- Provides breed identification education to local councils and provides an accredited TAFE course.



3. CONTRIBUTION OF DOGS NSW AND ITS MEMBERS TO THE GEORGES RIVER LGA ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY

- RSPCA research shows that Australia has one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world. 62% of Australian Households own a pet with dogs being the most popular pet with 38% of households owning a dog. Further, the RSPCA estimates that there are 20 dogs per 100 people in Australia.
- Source: <https://kb.rspca.org.au/knowledge-base/how-many-pets-are-there-in-australia/>
- Council will need to seriously consider the impact of its proposed actions on the local economy of the Georges River LGA. If Council seeks to reduce the number of dogs it is then seeking to damage the local economy of its own area.

Dog owners support local veterinary practices, food and service suppliers. DOGS NSW recommends that Council consider the impact of their proposed plan to reduce the number of dogs in the Georges River LGA on the businesses located in the council area.

4. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH THE “DRAFT KEEPING OF ANIMALS LOCAL ORDERS POLICY”?

The current Companion Animals Act 1998 No.87 already grants the power to a council to make an order restricting the number of dogs kept on a property on a “case by case basis”. The proposed local orders policy has the potential to:-

- Add an unnecessary layer of complexity to the current Act.
- Be seen as a **regulation** rather than a **guideline** by both residents and council officers.
- Result in panic dumping and euthanasia of dogs in excess of the proposed guidelines.
- Result in vexatious complaints.
- Act as a deterrent to individuals registering dogs with Council in order to hide them, resulting in loss of revenue to Georges River Council and a loss of control of dog numbers and dog management.
- Drive the ownership of dogs underground, thereby resulting in the opposite outcome of what Council is trying to achieve.
- Dramatically increase compliance cost to Council at the same time as causing a loss of revenue.
- Significantly impact on the economy of the Georges River LGA, particularly with regards to small businesses providing pet services.

Of major concern is significant community anxiety that is already evident. DOGS NSW has been contacted by members and the general public seeking assurances that their dogs will be safe. In particular, DOGS NSW has been contacted by distressed pensioners and other dog owners who are fearful that they will be forced to surrender any dogs in excess of the proposed guidelines.

The value of pet ownership to the health and stability of the community and to its social capital should never be underestimated.



SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WITH THE “DRAFT KEEPING OF ANIMALS LOCAL ORDERS POLICY”

1. Restriction of the number of dogs able to be kept:-

The Companion Animals Act 1998 No.87 already gives the Council the power to resolve issues on a case by case basis, where dog owners fail to comply with community amenity expectations. Provisions already exist for a council to issue a local order concerning the number of dogs that can be kept on an individual property. An arbitrary restriction of numbers in itself is not a guarantee of compliance.

DOGS NSW breeders may be forced to rehome some of their treasured dogs because they have more than the number allowed. They may have several dogs for breeding and showing purposes, and may also be “running on” puppies from a litter to assess their potential for showing. They may also have older dogs that have retired from breeding and showing that they have chosen to keep as family pets rather than rehome. DOGS NSW breeders often invest large amounts of money, time and effort into their hobby and it would be unfair to expect these breeders to rehome some of their much-loved dogs when they are well-cared for and part of their hobby.

DOGS NSW advises that owners may be forced to euthanise their pets out of fear from intervention by Georges River Council should it proceed with this policy. Past experience of DOGS NSW shows this to be a genuine possibility and is inconsistent with NSW Government Animal Welfare Policies.

2. Determination of the number of dogs able to be kept based on the weight and size:-

Basing numbers on the size and weight of dogs is discriminatory and does not necessarily result in compliance with community amenity. This arbitrary restriction would be a nightmare to apply and enforce and would lead to a significant increase in disputes and the erosion of social capital. This has the potential to be taken to the extreme resulting in a negative impact on the health and welfare of the canine population of the Georges River LGA.

A determination based on weight would be arbitrary and not based on any scientific evidence. There is no logical basis to such a determination, and it is without merit. Has the Council decided how it will deal with the ownership of a dog that is now deemed to be of inappropriate weight? Will families be required to surrender or euthanise family pets that will now be excluded on the basis of inappropriate weight?

DOGS NSW breeders care for their dogs in the same way, irrespective of their size or weight. A breeder of large dogs, such as German Shepherds, Rottweilers, Labrador Retrievers, Border Collies, Golden Retrievers, etc, would not be able to continue their hobby if they were unable to have more than two dogs. This could mean the end of these dog breeds in the Georges River LGA, as they would not be able to continue to breed.

3. Dog Breeding and/or Boarding Kennels are subject to Council approval:-

As boarding kennels are commercial operations, it is appropriate to require a Development Approval. As puppy farming is a commercial operation, a licensing program and Development Approval are appropriate (as is currently being investigated by the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Companion Animal breeding practices), however, hobby breeding as undertaken by licenced breeders of DOGS NSW, is distinct from commercial breeding practices and is a hobby ancillary to the residents of a premises and not subject to the requirement for a Development Approval.



Further, DOGS NSW breeders are bound by a strict code of conduct that sets down stringent health and welfare requirements for the dogs. It would not only be unfair, but unnecessary to expect DOGS NSW breeders to submit to yet another level of inspections and require applications to breed.

