



**Code of Practice**

**Record Keeping  
Information Booklet**

*Issued December 2019  
Amended January 2021*

## RECORD KEEPING OBLIGATIONS

DOGS NSW regulations state that compliance with the organisation's rules and regulations along with the Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats, the Companion Animals Act 1998, Companion Animals Regulations 2018 and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979, be observed.

It is intended that this Code of Practice will assist DOGS NSW members in your efforts to achieve compliance. It is not compulsory to use the specific templates and forms included; they are only suggested options to assist if you wish. Alternatively, you can use your own record keeping system that complies with the Codes of Practice, please continue to use your own system if that is what you prefer.

These records, or alternatively your own records, should be kept and produced as evidence of your compliance with your obligations under the Codes when DOGS NSW audits you. They can also be produced should you be inspected by an authorised officer from an enforcement body (eg, from RSPCA, AWL or Police) to indicate your commitment to appropriate record keeping.

In this booklet you have DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics and Part XIV- Guidelines for the Care and Management of Keeping and Breeding Dogs, plus the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats standards, plus the following documents:-

ANIMAL RECORD FORM (incorporating rehoming details, vaccination and worming records, general health record and breeding history)

LITTER RECORD FORM (incorporating whelping details, puppy weights, vaccination/worming/microchip details, general health record, rehoming details and pedigree chart)

PUPPY/ADULT HEALTH CERTIFICATE

BREEDING CLEARANCE

Each Record has a Cover Sheet with reference to where its use is required under DOGS NSW Regulations AND the NSW Government Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats.

## 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	Labrador Retriever ( <b>effective 01/01/2020</b> )
Bloodhound	Mastiff
Bullmastiff	Neapolitan Mastiff
Cane Corso ( <b>11/13</b> )	Newfoundland
Deerhound	Pyrenean Mountain Dog
Dogue de Bordeaux	Rottweiler
German Shepherd Dogs	Schnauzer (Giant)
Great Dane	St Bernard
Irish Wolfhound	Tibetan Mastiff

(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 that are 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 xxxxxxxxxx". **(11/19)**
17. A Member shall not release from their care, by sale, any puppy under eight (8) weeks of age **(03/20)**. 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, worming, heartworm, flea and tick treatment/preventative, for all dogs owned or controlled by the Member. This could include Veterinary records that should be made available if required. **(07/20)**

**NOTE (08/20): Refer also DOGS NSW Code of Practice/Record Keeping Information Booklet which can be viewed via the following link:-**

**<https://dogsnsw.org.au/media/3354/code-of-practice-record-keeping-info-booklet-10-june-2020.pdf>**



In accordance with the AWCOP under POCTA, records, ie, evidence in the form of an electronic or kennel diary, are to be retained for a minimum of a three (3) year period, detailing the following information pertinent to each dog owned:-

- Breeding history
- Vaccination status
- Dates of routine treatment schedules for internal and external parasites
- Additional veterinary treatments sourced through veterinary records.

### **VACCINATIONS**

- Core Vaccines (C3) cover life threatening diseases, such as distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus.
- Non-core vaccines cover diseases that may arise and are useful in response to an outbreak or high risk area - includes Kennel Cough, Tetanus, Leptospirosis, Corona Virus, etc.
- Titre Testing is acceptable in place of a C3 vaccination in older dogs (from 4-5 years) for core diseases (Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvovirus) and if showing a positive response do not need to re-vaccinate or re-Titre Test for 3 years.

**(08/20)**

### **RECOMMENDED VACCINATION SCHEDULE**

#### **Vaccination C3:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> 6-8 weeks of age
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10-14 weeks of age
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 16-18 weeks of age
- 4<sup>th</sup> 12-15 months of age and every 3-4 years thereafter.

Non-core vaccinations, eg, Kennel Cough, relatively short acting vaccination requiring annual inoculation to be administered in response to an outbreak or high risk situation such as subject to accommodation in a Boarding Kennel.

### **WORMING TREATMENTS**

#### **Heart Worm:**

May be administered daily, monthly or annually (SR-12 injection) according to product dosage.

Recommended dosage to commence at 8 -12 weeks of age and maintained for life.

#### **Internal Parasites: Hook and Round Worm**

Commencing at 2-3 weeks of age, repeated every 2 weeks until 8 weeks of age. Thereafter monthly until adulthood.

Adults – Repeat every 3-4 months treating for hook worm, roundworm, whip and tapeworm. *(If monthly flea control treatments are being administered, tapeworm treatment is usually not required.)*

**External Parasites:**

**Tick control treatments** – where necessary to be administered 3 monthly or monthly in those areas where the ticks are prevalent.

**Flea control treatments** - where necessary to be administered monthly or 3 monthly where fleas are prevalent.

**Vermin control** - Vermin such as cockroaches or mice and rats are to be eradicated with the appropriate safe compounds to maintain the kennels free of vermin and ensure that dogs are not directly exposed to the chemicals used.

- (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. Deleted **(08/20)**

30. A Member commits to compliance with the requirements of NSW Fair Trading. **(10/17)**

31. A Member must abide by and comply with the DOGS NSW Bullying Prevention and Management Guidelines Statement (<https://dogsnsw.org.au/media/3033/dnsw-bullying-prevention-management-guidelines-statement.pdf>) adopted by Amendment on the eleventh day of September 2019. **(09/19)**

A breach by a Member of the Bullying Policy shall be deemed to be misconduct for the purposes of Regulations Part XI-Inquiries, Investigations & Appeals ("Inquiries Investigations & Appeals") and the Board of Directors may refer conduct in breach of the Bullying Policy to Inquiry or Mediation, pursuant to Sections 3 and/or 3A of Inquiries Investigations & Appeals. **(09/19)**

## 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.

## **1 PREFACE**

This Code is designed for everyone involved in the activity of breeding dogs and cats and has been developed to protect the welfare of the animals in their care. By adhering to this Code, people involved in animal breeding demonstrate to the general community their concern for the welfare of the animals in their care.