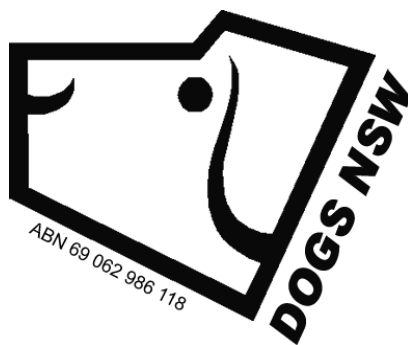
RECOMMENDATION:

In consideration of the issues raised in our submission, DOGS NSW strongly recommends that Georges River Council defer any decision-making in regard to the “Draft Keeping of Animals Local Orders Policy 2019” until such time as the review of the Companion Animals Act 1998 is completed.

We request that Georges River Council consult with DOGS NSW before finalising any “Keeping of Animals Local Orders Policy.”

APPENDICES

1. DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII - Code of Ethics (**Appendix 1**)
2. DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIV - Guidelines for the Care and Management of Keeping and Breeding Dogs (**Appendix 2**)
3. DOGS NSW Members Education Prefix Program Inspection Check List (**Appendix 3**)



REGULATIONS PART

XIII

CODE OF ETHICS

Adopted June 1995
Redrafted June 2013

<i>Amended</i>	<i>May 2018</i>
<i>July 2018</i>	<i>to amend Dags NSW to DOGS NSW</i>
<i>Amended</i>	<i>October 2018</i>
<i>Amended</i>	<i>December 2018</i>
<i>Amended</i>	<i>April 2019</i>
<i>Amended</i>	<i>June 2019</i>

****THESE REGULATIONS SHOULD BE READ
IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANKC LTD CODE OF ETHICS****

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Issue Date: December 2018

REGULATIONS

PART XIII - CODE OF ETHICS

1. A Member, or their Agent, shall, at all times, ensure that all dogs under that Member's control are properly housed, fed, watered, exercised and receive proper veterinary attention, as and when required.
2. A Member shall permit any person authorised in writing by the DOGS NSW Secretary, pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors, to enter and inspect any premises owned or occupied by the Member for the purpose of investigating compliance with Clause 1 of this Code and during the conduct of the inspection the Member will permit the authorised person to record any necessary details by tape, video or photographs.
 - (i) Where a dog is kept at premises other than the address nominated for the prefix and where the consent of another person or entity is required for a kennel inspection to be undertaken, pursuant to Clause 2 of this Code, the member must obtain consent for such kennel inspection from the person or entity in possession or control of the premises at which the dogs being used for breeding pursuant to the Members prefix are kept.
- 2.1 A Member shall permit any person, authorised in writing by the DOGS NSW Secretariat to inspect any dog owned by the Member for the purpose of confirming compliance with DOGS NSW Regulations Part I-The Register & Registration, Section 23: Inspection of Dogs, and during the conduct of the inspection the Member will permit the authorised person to record any necessary details by tape, video or photographs. **(06/19)**
 - (i) Where a dog is kept at premises other than the Member's address, as recorded on the National Database, and where the consent of another person or entity is required to undertake the inspection of a dog, pursuant to DOGS NSW Regulations Part I-The Register & Registration, Section 23: Inspection of Dogs, the Member must obtain consent for such inspection of the dog from the person or entity in possession or control of the dog. **(06/19)**
3. Non compliance with Regulations 1 or 2 of this Code is deemed to be misconduct.
4. A Member commits to compliance with both the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and the Companion Animals Act 1998 and their related Regulations as well as to the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding Dogs and Cats.
 - (i) A Member commits to compliance with all New South Wales and Federal Bio Security Legislations and Regulations and warrants that the member is not aware of any matter, thing or circumstance relating to a Bio Security risk that does or may impede and or prevent a kennel inspection pursuant to Clause 2 of this Code.
 - (ii) In the event that a member becomes aware of any Bio Security risk that may prevent or impede a kennel inspection pursuant to Clause 2 of this Code, then the member must immediately, upon becoming aware of such a Bio Security risk, notify the Board of Directors of the Bio Security risk preventing kennel inspection and, thereafter, the member shall comply with all directions and requirements of the Board of Directors to manage the Bio Security risk and, if applicable, undertaking remediation of the Bio Security risk.

- (iii) Where the Board of Directors is made aware of a Bio Security risk in respect of a property or premises used by a member for the purpose of the keeping or breeding of dogs that may impede or prevent kennel inspection or that may present a risk to the keeping or breeding of dogs, then the Board of Directors may, in its absolute discretion, suspend the right of the member to breed and or keep dogs at the premises or property until the member has provided to the Board of Directors satisfactory evidence from a suitably qualified Bio Security Consultant that the identified Bio Security risk no longer presents a risk to the keeping and or breeding of dogs.
5. A Member, or their Agent, shall not allow any dogs which are registered in that Member's name, to roam at large and when away from home, must ensure that they are kept fully leashed or under effective control at all times.
6. A Member shall breed only with the intent of maintaining and/or improving the standard of the Breed and the health, welfare and soundness of their dogs having regard to the following:-
- (i) by being the holder of a financial ANKC Registered Prefix; and **(10/17)**
- (ii) by striving to eliminate hereditary diseases within their dogs and their breed.
- (iii) that the health, physical welfare and fitness for function of dogs is of prime importance, and
- (iv) that a Member shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that dogs bred by them do not suffer from any disorder that impedes their sight, breathing or ability to move freely or which is otherwise detrimental to their comfort and wellbeing.
7. A bitch shall not be bred from unless it is in good health and has reached adequate maturity and, in any case, no matings shall be permitted before the age of 18 months for bitches of Breeds specified in the Schedule of Adequate Maturity for Giant Breeds below or before the age of 12 months for any other bitch. Any litter resulting from the mating of a bitch under the minimum specified age at the time of mating is only eligible to be registered on the Limited Register and flagged "not to be upgraded to the Main Register".