When humans manipulate or limit an animal's choices in relation to its physical or social environment, the welfare of that animal must be considered. Humans have a duty of care towards these animals and the greater the level of intervention or control of an animal or its environment, the greater those responsibilities become.

Animal welfare can be thought of as the way an animal's health, safety and well-being are affected by its physical and social environment. Health and behaviour indicators provide information about how an animal is responding to a situation, thus enabling us to make informed decisions relating to the animal's welfare.

Compliance with this Code does not remove the need to abide by the requirements of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1979 and any other laws and regulations, for example; the Local Government Act, 1993; or the Companion Animals Act, 1998.

This Code contains both standards and guidelines for the care of dogs or cats for breeding. The standards have legal effect in three ways:-

- Failure to meet a standard may result in a Penalty Infringement Notice  
**or**  
a prosecution under Clause 20 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (General) Regulation 2006.
- In more serious cases, failure to meet a standard may support a prosecution for an offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1979.

Under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 the person in charge of an animal is responsible for meeting the legal obligations regarding an animal's welfare. The person in charge, who may be the owner of the animal or another person who has the care or control of the animal, for example the breeding manager or a member of staff, is legally responsible for the care of the animal, and therefore for meeting the standards of this Code.

This Code has been prepared in consultation with DOGS NSW, Waratah National Cat Alliance, the Australian Veterinary Association, RSPCA NSW, Animal Welfare League NSW, NSW Farmers, and other people and organisations involved in the industry. It is also endorsed by the NSW Animal Welfare Advisory Council.

The Code is neither a complete manual on animal husbandry, nor a static document. It will be revised from time to time to take into account new knowledge of animal physiology and behaviour, technological advances, developments in standards of animal welfare and changing community attitudes and expectations about the humane treatment of animals.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This Code sets the standards for the care and management of breeding dogs and cats.
- 2.2 It applies to the welfare of dogs and cats which are involved in the business of breeding and raising puppies and kittens.
- 2.3 This Code comprises both enforceable provisions and guidelines. Enforceable provisions are identified by the word “Standards”, and are located within boxes.
- 2.4 The incidental breeding of animals by pet shops, pounds or shelters are activities for which the standards are set by other Codes recognised by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2006.

## **3 INTERPRETATION and DEFINITIONS**

### **3.1 INTERPRETATIONS**

#### **Objectives**

The intended outcome(s) for each section of this Code.

#### **Standards**

**Standards describe the mandatory specific actions needed to achieve acceptable animal welfare levels. These are the minimum standards that must be met under law.**

**They are identified in the text by the heading “Standards” and use the word “must”. They are highlighted in boxes within the text.**

## **Guidelines**

Guidelines describe the best practice agreed at a particular time following consideration of scientific information and accumulated experience. It also reflects society's values and expectations regarding the care of animals. A guideline is usually a higher standard of care than minimum standards, except where the standard is best practice.

Guidelines will be particularly appropriate where it is desirable to promote or encourage better care for animals than is provided by a minimum standard. Guidelines are also appropriate where it is difficult to determine an assessable standard.

Guidelines are identified by a heading "Guidelines".

## **Notes**

Notes describe practical procedures where appropriate to achieve the minimum standards and guidelines.

## 3.2 DEFINITIONS

In this Code:

**Animal** means a dog, cat, puppy or kitten.

**Breeding** means the business of breeding of litters of animals for sale.

**Cat** means an animal of the species *Felis catus*.

**Cat housing** includes a cattery, cage, module, colony pen or other enclosure used to contain cats within a facility; or garages, carports, sheds, commercially sold dog kennels of any material, and any room forming part of a house, flat, apartment or town house used for human habitation.

**Dog** means an animal of the species *Canis familiaris*.

**Dog housing** includes a kennel, cage, module, colony pen or other enclosure used to contain dogs within a facility; or garages, carports, sheds, commercially sold dog kennels of any material, and any room forming part of a house, flat, apartment or town house used for human habitation.

**Environmental enrichment** means the provision of stimuli that promote appropriate physical and mental activities, resulting in healthier and more active animals.

**Euthanasia technician** means a person who has acquired through training, qualifications and experience, competency in humanely destroying dogs and cats.

**Facility** means any place, premises or thing used for the accommodation or shelter of animals for the purpose of breeding or rearing dogs or cats, or where puppies or kittens are housed as a result of breeding; and includes a vehicle used for the transportation of animals.

**Isolation facility** means a secure area in which individual animals are kept separate from other animals.

**Microchip** means an subcutaneous full duplex electronic radio transponder that complies with the relevant ISO standard.

**Owner** means

- the owner of the animal (in the sense of being the owner of the animal as personal property),
- the person by whom the animal is ordinarily kept,
- the registered owner of the animal.

A reference in this Code to the owner of a companion animal is a reference to each and all owners of the animal.

**Parvovirus** means a virus which causes intestinal inflammation in infected dogs, for which symptoms include vomiting, diarrhoea, high fever, and dehydration.

**Person in charge** of an animal means the person who has an animal/s in their possession or custody or under their care, control or supervision, and who is responsible for meeting the welfare needs of the animal/s, and may include the owner of an animal, a family member or friend of the owner, or in a facility; the manager or staff of a facility, or volunteers.