Schedule of Adequate Maturity for Giant Breeds:

Alaskan Malamute	Mastiff
Bloodhound	Neapolitan Mastiff
Bullmastiff	Newfoundland
Cane Corso (11/13)	Pyrenean Mountain Dog
Deerhound	Rottweiler
Dogue de Bordeaux	Schnauzer (Giant)
German Shepherd Dogs	St Bernard
Great Dane	Tibetan Mastiff
Irish Wolfhound	

(Submissions for any additions to the above classifications must be in writing to the Secretary DOGS NSW and will be considered by the Board of Directors, after referral to the Ethics & Welfare Working Party, on their individual merit.)

8. A Member shall not breed a bitch that results in it whelping more than twice in eighteen months without the prior approval of the Board of Directors. Application for registration of the litter may be considered by the Board of Directors where the application for registration must be accompanied by the following:-
 - (i) prior written approval of a Veterinary Practitioner certifying her fitness to carry and whelp the third litter, and
 - (ii) the breeder to provide written details of the extenuating circumstances for the litter. **(12/18)**
9. A Member shall not breed a bitch that results in it whelping more than twice in two years without the prior written approval of a Veterinary Surgeon certifying her fitness to carry and whelp the third litter.
10. A Member shall not breed a bitch that results in it whelping more than six times without prior veterinary certification of fitness for further breeding and without prior approval of the Board of Directors except under extenuating circumstances where application for registration of the litter may be considered by the Board of Directors.
11. A Member shall not conduct or permit mother/son, father/daughter or brother/sister matings. The Member is fully aware that puppies, as a result of such matings, will not be registered on the Main Register, without first having gained approval for the mating from the Board of Directors, for scientifically proven welfare or veterinary reasons.
12. All bitches eight (8) years of age and over at the time of a mating must have a current veterinary certificate stating that the bitch is in good health at the time of breeding. This certificate must be presented at the time of registration of the litter resulting from this mating. A current veterinary certificate is defined as being within three (3) months prior to the mating.
13. A Member shall not knowingly permit the mating of any dog or bitch which is not registered on the Main Register of ANKC Ltd or with an organisation on the listing of ANKC Ltd Recognised Working Dog Associations/Kindred Bodies as being eligible for registration on the Sporting Register. **(07/13)**
14. A Member shall not knowingly permit any of that Member's pure bred dogs to be mated to a dog of a different breed, to a cross-bred dog, or to any unregistered dog of the same breed or to a dog not on the Main Register unless:-
 - i) such mating is for the health, welfare and/or the development of a breed or an aspect thereof; and
 - ii) The Member has obtained the prior approval of the Board of Directors.

The prohibition against crossbreeding contained in this clause shall not apply to guide and working dogs.
15. All Members must register all litters bred by them, either alone or jointly with another. Registration of a litter must be effected within 6 months of the date of whelping. For the purposes of this clause "litter" includes all puppies there from living at the date of registration of the litter. A Member shall register all puppies in a litter at the same time and on one form of application for Registration of Litter.
16. A Member shall include their DOGS NSW Membership Number in an advertisement placed in any form of media, or on any sign whatsoever, that advertises a dog or puppy for sale whether for payment or not. Such quotation shall be in the form "DOGS NSW Member xxxxxxxxx". **(04/14)**
17. A Member shall not sell or otherwise transfer from that Member's care any puppy under eight (8) weeks of age. Puppies must be microchipped and vaccinated prior to leaving that Member's care.

18. A Member shall ensure that all persons acquiring dogs from that Member clearly understands their responsibility for the care and welfare of the animal and that they have the time and facilities (ie, adequate fences, sufficient room and proper shelter, etc) to perform their obligations.
19. A Member must provide to all new owners of dogs sold or placed by that Member, written details of all dietary and immunisation requirements and/or appropriate publications relating to such requirements as responsible dog ownership and breed specific information.
20. A Member shall not:-
 - (a) Supply any dog to commercial dog wholesalers or retail pet dealers. **(07/14)**
 - (b) Allow a dog owned by that Member to be given as a prize or donation in a contest of any kind.
 - (c) Offer a dog for sale by auction through any form of media.
 - (d) Offer for sale a non-ANKC registered or recognised dog or puppy using their DOGS NSW membership number or any reference to being a DOGS NSW Member. **(04/19)**
21. A Member shall ensure that within 28 days of the date of sale or transfer of a dog to another person that documents, as required by the DOGS NSW Regulations Part I, are provided to the new owner of the dog.
22. Upon the sale or transfer of a dog a Member shall supply the new owner with a current vaccination certificate signed by a Veterinary Surgeon evidencing that the dog has been immunised against Canine Distemper, Hepatitis, and Parvo Virus along with microchip documentation.
23. Members shall at, or prior to, the sale or transfer of a dog provide to the purchaser or transferee written notice of any medical condition, disease or injury from which the dog is suffering. It is a defense to any complaint against a Member for contravention of this Clause if the Member proves that it was not reasonably practicable for the Member to know that the dog was suffering from the medical condition, disease or injury at the time of sale or transfer. It is recommended that members obtain a receipted copy of any notice given pursuant to this Regulation. **(05/18)**
24. A member exporting a puppy must comply with all current requirements of the Australian Department of Agriculture. Whilst puppies can be exported at an age that is permitted under the relevant livestock import regulations of the country to which they are being imported, it is recommended that weaned puppies younger than twelve (12) weeks of age not be exported, and that they receive at least 2 core vaccines at least 4 weeks apart. **(04/16)**
25. A Member shall not KNOWINGLY misrepresent the characteristics of the breed.
26. A Member shall not engage in false or misleading advertising relating to the conformation, characteristics or performance of that Member's dog and shall only advertise a dog's name with the inclusion of titles awarded and registered on the ANKC Ltd database at the time of lodgement of the advertisement.
27. A Member who provides or makes available a dog for use in a film, advertisement, promotion, any media or public display must use reasonable care to ensure that:
 - (a) the dog is portrayed in a fashion consistent with its breed characteristics and temperament as described in the Standard for the breed; and

- (b) the dog is presented in a fashion 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 the breed (as appropriate) in a balanced fashion.
28. The Member must keep records and make those records available to any person authorised, in writing, to DOGS NSW Secretary pursuant to resolution of the Board of Directors as follows:-
- (i) All registration papers for all dogs owned, co-owned or leased by the member, including microchip details. Where applicable, copies of the same to be made available if required. **(10/18)**
 - (ii) Evidence of current vaccinations for all dogs owned or controlled by the Member. This could include Veterinary records that should be made available if required. **(10/18)**
 - (iii) All breeding records for all litters bred by the Member, whether single or in partnership, in the past five (5) years. **(10/18)**
 - (iv) All records of all stud services of the Member's dogs, used or bred in partnership in the past five (5) years. Where applicable, copies of the same to be made available if required. **(10/18)**
 - (v) All records of animals sold or leased for the past five (5) years. **(12/16)**
 - (vi) A record of all dogs owned, co-owned or controlled by the Member not residing at the Members nominated address. **(10/18)**
29. A Member of DOGS NSW shall not register a dog with a Registry Body not recognised by ANKC Ltd. **(4/17)**
30. A Member commits to compliance with the requirements of NSW Fair Trading. **(10/17)**



REGULATIONS

PART XIV

**GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF
KEEPING AND BREEDING DOGS**

(Adopted 9/96)

Revised 10 July 2013

July 2018 – to amend Dogs NSW to DOGS NSW

*This Regulation is based on the Code of Practice for all dog and cat breeders
by virtue of the Animal Trades Regulations under the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (POCTA) which came into force on 1.8.96*

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REGULATIONS

PART XIV - GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF KEEPING AND BREEDING DOGS

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REGULATIONS

PART XIV - GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF KEEPING AND BREEDING DOGS

IN THESE GUIDELINES A REFERENCE TO:

“Dog Kennels” or “housing” includes any place, structure or thing in which a dog is usually kept.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 These guidelines set desirable standards for the care and management of keeping and breeding dogs.
- 1.2 They apply to the welfare of all dogs kept at premises each calendar year.
- 1.3 In considering the application of these guidelines to a particular situation, due regard must be given to individual circumstances, including the personal circumstances of those responsible for the premises, and whether the kennelling or housing is of a kind generally available to the public and intended for use as such.
- 1.4 A member will not be regarded as being in breach of these guidelines unless:
 - (a) The breach is of a serious nature and has had, or is likely to have, a significantly deleterious affect on a dog(s); **(07/13)**
 - (b) In all other cases, the member has been given written notice of apparent breach of the guidelines and has not within 30 days of receipt of such notice taken such action as the notice shall specify as is reasonably necessary in the circumstances to rectify the situation.

2. BASIC WELFARE REQUIREMENTS (07/13)

- 2.1 A Member, or their Agent, shall, at all times, ensure that all dogs under that Member's control are properly housed, fed, watered, exercised and receive proper veterinary attention, as and when required. *(Part XIII – COE, clause 1)*
- 2.2 A Member commits to compliance with both the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and the Companion Animals Act 1998 and their related Regulations as well as to the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding Dogs and Cats *(Part XIII – COE, clause 4)*
- 2.3 A Member shall breed only with the intent of maintaining and/or improving the standard of the Breed and the health, welfare and soundness of their dogs having regard to the following:-
 - (i) by striving to eliminate hereditary diseases within their dogs and their breed.
 - (ii) that the health, physical welfare and fitness for function of dogs is of prime importance, and
 - (iii) that a Member shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that dogs bred by them do not suffer from any disorder that impedes their sight, breathing or ability to move freely or which is otherwise detrimental to their comfort and wellbeing. *(Part XIII – COE, clauses 7 - 13)*

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNER

- 3.1 The owner/Lessee or their agent of their dogs is responsible for: **(07/13)**
 - 3.1.1 Provision of accommodation and equipment which suits the physical and behavioural requirements of the breed and number of dogs held. **(07/13)**
 - 3.1.2 Provision of protection for dogs, as necessary, from adverse natural or artificial environmental conditions, other animals and unwarranted interference from humans.
 - 3.1.3 Provision of sufficient space for dogs to at least stand, move around freely, stretch fully and rest. **(07/13)**
 - 3.1.4 Provision of sufficient quantities of appropriate food and water to maintain good health and to support optimal growth and reproduction.
 - 3.1.5 Protection of dogs as far as possible from disease, distress and injury.
 - 3.1.6 Provision of prompt and appropriate veterinary treatment in case of disease or injury.
 - 3.1.7 Maintenance of hygiene of the premises and health of the dogs held.
 - 3.1.8 Supervision of regular exercise, daily feeding, watering and inspection of dogs adequate to ensure their welfare.
 - 3.1.9 Supervision of staff, whether working full or part-time and whether or not working for fee or reward.
 - 3.1.10 Collation and maintenance of relevant records.