**Person in charge of the facility** includes the owner of the facility or the manager of the facility.

**Re-home** means the process of providing an animal with a new owner and a new place to live.

**Sale** means the transfer of ownership of an animal or animals, including causing, permitting or suffering an animal to be sold by auction, barter, exchange or other supply, and also includes the attempt to sell or offer to sell, expose, supply, possess or receive animals.

**Significant infectious disease** means a disease caused by a transmissible agent that is likely to cause illness or death in susceptible animals that become infected. Common examples include: canine cough; feline respiratory disease; parvovirus; feline enteritis; canine infectious hepatitis; heartworm and distemper.

**Staff** includes the person in charge, manager, employees and volunteers that work in the facility, whether working full or part time and whether or not working for fee or reward.

**Operating procedures** means procedures for the management and operation of a facility for the accommodation and shelter of animals required under this Code.

## 4 RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCY OF STAFF

### Objectives

All people who care for and manage breeding dogs and cats should be competent and aware of their responsibilities. Where breeding facilities employ staff or volunteers, the person in charge of the facility should be aware of their extra responsibilities, and that all people employed to care for animals must comply with all enforceable provisions within this Code, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and any other relevant legislation.

## 4.1 STANDARDS

**4.1.1 The person in charge of the facility is responsible for the facility complying with all enforceable provisions within this Code.**

**4.1.2 The person in charge of the facility must be aware of their responsibilities towards dogs and cats. Each day, a person must be present to meet the requirements of this Code, and must be knowledgeable and competent to provide for:-**

- \* the care and welfare of dogs and cats;**
- \* the feeding, and watering, of dogs and cats;**
- \* the protection of dogs and cats from distress or injury caused by other animals or interference by people;**
- \* cleaning and proper hygiene in the facility;**
- \* identifying signs of common diseases of the species kept.**

**4.1.3 Where trainees and volunteers are employed by the facility, they must work under the supervision of trained and experienced staff.**

## 4.2 GUIDELINES

4.2.1 Where staff are employed to care for animals; they should have formal qualifications and experience in animal care and management, which should be recorded in a register of staff training. Where appropriate, staff should be re-trained on a biennial basis. Training should include:-

- current animal behaviour and social needs;
- the receipt and release of dogs and cats;
- housing of dogs and cats;
- animal husbandry;
- the handling and control of dogs and cats;
- moving, transporting and capture of dogs and cats;
- identifying signs of health and ill health in dogs and cats, including identifying symptoms of stress or when prompt veterinary care is required;
- procedures for the care of sick and injured dogs and cats;
- special requirements of old or young dogs and cats;
- disease and parasite control and prevention;
- emergency management and evacuation procedures;
- the keeping of records.

## Note

For information on nationally recognised animal services qualifications, see: [www.ntis.gov.au](http://www.ntis.gov.au)

People caring for animals should be aware of the risk of transfer of infectious disease and microbial contamination which could occur when handling dogs and cats or when cleaning enclosures, and the practices that will reduce or eliminate these risks.

For information on NSW Occupational Health and Safety legislation, see:  
[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au)

For information on emergency management response planning for animal holding facilities, see:  
[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/management](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/management)

## 5 QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

### Objectives

Breeding establishments should operate in a transparent way so that standards of animal welfare are maintained.

### 5.1 STANDARDS

#### 5.1.1 The following information must be recorded relating to each dog or cat housed at the breeding facility:-

- \* a description of the dog or cat which includes: name, microchip number; sex (including whether desexed); breed; colour; distinguishing features; vaccination status; details of any special medical and dietary requirements; and
- \* the date of birth; and the date of acquisition/arrival, and registration number (for purebred animals) of owned and leased dogs and cats; and
- \* the name, address and telephone number of owner or lessee of the dog or cat; and
- \* details of preventative and veterinary treatment of dogs and cats, including routine husbandry procedures such as worming or parasite control; and
- \* for leased dogs or cats, the name and contact telephone number of the veterinary practitioner who normally attends the animal; and
- \* the disposal of owned and leased dogs and cats including the date and details of the disposal.



- 5.1.2 Information which details each litter bred must be recorded and must include: the name and microchip number of both the dam and the sire; the date of mating(s); the date of whelping/queening; identification details of each animal within the litter, including any abnormalities or deaths.**
- 5.1.3 Records must be retained for no less than three years, at the facility, and all staff must be able to produce the records.**
- 5.1.4 The facility must have a documented program in place to control insects, ectoparasites and vertebrate pests. This document must be kept at the facility and all staff must be able to produce the document and must be familiar with its content.**
- 5.1.5 Each facility must have a documented procedure for the swift removal of animals from the facility, in the case of emergency. This document must be kept at the facility and all staff must be able to produce the document and must be familiar with its content.**

## 5.2 GUIDELINES

- 5.2.1 Procedural documents should be periodically reviewed and approved by the person in charge. The period from the last review and approval of procedures should not exceed 2 years.
- 5.2.2 Records kept should have space for notes or observations regarding individual animals made during time at the facility, including any significant alteration in the animal's condition or behaviour since arrival.

## 6 ANIMAL HOUSING

### Objectives

The accommodation, environment and security of animals should be of a standard which ensures their security, safety and wellbeing.

## 6.1 ACCOMMODATION

### 6.1.1 STANDARDS

- 6.1.1.1** Vehicles, caravans, portable crates and the crawl space under any dwelling must not be used as permanent housing for dogs and cats.
- 6.1.1.2** Breeding facilities must have a continuous water supply, adequate to meet the daily requirements of the dog and cats held.
- 6.1.1.3** Breeding facilities must be designed, constructed, serviced and maintained in a way that provides for the good health and wellbeing of the animals, which prevents the transmission of infectious disease agents, the escape of animals and does not cause injury to either animals or humans.
- 6.1.1.4** Animals must be provided with protection from rain and wind, direct sunlight or other adverse weather conditions and must be provided with a clean and dry dedicated sleeping area.
- 6.1.1.5** Where a facility houses both dogs and cats, cat housing must be a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog housing to minimise the stress created by the sound, sight or smell of dogs.
- 6.1.1.6** Dog housing and cat housing must meet the minimum pen sizes shown in Tables 1 and 2 below. These limits do not apply to dogs and cats under veterinary care for a disease or injury.
- 6.1.1.7** Dogs and cats must not be in extended contact with wet floors.
- 6.1.1.8** Each cat must be provided with a suitable box in which to hide or sleep.
- 6.1.1.9** All sleeping areas for cats and dogs must have clean, hygienic, dry and soft bedding, appropriate to the species and breed, sufficient for the number of animals held, and sufficient to insulate them from the floor.
- 6.1.1.10** Each confined cat must be provided with a litter tray which is at least 1.2 times the length of the cat, and which contains a sufficient depth of material such as commercial cat litter, sawdust, shavings, sand or shredded paper.

## Isolation Facilities

<b>6.1.1.11</b>	<b>An isolation facility must be available either at the facility or at a veterinary hospital, and must have documented and demonstrable biosecurity measures in place.</b>
<b>6.1.1.12</b>	<b>Animals known or suspected to be suffering from a significant infectious disease or severe injury must be taken directly to the isolation facility unless written assurances from a registered veterinary practitioner regarding the appropriateness of housing with other animals is received.</b>
<b>6.1.1.13</b>	<b>A cat isolation facility must be a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog enclosures to minimise the stress created by the sound, sight or smell of dogs.</b>

**TABLE 1: MINIMUM SIZES FOR DOG ENCLOSURES**

<b>Animal/s</b>	<b>Min floor area (m2)*</b>	<b>Min Height</b>	<b>Min width (cm)</b>
Puppy/ies (+/- bitch)	3.5	180	120
1 dog, < 40 cm height at shoulder	1.5	180	90
2 dogs, < 40 cm height at shoulder	2.5	180	90
Socially compatible group of dogs, < 40 cm shoulder, housed in back yard or house	1.5 per animal	–	–
1 dog, 40–60 cm height at shoulder	2.4	180	90
2 dogs, 40–60 cm height at shoulder	3.6	180	90
Socially compatible group of dogs, 40–60 cm height at shoulder, housed in back yard or house	2.4 per animal	–	–
1 dog, > 60 cm height at shoulder	3.5	180	120
2 dogs, > 60 cm height at shoulder	5.2	180	120
Socially compatible group of dogs, > 60 cm height at shoulder, housed in back yard or house	3.5 per animal	–	–

**\*Minimum floor area includes the area allocated to bedding.**

**TABLE 2: MINIMUM SIZES FOR CAT ENCLOSURES**

Animal/s	Min floor area (m <sup>2</sup> )*	Min Height	Min width (cm)
Kitten/* (+/- queen)	0.8	210*	60
Single Cat	0.8	210*	60
Cats (max 2)	0.8	210*	60
Socially compatible group housed in back yard or house	0.8 per animal, with provisions made for vertical space		

**\*\* the module must contain at least 2 levels incorporating raised sleeping quarters. Access to all levels must be available through the provision of ramps, poles, steps or the**

### 6.1.2 GUIDELINES

- 6.1.2.1 Measures should be in place to minimise the deterioration of exercise areas to bare earth.
- 6.1.2.2 All facilities should have an adequate water supply and should be sewered or on a septic system, in accordance with the requirements of the local government authority, the relevant government department or other authorities; or have some other adequate and acceptable method for disposal of faeces and other liquid wastes.
- 6.1.2.3 Where groups of cats are housed together, consideration should be given for each cat to be able to be free from interference by other cats.

#### **Note**

*The cage sizes provided in Tables 1 and 2 provide the minimum enforceable standard. Breeders of dogs and cats are strongly encouraged to ensure that the physical and mental needs of individual animals do not become constrained by their spatial environment.*

*Dog breeders should refer to the Companion Animals Act 1998 for the appropriate minimum sizes for dangerous or restricted dog enclosures.*

## 6.2 ENVIRONMENT

### 6.2.1 STANDARDS

<b>6.2.1.1</b>	<b>Dog housing and cat housing must have a shaded area when exposed to sunlight.</b>
<b>6.2.1.2</b>	<b>Dogs and cats must be protected from extremes of temperature.</b>
<b>6.2.1.3</b>	<b>The duration and intensity of artificial lighting, where used, must be as close as possible to natural conditions, sufficient to allow thorough inspection and observation of animals, and which mimic the prevailing natural light cycles. Animals must be protected from excessive light which is generated from an external source.</b>
<b>6.2.1.4</b>	<b>Animal housing areas must be provided with ventilation which is sufficient to maintain the health of the animals; while minimising undue draughts, odours and moisture condensation.</b>
<b>6.2.1.5</b>	<b>Air ventilation devices, where used, must have an air change rate which is sufficient to distribute fresh air evenly to all of the areas holding animals; and must have a back-up system in the case that the ventilation device becomes inoperable.</b>

### 6.2.2 GUIDELINES

- 6.2.2.1 Environmental temperature should be controlled to minimise distress to dogs and cats including the provisions of heating or cooling particularly for old, young and pregnant animals if necessary. Particular attention should be given to protections for brachycephalic breeds, especially against heat.
- 6.2.2.2 Dog and cat breeding facilities should be located away from sources of excessive noise or pollution that could stress or injure dogs or cats.
- 6.2.2.3 Measures should be in place to protect dogs and cats from loud or sudden noise.