4. ANIMAL HOUSING

4.1 Location

- 4.1.1 Buildings which house dogs should be located away from sources of excessive noise or pollution that could cause injury or stress to animals.
- 4.1.2 All kennels and/or types of housing, must have an adequate water supply available at all times. **(07/13)**
- 4.1.3 Dogs which live partially or predominantly indoors should have adequate areas for sleeping and bedding suitable to that breed and the stage of life for the dog concerned.

Access to external exercise areas must available for at least 20 minutes a day except under the written advice of a veterinary practitioner. **(07/13)**

4.2 Construction

- 4.2.1 Where kennel, buildings/housing are constructed outdoors, they must:
 - 4.2.1.1 protect from rain and wind, and
 - 4.2.1.2 provide adequate shade and water; **(07/13)**
 - 4.2.1.3 be partially enclosed to provide a sheltered sleeping area.
- 4.2.2 Where dog housing is constructed indoors, temperature, humidity and ventilation must be considered.
- 4.2.3 Kennel housing may be separated by either solid partitions, which help reduce noise, or by galvanised chain wire dividers. Advice should be sought on suitable construction materials for reducing noise. Night kennelling for noisy breeds or individuals should be considered. **(07/13)**
- 4.2.4 The internal surfaces of any kennel housing should be constructed of suitable, washable materials. **(07/13)**
- 4.2.5 Floors of kennels should be made of an impervious material to assist cleaning and drainage. Sealed concrete or brick is ideal. Grassed or landscaped sections may form part of large outdoor runs but must be adequately maintained and not allowed to deteriorate into bare earth, which is unacceptable.
- 4.2.6 Whelping and lactating bitches, as well as sick and injured animals must be housed singly in a quiet, warm and dry area away from interference by other animals. Bitches in season should be kept away from males unless being bred. **(07/13)**

- 4.3 **Size**
- 4.3.1 Dog housing, whether for a single dog or group of dogs must provide enough space for each dog to at least feed, sleep, sit, stand, lie with limbs extended, stretch and move about, and sufficient space for bedding as required by Clause 4.8. Portable crates are not acceptable as permanent housing. **(07/13)**
- 4.3.2 Dog kennels and housing should be of sufficient height relative to the size of the breed concerned and so as to permit easy cleaning. **(07/13)**
- External fencing/runs should be of sufficient height for the breed concerned, such that it ensures the dogs are safely and securely held. **(07/13)**
- 4.3.3 External buildings and fencing must comply with community amenity. **(07/13)**
- 4.4 **Temperature**
- 4.4.1 Dogs must be protected from extremes of temperature.
- 4.4.2 Very old, very young puppies and pregnant bitches which are more sensitive than others to changes in temperature, may require provision of heating or cooling. **(07/13)**
- 4.4.3 Particular attention should be given to protection for brachycephalic (short faced) breeds, especially against heat. **(07/13)**
- 4.5 **Noise**
- 4.5.1 Noise from barking dogs must be managed to comply with noise regulations and may be reduced by one or more of the following methods:
- 4.5.1.1 Situating kennels so that they do not face each other;
- 4.5.1.2 Limiting external stimulation, eg. by partitioning between kennels or use of blinds;
- 4.5.1.3 Holding dogs singly or in compatible pairs.
- 4.5.1.4 Providing provision for night kennelling (ie enclosed at night).
- 4.6 **Lighting**
- 4.6.1 Lighting should be as close as possible, in duration and intensity, to natural conditions.
- 4.6.2 Sunlight is the preferred means of lighting, provided shaded areas are available.
- 4.6.3 Artificial light should be provided, where needed, to allow animal housing areas to be thoroughly cleaned and dogs checked.
- 4.7 **Ventilation (07/13)**
- 4.7.1 Ventilation of dog housing/kennelling areas should be sufficient to maintain the health of the animals. **(07/13)**
- 4.7.2 Ventilation should be sufficient to distribute fresh air evenly to all areas holding animals and to keep dog kennel/housing free of dampness, noxious odours and draughts. **(07/13)**
- 4.7.3 Ventilation should also assist in temperature control. **(07/13)**
- 4.8 **Bedding**

- 4.8.1 All kennels should be provided with a sleeping area and appropriate bedding for the breed and age of the dog concerned. **(07/13)**
- 4.8.2 Bedding provided for dogs must be changed frequently and be kept clean and dry.
- 4.8.3 Whelping and lactating bitches must be provided with a suitable whelping box/area that is lined with clean bedding that is cleaned as required, at least once daily. **(07/13)**

4.9 **Security**

- 4.9.1 Kennel buildings must be securely lockable.
- 4.9.2 Each individual kennel must be fitted with a secure closing device that cannot be opened by the dogs held.
- 4.9.3 Any security methods used must allow for ready access by owners/staff to dogs and ready exit of owners/staff and dogs from the premises in the event of an emergency. **(07/13)**
- 4.9.4 Dogs held in backyards should not be allowed to roam outside of their owners/agents/lessees premises unattended. Gates and fencing must be secure enough and of sufficient height to ensure the dogs safety. **(07/13)**

5. HYGIENE

5.1 Cleaning and Disinfection

- 5.1.1 Dog kennels, housing and exercise areas must be kept clean so that the comfort, health and welfare of animals can be maintained and diseases controlled. **(07/13)**
- 5.1.2 Faeces should be removed at least once daily.
- 5.1.3 Kennels and associated housing or exercise areas should be cleaned daily. Kennels should be disinfected at least once each week, before new dogs or puppies are introduced and after an outbreak of infectious disease. **(07/13)**
- 5.1.4 Cleaning and disinfecting agents should be chosen on the basis of their suitability, safety and effectiveness. Care should be exercised when using phenol based agents in conjunction with other disinfectants.

Manufacturer's instructions for the use of these agents should be followed, since too dilute a solution may be ineffective and too concentrated a solution may be toxic to dogs.

All potential poisons and harmful substances, whether in storage or use, must be kept out of reach from dogs. **(07/13)**

- 5.1.5 After cleaning, any housing or kennels should not be allowed to remain wet.

5.2 Pest Control

- 5.2.1 Efforts must be made to effectively control external pests including fleas, ticks, flies, lice, mosquitoes and wild rodents. **(07/13)**
- 5.2.2 Chemicals used for pest control should be registered under the Pesticides Act 1978 (as amended) and used only in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- 5.2.3 Because some dogs and some breeds may be adversely affected by pest control agents, expert advice should be sought before pest control operations are carried out. **(07/13)**

5.3 Waste Disposal

- 5.3.1 Droppings, bedding, food wastes and animal bodies must be disposed of promptly and hygienically and in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Authority.

6. MANAGEMENT**6.1 Care of Animals**

- 6.1.1 Dogs are to be protected from stress or injury caused by other animals, and from excessive handling or interference by prospective purchasers.
- 6.1.2 Appropriate records relating to the owner's/Lessee's dogs must be kept of:
- 6.1.2.1 Acquisition and disposal of dogs or puppies
- 6.1.2.2 Vaccination and worming treatments,
- 6.1.2.3 Any relevant health issues or ongoing treatments. **(07/13)**
- 6.1.2.4 Breeding history. **(07/13)**
- 6.1.3 In relation to each dog held short-term for breeding purposes but owned/leased by a person other than the owner or staff, the following information must be ascertained: **(07/13)**
- the dogs name
 - name, address and telephone number of its owner or Lessee
 - contact telephone number and address of owner (if different to the above) or the owner's nominee
 - expected date of collection by owner
 - details of medical and dietary requirements
 - vaccination status
 - heartworm treatment status **(07/13)**
 - name and contact telephone number of a veterinarian who normally attends the animal.
- 6.1.4 Grooming should be kept to at least a minimum standard of care as required for that breed and coat type. Coats should not be left dirty, tangled or unkempt. **(07/13)**

6.2 Staff

- 6.2.1 Staff should respect the dogs and have experience in handling them. Formal training, such as a technical college qualification in animal care, is an advantage.
- 6.2.2 Staff should be aware of their responsibilities and competent to carry them

out.

7. **BREEDING and REARING (07/13)**

7.1 **Breeding and Whelping**

7.1.1 Bitches/litters must be bred in accordance with the Code of Ethics (6), and with ANKC accepted minimums (Code of Ethics 7-13). See also Basic Welfare – section 2 above.

7.1.2 Breeding practices should ensure that the puppies produced are as sound and healthy as possible.

7.1.3 Pregnant bitches in the later stages of pregnancy and lactating bitches need to be fed more frequently and in larger amounts, up to 2-3 times normal. Water consumption may be higher and must be available at all times.

7.1.4 Bitches should be isolated from the rest of the dogs while whelping and should be monitored to ensure that whelping proceeds in a normal manner. If whelping does not proceed after 2 hours, veterinary advice should be sought and the appropriate remedial action taken.

7.1.5 Whelping and lactating bitches must be provided with a suitable whelping box or area, lined with clean bedding and changes daily.

7.1.6 Lactating bitches should be kept isolated from other dogs, however the puppies require ongoing human socialization particularly after 2 weeks of age. Lactating mothers should be housed in such a manner that they are able to escape their young to eat, drink and exercise.

7.2 **Care of Puppies**

7.2.1 As the puppies emerge from the whelping box/area there should be an exercise area and area to get away from the nest to urinate and defecate and learn good toileting practices.

7.2.2 Puppies should not be totally separated from their litters or lactating mother under the age of 6 weeks in order to facilitate socialisation, except where in the best interest of the puppy or the mother.

7.2.3 Puppies should be offered solid, soaked food from 3 weeks of age (larger breeds and litters may require an earlier start). Puppies should be monitored and regularly wormed to ensure they achieve a steady weight gain per week.

Puppies that fail to thrive should be referred for veterinary attention.