- 6.2.2.4 Noise from barking dogs should be managed to comply with noise regulations and occupational health and safety requirements and may be reduced by one or more of the following methods:-
- judicious use of sound proofing or suitable construction materials which reduce noise;
  - care with dog placement to avoid unnecessary arousal;
  - limiting external stimulation, eg, by partitioning dog housing, judicious use of blinds or dog housing design to prevent dogs from seeing into nearby pens;
  - holding dogs in compatible pairs; or
  - taking care to exercise dogs away from the sight of kennelled animals.
- 6.2.2.5 Noise from stud cats or calling queens should be managed to comply with noise regulations and occupational health and safety requirements and may be reduced by one or more of the following methods:
- providing lockable soundproof quarters in which the stud is held at night in compliance with noise regulations;
  - locating the stud house inside another building, or by taking advantage of as much shielding by existing walls and buildings as possible;
  - providing the stud with companion cats, a more interesting run, or more companionship, such as relocation to where people, other cats and other animals can be regularly seen;
  - removing a calling queen from an outside pen and placing indoors in a pen, which can also be further covered over at night;
  - taking the queen promptly to the stud (the stud being either entire or vasectomised).

### **Notes**

*Brachycephalic means short-faced.*

## 6.3 SECURITY

### 6.3.1 STANDARDS

<b>6.3.1.1</b>	<b>The facility must be able to be reasonably secured to prevent access to the facility by unauthorised people.</b>
<b>6.3.1.2</b>	<b>Dog housing and cat housing must be fitted with a secure closing device that cannot be opened by the dogs and cats held.</b>
<b>6.3.1.3</b>	<b>An animal must not be able to escape except in circumstances that cannot reasonably be foreseen and guarded against.</b>
<b>6.3.1.4</b>	<b>Unauthorised people must not have access to dog and cat holding areas unless under the supervision of a staff member.</b>
<b>6.3.1.5</b>	<b>Functioning fire fighting equipment must be readily available and staff trained and practised in its use.</b>
<b>6.3.1.6</b>	<b>All potential poisons and harmful substances, whether in storage or in use, must be kept out of reach of dogs and cats.</b>

### 6.3.2 GUIDELINES

- 6.3.2.1 Double barriers are recommended to assist in preventing the escape of dogs and cats.
- 6.3.2.2 Any security methods used should allow for ready access to dogs and cats and ready exit for staff and animals from the facility in the event of an emergency.

#### **Notes**

*Some fire retardants may be toxic to dogs and cats.*

## **7 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT**

### **Objectives**

The safety, wellbeing, and psychological health when of breeding dogs and cats when housed and transported is paramount. Animals should be protected from distress, injury, illness and disease, and provided with appropriate food and water.

## 7.1 ANIMAL CARE

### 7.1.1 STANDARDS

- 7.1.1.1 Each animal must be individually identified.**
- 7.1.1.2 Measures must be implemented to protect dogs and cats from distress or injury caused by other animals.**
- 7.1.1.3 Dogs and cats must be protected from distress or injury caused by interference by people.**
- 7.1.1.4 Dogs and cats which must be housed singly in a quiet, warm and dry area isolated from other animals include:-**
- \* animals with dependent young; and**
  - \* animals about to give birth; and**
  - \* animals in season, where it is not the intention to breed;**
  - \* sick or injured animals.**
- 7.1.1.5 Dogs and cats that may be distressed by the presence of other dogs and cats must be housed in a manner that prevents visual and minimises or reduces olfactory contact.**
- 7.1.1.6 The coats of long haired dogs and cats must be groomed by brushing or clipping at a frequency which ensures that the dogs and cats coats are not left dirty, matted, tangled or unkempt.**
- 7.1.1.7 Dogs must have the opportunity to exercise for at least 20 minutes daily, except under the written advice of a veterinary practitioner. This can be provided by allowing the animal access to an exercise area to run freely, or by walking them on a lead.**
- 7.1.1.8 Exercise areas must be supervised to ensure that dogs contained within it are compatible.**
- 7.1.1.9 Dogs must not be exercised in any way which may pose the risk of serious injury, for example attached to a motor vehicle, or unsupervised on a treadmill.**
- 7.1.1.10 Dogs and cats must receive environmental enrichment, recognising the physiological status and special needs of differing ages and species, to ensure good psychological health.**
- 7.1.1.11 Dogs and cats that are unable to feed themselves must only be kept where adequate facilities and expertise is available for artificial rearing.**



## 7.1.2 GUIDELINES

- 7.1.2.1 All equipment, which may affect the welfare of dogs and cats should be designed and maintained to minimise the risk of illness or injury.
- 7.1.2.2 Dogs and cats that may be distressed by the presence of other species of animals should be housed in a manner which prevents olfactory contact.
- 7.1.2.3 When grooming an animal, particular attention should be given to their eyes, nose, ears, breech, claws teeth and anal glands.
- 7.1.2.4 Animals which are excessively nervous, aggressive, or which cannot live in harmony with other animals should not be bred.