7.2.4 Puppies should be well socialised, health checked, vaccinated and microchipped prior to sale. Puppies should not leave the care of the breeder under 8 weeks of age. (*Code of Ethics 15*)

7.3 **Older Breeding Animals**

7.3.1 Older dogs or bitches that have reached the end of their useful breeding life should ideally be desexed, particularly if being rehomed.

8. HEALTH CARE**8.1 Disease Prevention**

8.1.1 For both resident dogs and dogs held short-term for breeding, vaccination against distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus (C3) is required as per the current international vaccination protocols (C3 vaccinations at 6-8 weeks, 12-14 weeks and 16-18 weeks of age. Revaccinate at 12-15 months and then every 3-4 years thereafter.) **(07/13)**

Vaccination against kennel cough is recommended, particularly for kennel or multiple dog situations. **(07/13)**

8.1.2 Programs for the regular treatment of gastrointestinal worms must be in place and in accordance with veterinary advice. **(07/13)**

8.1.3 Programs for heartworm prevention in dogs should be in place, where appropriate, and in accordance with veterinary advice.

8.1.4 A program for the control of fleas and other local external parasites, both on the dogs and in the environment must be in place. **(07/13)**

8.2 Health Checks

8.2.1 Each dog shall be checked at least once daily to monitor its health and comfort.

8.2.2 The person checking the dogs and puppies should note whether each dog or puppy:

- is eating
- is drinking
- is defecating
- is urinating
- is behaving normally
- is of normal appearance
- is able to move about freely
- has a normal coat
- is not showing any obvious signs of illness or disease **(07/13)**

8.2.3 Any changes in health status should be reported promptly to the person in charge.

8.3 Veterinary Attention

8.3.1 The person in charge should establish liaison with a veterinary surgeon who is able to attend to any dog or puppy in his or her care. This response should be rapid particularly during a whelping or perceived emergency situation. **(07/13)**

8.3.2 Veterinary attention must be sought for any dog/puppy showing one or more of the following conditions:

- runny nose;
- runny, discharging or inflamed eyes
- repeated sneezing
- coughing
- vomiting
- severe diarrhoea, especially if bloodstained
- lameness
- inability to stand or walk
 - bleeding or swelling of body parts (other than the vulva of bitches on heat)
- weight loss (particularly if severe or sudden)
- inappetence (lack of appetite);
- apparent pain
- fits or staggering
- bloating of abdomen
- inability to urinate or defecate
- dystocia (difficulty during whelping)

8.3.3 Humane Euthanasia (07/13)

If despite medical treatment and care, a sick dog fails to improve in health and is deemed to be suffering by a veterinary surgeon, the dog should be humanely euthanased by a veterinarian.

9. DIET

9.1 Food

- 9.1.1 Dogs and puppies must receive an appropriate, uncontaminated and nutritionally balanced diet according to the accepted requirements for the breed and age. The food should be in sufficient quantity and of appropriate composition and amount in order to maintain: **(07/13)**
- normal growth and weight of puppies **(07/13)**
 - normal weight of adult dogs at different ages **(07/13)**
 - the requirements for pregnancy and lactation.
 - the requirements for heavy work or extreme conditions **(07/13)**
- 9.1.2 A variety of foods - including dry food, canned food, fresh meat and fish, should be supplied.
- 9.1.3 Pregnant and lactating bitches require approximately twice the amount of food required normally. Bitches feeding larger litters may require up to 3 x normal amounts. **(07/13)**
- 9.1.4 Pregnant and lactating bitches should be fed 2- 3 times daily.
- 9.1.5 Puppies from 3-6 weeks of age should be fed 3-4 times daily.
- 9.1.6 Puppies between 6-12 weeks of age should be feed 2-3 times daily.
- 9.1.7 Puppies between 12 weeks and 8 months of age should be fed 1-2 times daily.
- 9.1.8 Older dogs should be fed daily with due consideration of their desired end body weight, unless required to be fed more frequently due to medical conditions. **(07/13)**

9.2. Food Preparation and Care

- 9.2.1 Food should be prepared hygienically and stored appropriately, ie, dry food kept in a rodent-free place and fresh meat kept refrigerated.
- 9.2.2 Food dishes should be preferably non-chewable and non-spillable. They must be readily accessible and cleaned at least daily.
- 9.2.3 Uneaten, stale food should be removed and disposed of promptly so that it does not spoil or attract vermin.

9.3 Water

Adequate amounts of clean fresh water must be available at all times. **(07/13)**

10. EXERCISE

10.1 All dogs regardless of where or how they are housed, must have the opportunity for exercise to: **(07/13)**

10.1.1 allow them to urinate and defecate.

10.1.2 give them contact with humans and, if appropriate, with other dogs.

10.1.3 allow them to be checked over.

10.1.4 let them stretch their limbs.

Dogs should be exercised sufficiently to maintain their health and fitness.

10.2 Exercise can be provided by:

10.2.1 allowing dogs access to an exercise area for a minimum of 30 minutes twice daily and/or

10.2.2 walking dogs on a lead for a minimum of 15 minutes twice daily

10.3 Amount of exercise **(07/13)**

10.3.1 Dogs should be exercised with due concern to their age, health, physical condition and the ambient temperature at the time.

10.3.2 Dogs should only have limited exercise in very hot conditions.

Avoid exercising dogs in the hottest part of the day.

10.3.3 Brachycephalic dogs breeds require more care and attention in hot weather.

10.3.4 Very active or old dogs may require more or less exercise than specified.

11. TRANSPORT

- 11.1 Dogs should be transported in the shortest practicable time. They should not be left in parked vehicles in the sun or in hot weather unless adequate ventilation and shade is provided.
- 11.2 Any vehicle (including trailers) especially designed or regularly used for transporting animals should:
- protect dogs or puppies from injury
 - have non-slip floors. Direct contact with metal flooring is to be avoided.
 - provide easy access and operator safety
 - protect against extremes of temperature
 - protect against unauthorised release of animals
 - be easy to clean and disinfect
 - must provide adequate light and natural ventilation
- 11.3 All dogs or puppies sold should be boxed, crated or otherwise suitably restrained to ensure their security and protection if sent to the new owner. **(07/13)**
- 11.4 Food and water should be provided as required during long periods of transport. On long road trips, adequate stops should be made to allow dogs the opportunity to exercise, eat, drink, urinate and defecate where appropriate and for the enclosures to be cleaned where necessary. **(07/13)**
- 11.5 Containers should be strong enough to withstand stacking and general handling and constructed to provide adequate ventilation and light, with consideration to the climatic conditions prevailing at the time (heat, cold etc) and the size and breed of the dog being transported. Brachycephalic breeds need proportionally larger areas than other breeds for free flow of air. **(07/13)**
- 11.6 The consignor and consignee should confirm departure and arrival time of dogs/puppies with the carrier. In the event of delays or cancellations it is the responsibility of the carrier to ensure the welfare of animals in transit.
- 11.7 Containers in which dogs/puppies are transported must be clearly labelled with the time and date of departure, name and address of the consignor and consignee and phone numbers for contacting them.
- 11.8 Transport by air should be in accordance with IATA guidelines.

12. **SALE OF ANIMALS**

- 12.1 Members must comply with the Code of Ethics requirements 15-22. This includes no puppy should leave the care of the breeder before it is 8 weeks of age. **(07/13)**
- 12.2 No dog may be sold unless it has been microchipped and vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus, and is accompanied by a current vaccination certificate and the relevant CAR microchipping paperwork. **(07/13)**
- 12.3 The purchaser of any puppy or dog should be handed at the time of sale printed advice about the animal, including information on:
- 12.3.1 general care, housing, welfare and management requirements;
- 12.3.2 appropriate diet for the age and breed; **(07/13)**
- 12.3.3 responsibilities of dog ownership;
- 12.3.4 vaccination, desexing and registration requirements, where appropriate.
- 12.3.5 breed specific information. **(07/13)**

13. **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- 13.1 Breeders will take responsible action to reduce the incidence of hereditary diseases (*also covered by Code of Ethics 6 and mentioned under Welfare section 2 above*).
- 13.2 Where an hereditary disease(s) is/are recognised in a breed and where there is/are suitable and reliable screening procedures or tests for that disease(s). **(07/13)**

The Stud Dog

- 13.2.1 The owner of a stud dog should, before making the dog available for stud duty:
- Have a current official evaluation or test result for the dog for such hereditary disease(s);
 - Provide a copy of the official evaluation or test result to owners of bitches to be mated.

The Bitch

- 13.2.2 The owner of a bitch should, before mating her to a dog:-
- Have a current official evaluation or test result for the bitch for such hereditary disease(s);
 - Provide a copy of the official evaluation or test result to the owner of the stud dog;
- 13.2.3 Ensure that the proposed mating fits with the parameters of responsible action to reduce hereditary diseases within the breed.
- 13.3 Before any puppy or adult dog is sold, the prospective owner should be advised that the breeder has taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the animal is healthy.

Interview – Inspection of Property – Prefix Applications

Member Number(s):

Member Name(s):

Address:.....

Date:

Animal Housing				
Checklist Items	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Comments
Are dogs housed in an external structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are dogs housed inside the member's home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does housing provide protection from rain & wind?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is adequate shade provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is housing able to be easily cleaned?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does each dog have adequate room to move?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there adequate sleeping space and bedding for each dog?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is lighting, either natural or artificial, available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is ventilation adequate to prevent dampness or noxious odours?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the kennel structure secure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has a separate secure area for bitches to whelp & raise their litters been allocated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has a separate secure area been allocated to raise puppies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Hygiene				
Checklist Items	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Comments
Is the dog housing area clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the dog housing area been recently disinfected?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are exercise areas clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have the exercise areas been disinfected recently?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is bedding clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are housing and exercise areas dry?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a secure area for bitches in season?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Management				
Checklist Items	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Comments
Are the dogs protected from stress or injury?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are dogs well groomed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are registration papers held for all dogs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Health Care				
Checklist Items	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Comments
Are all dogs on the premises vaccinated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are All dogs micro-chipped?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are dogs on a heartworm prevention program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are dogs on a flea prevention program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do all dogs appear to be in good health?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do all dogs have the opportunity to exercise daily?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Diet				
Checklist Items	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Comments
Do all dogs appear to be in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is food stored hygienically and in a rodent free place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there fresh water available to all dogs at all times?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the dog food of good quality? i.e. provides complete nutritional value	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are food and water vessels clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all dogs fed to suit their age and condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Inspected By, and signed (as approved) by.....

Print Name.....

Dogs NSW Membership Number.....