### **Note**

*Positive efforts should be made to socialise animals to humans and other animals. Animals that have been well-socialised when young may make better pets.*

*The person in charge of a dog during exercise are reminded of the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998 which specify minimum responsibilities when a dog is in a public place.*

## 7.2 FOOD AND WATER

### 7.2.1 STANDARDS

- 7.2.1.1 Clean water must be available at all times at a temperature, quantity and quality that meets the physiological needs of the dog and cat, and that the dog and cat will drink.**
- 7.2.1.2 Dogs and cats must receive a balanced and complete diet which allows them to maintain good health and growth, recognising the physiological status and special needs of differing ages and species.**
- 7.2.1.3 Puppies and kittens under four months of age must be offered a sufficient quantity of a balanced and complete diet at least three times daily, from three weeks of age.**
- 7.2.1.4 Dogs and cats which are co-housed with other animals must be monitored during feeding to ensure that all animals are eating their own share.**
- 7.2.1.5 Uneaten, spoiled or stale food must be removed and disposed of promptly.**

**7.2.1.6 Food and water containers must be removed, cleaned and replaced immediately if noticed to be contaminated by urine, faeces, vomitus and the like.**

**7.2.1.7 Food must be stored to prevent its deterioration or contamination.**

## 7.2.2 GUIDELINES

7.2.2.1 Food should be prepared hygienically and served in clean, non-spillable containers.

7.2.2.2 Food should be given to pups and kittens under four months of age with a maximum interval of 12 hours between feeds. (For example, a puppy that receives its third feed, and final feed, for the day at 5pm should receive its first feed for the next day no later than 5am the following morning.)

7.2.2.3 Food and water containers should be readily accessible to dogs and cats, and be positioned to avoid spillage or contamination by urine or faeces.

7.2.2.4 Food and water containers should be stable, non-toxic and easily cleaned/disinfected.

7.2.2.5 Puppies from four to six months of age and kittens from four to eight months of age should be offered a sufficient amount of a balanced and complete diet at least twice daily.

7.2.2.6 For dogs and weaned puppies, one feeding bowl should be provided per individual animal. For cats, there should be one feeding bowl per adult and one feeding bowl per three kittens.

## 7.3 CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

### 7.3.1 STANDARDS

- 7.3.1.1 Areas housing animals within a facility must be cleaned at least once daily.**
- 7.3.1.2 Animal enclosures must be disinfected at least once weekly.**
- 7.3.1.3 Animal enclosures must be cleaned and disinfected before new animals are introduced or before whelping or kitting.**
- 7.3.1.4 Bedding must be cleaned or changed at least once daily and disinfected at least once a week.**
- 7.3.1.5 Exercise areas must be cleaned daily or before new dogs are introduced to the area.**
- 7.3.1.6 Food preparation and storage areas, food and water containers, and utensils and equipment used in the preparation and provision of food, must be maintained to a hygienic standard.**
- 7.3.1.7 Collection drains must be cleaned daily.**
- 7.3.1.8 Litter trays must be checked, scooped and replenished daily.**
- 7.3.1.9 Litter trays must be changed, washed and disinfected at least once every 3 days.**
- 7.3.1.10 Litter trays that are saturated with urine must be changed immediately.**

### 7.3.2 GUIDELINES

- 7.3.2.1 All dead animals or waste products such as faeces, bedding, and food wastes should be disposed of promptly and hygienically, and in accordance with the requirements of the local government authority, the relevant government department or other authorities.
- 7.3.2.2 Specialist advice should be sought before pest control operations are conducted, in order to protect the health and safety of the staff and the animals kept.

## Notes

*Some disinfectants are toxic to some species, for example some common disinfectants containing coal and wood tar products such as pine oil, phenol, cresol and chloroxylens, are toxic to cats. Tea tree oil is toxic to both cats and dogs. Staff should be familiar with these matters and avoid the use of inappropriate products.*

*Chemicals used for pest control should be registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Commonwealth) and only used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.*

## 7.4 TRANSPORT

Transport may cause distress to dogs and cats and should be kept to a minimum. All dogs and cats should be contained or suitably restrained so that they are secure and protected from injury when transported.

### 7.4.1 STANDARDS

- 7.4.1.1 All cats and dogs must be transported in such a manner which addresses their size and age. Cats and dogs, and incompatible animals of the same species, must be physically separated during transport to prevent injury, harm or distress.**
- 7.4.1.2 Dogs and cats must not be transported in the boot of a car.**
- 7.4.1.3 Vehicles must have adequate ventilation and shade, sufficient to maintain good health and to avoid distress.**
- 7.4.1.4 All vehicles used extensively for the purpose of transporting animals must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after use to minimise the possibility of transmission of infectious disease agents between consignments of animals.**
- 7.4.1.5 The minimum exercise requirement of this Code applies to transported dogs.**

### 7.4.2 GUIDELINES

- 7.4.2.1 All consignments of animals should comply with the recommendations and requirements for animal behaviour and containers of the current IATA Live Animals Regulations.**

- 7.4.2.2 Containers used for dog and cat transport should provide adequate light and ventilation.
- 7.4.2.3 Any vehicle especially designed or regularly used for transporting dogs and cats should:-
- protect animals from injury through being free from protrusions or sharp edges in the carrying area;
  - have non slip floors;
  - provide easy access and safe access for handlers;
  - be air conditioned to protect against extremes of temperature even when stationary;
  - protect against unauthorised release or escape of the animals;
  - be easy to clean and disinfect; and
  - be fitted with an operational air conditioning system to the section of the vehicle where the animals are held.
- 7.4.2.4 On road trips of more than two hours duration, adequate stops should be made to allow dogs and cats the opportunity to exercise, eat, drink, urinate and defecate where appropriate; and for the enclosures to be cleaned where necessary.

### **Notes**

*The driver of a transport vehicle is the person in charge, and, therefore, responsible for the welfare of animals in the vehicle during transportation.*

*For more information about the minimum standards for animal transport, refer to the publication in this series titled “The Care and Management of Animals by Companion Animal Transport Agencies”.*

*For more information about the IATA Live Animal Regulations, see:  
[www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live\\_animals](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live_animals)*

## **8 ANIMAL HEALTH**

### **Objectives**

The health of animals should be monitored regularly to detect signs of disease, injury and distress with treatment provided where necessary. Where the destruction of animals is necessitated, it should be conducted in an efficacious and humane manner.

## 8.1 HEALTH CHECKS

### 8.1.1 STANDARDS

8.1.1.1	<p>All dogs and cats must be inspected at least once daily to monitor their <b>health and well-being. The person checking the animals must note all adverse observations where an animal is not:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* <b>eating;</b></li><li>* <b>drinking (in the case of kittens/puppies drinking milk);</b></li><li>* <b>defecating;</b></li><li>* <b>urinating;</b></li><li>* <b>behaving normally;</b></li><li>* <b>showing any obvious signs of illness or distress;</b></li><li>* <b>able to move about freely;</b></li><li>* <b>displaying a normal coat.</b></li></ul>
8.1.1.2	<p><b>Any changes in health status must be promptly reported to the person in charge of the facility for appropriate action.</b></p>
8.1.1.3	<p><b>Where there is evidence that whelping or kitting has commenced (eg, straining or contracting) and there is no progress within two hours, the bitch or queen must be examined by a veterinary practitioner and appropriate remedial action taken.</b></p>

### 8.1.2 GUIDELINES

- 8.1.2.1 Signs of illness or injury of for which veterinary treatment should be sought include but are not limited to:-
- runny nose;
  - runny, discharging or inflamed eyes;
  - repeated sneezing;
  - coughing;
  - vomiting;
  - severe diarrhoea, especially if bloodstained;
  - lameness;
  - bleeding or swelling of body parts (other than the vulva of a female on heat);
  - inability to stand, walk, urinate or defecate;
  - loss of appetite;
  - weight loss, particularly if severe or sudden;
  - apparent pain;
  - fits, staggering or convulsions;
  - bloating of the abdomen;
  - difficulty or inability to urinate or defecate;

- red or brown coloured urine;
- patchy hair loss;
- depression;
- fever;
- presence of external parasites;
- any other serious physical or behavioural abnormality.

8.1.2.2 Bitches or queens in the last week of pregnancy should be inspected by animal care staff at regular intervals.

## 8.2 VETERINARY CARE

### 8.2.1 STANDARDS

- 8.2.1.1** The person in charge of the facility must establish liaison with a veterinary practitioner who is able to attend to dogs and cats, and is able to advise on disease prevention measures.
- 8.2.1.2** The contact details for the veterinary practitioner must be posted in a location which enables staff and visitors to the facility to see them.
- 8.2.1.3** Appropriate veterinary treatment must be provided for sick or injured dogs and cats.
- 8.2.1.4** Veterinary advice must be obtained in the event of unexplained illness or deaths.
- 8.2.1.5** Permission in writing must be obtained from a dog or cat's owner or nominee if leased at the time of accepting the animal for breeding authorising the provision of necessary veterinary treatment.
- 8.2.1.6** Dogs must be vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and canine cough in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner.
- 8.2.1.7** Cats must be vaccinated against feline infectious enteritis and feline respiratory disease in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner.
- 8.2.1.8** Kittens and puppies must be vaccinated against common infectious diseases in accordance with best practice clinical guidelines, in consultation with a veterinary practitioner.

**8.2.1.9 Dogs and cats known or suspected to be suffering from an infectious disease must not be used for breeding or be accepted for breeding under lease unless under written approval from a veterinary practitioner.**

**8.2.1.10 A program for heartworm prevention for dogs must be in place and in accordance with veterinary advice.**

**8.2.1.11 Internal and external parasites must be controlled through routine and preventative treatments.**

## 8.2.2 GUIDELINES

8.2.2.1 A program for maintaining a feline leukaemia free population is recommended. This should include a program of testing and vaccination of resident cats in accordance with veterinary advice, and a requirement for a current negative test prior to breeding (which applies to cats from the permanent population, new additions to the permanent population or visiting cats).

8.2.2.2 Newly acquired dogs or cats or dogs or cats visiting from another location should not be mixed with the permanent population for a minimum of 48 hours.

### Notes

*Parasites include fleas, lice, ticks and gastrointestinal or heart worms.*

## 8.3 HUMANE DESTRUCTION

### 8.3.1 STANDARDS

**8.3.1.1 Where treatment to restore the physical and mental health of a dog or cat while in the facility is impractical or unsuccessful and where it is recommended by a veterinary practitioner, the dog or cat must be humanely destroyed.**

**8.3.1.2 Euthanasia of dogs and cats must only be performed by a veterinary surgeon or a person who is a euthanasia technician.**

**8.3.1.3 Euthanasia must be performed by the intravenous administration of an overdose of pentobarbitone sodium unless there are compelling reasons to use other methods to destroy a dog or cat.**



**8.3.1.4 Euthanasia must be conducted in an area that is separated from animal accommodation at the facility and must not be carried out in view of any other animals.**

## 8.3.2 GUIDELINES

8.3.2.1 All efforts should be made to home physically healthy and behaviourally sound dogs and cats.

## 9 TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

### Objectives

The transfer of ownership of animals should be used to promote socially responsible pet ownership, and to reduce the destruction of companion animals.

### 9.1.1 STANDARDS

**9.1.1.1 Puppies and kittens must not be re-homed before they are 8 weeks of age.**

**9.1.1.2 Dogs and cats must not be re-homed to people less than 18 years of age.**

**9.1.1.3 No dog or puppy, cat or kitten may be sold unless vaccinated in compliance with the requirements of Section 8.2 of this Code.**

**9.1.1.4 All dogs and cats re-homed must be microchipped, and treated to remove gastrointestinal parasites prior to release.**

**9.1.1.5 No dog or cat suspected of being sick, injured or diseased may be sold under any circumstances.**

**9.1.1.6 At the time of purchase, clients must be offered accurate written information at no charge which concerns the care of animals purchased.**

**9.1.1.7 If within 3 days a dog or cat is not acceptable to the purchaser for any reason, the breeder is required to take the dog or cat back and refund 50% of the purchase price of the animal. This guarantee must be provided in writing to the purchaser at the point of sale.**

## 9.1.2 GUIDELINES

- 9.1.2.1 Information required by Clause 9.1.1.6 should include information about:-
- general care requirements of the species, including appropriate diet and feeding regimes;
  - usual life span of breed/species;
  - minimum requirements for humane shelter and accommodation;
  - minimum requirements for security of the dog or cat;
  - minimum requirements for social contact with humans and other animals of the same species;
  - minimum requirements for disease and parasite control/prevention;
  - how to identify and appropriately manage common diseases;
  - procedures for seeking emergency treatment for the dog or cat, and the value of establishing a relationship with a veterinary practitioner, and/or animal behaviourist or other experienced persons;
  - the estimated costs associated with providing food and shelter for the dog or cat;
  - routine veterinary treatment which may be required for the animal(s), for example vaccination or parasite control;
  - maximum time a dog or cat can be left unattended;
  - the expected behaviours of the species or breed, for example digging or scratching;
  - information about the legal requirements for pet ownership, and the penalties for non-compliance;
  - the dog or cat's vaccination status, and the need for ongoing vaccinations;
  - the desirability and advantages of desexing dogs and cats;
  - minimum requirements for exercise;
  - costs associated with registering the dog or cat;
  - other information which is reasonable that the purchaser must be made aware of.
- 9.1.2.2 If within 7 days a dog or cat is not acceptable to the purchaser due to health reasons, excluding injury, and the complaint is supported by a veterinary practitioner, the breeder and the owner should negotiate in good faith to achieve an equitable outcome.
- 9.1.2.3 All advertisements for dogs and cats for sale should include the microchip number, and the vaccination status of the animal.
- 9.1.2.4 Desexing of dogs and cats not intended for breeding is strongly encouraged.

- 9.1.2.5 All facilities which re-home dogs and cats should assist in promoting socially responsible pet ownership in the community.
- 9.1.2.6 Policies, procedures and staff training should be implemented which ensure that prospective buyers are matched to suitable dogs and cats. Such matching should consider the characteristics and lifestyle of the buyer, the type and behavioural attributes of the animal including exercise requirements, and the environment of the new home, including yard size and presence of children.
- 9.1.2.7 Sick, aggressive, pregnant, unweaned, poorly socialized or deformed dogs and cats or animals with known vices such as excessive barking, fence jumping (dogs) should not be made available for rehoming.
- 9.1.2.8 Important information about the individual dog or cat, such as health care history, should be provided to the new owner of any animal sold.
- 9.1.2.9 New owners should be encouraged to seek advice about care, management and training issues from veterinary practitioners or other people with appropriate expertise.
- 9.1.2.10 Where possible, breeders should participate in breed placement programs to assist pounds and shelters in the rehoming of surrendered dogs and cats.
- 9.1.2.11 Dogs or cats should not be sold to inappropriate purchasers.

### **Notes**

*The person in charge of the facility is reminded of the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998 concerning dangerous dogs and restricted breeds and concerning notification of change in registration information.*

## **10 BREEDING AND REARING**

### **Objectives**

The mating, breeding, birthing and rearing processes should be managed in a way that assures good animal welfare outcomes.

## 10.1.1 STANDARDS

- 10.1.1.1 Bitches and queens must not be intentionally mated during their first oestrous cycle.**
- 10.1.1.2 A dog or cat must be physically and mentally fit, healthy and free of disease at the time of being mated.**
- 10.1.1.3 During mating, breeding pairs must be isolated from the remaining breeding population, and monitored by the person in charge.**
- 10.1.1.4 Mothers in the latter stages of pregnancy must be provided with additional access to food and water, provided at frequent intervals.**
- 10.1.1.5 During birthing bitches and queens must be isolated from the remaining breeding population, and monitored by the person in charge on a regular basis to ensure that the birth proceeds in a normal manner.**
- 10.1.1.6 Whelping bitches must be provided with a suitable whelping box, lined with clean bedding, changed daily.**
- 10.1.1.7 Kitting queens must be provided with a covered kitting box, lined with clean bedding, changed daily.**
- 10.1.1.8 Animals that are isolated from the remaining breeding population must be provided with additional attention and socialisation to animal carers.**
- 10.1.1.9 Bitches must not have more than two litters in any two year period, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner.**
- 10.1.1.10 Queens must not have more than three litters in any two year period, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner.**
- 10.1.1.11 Lactating mothers must be provided with additional food and water.**
- 10.1.1.12 Lactating mothers must be housed in such a manner that they are able to escape their young.**
- 10.1.1.13 Kittens or puppies must not be separated from their litter or their lactating mother until they are seven weeks of age to facilitate socialisation, except in the best interests of the puppy or kitten, or their mother.**

**10.1.1.14 Solid food must be offered to puppies and kittens from three weeks of age. Puppies and kittens must be monitored when first offered solid food to ensure that the food is acceptable and palatable. If necessary, solid food may require moistening or softening to increase palatability.**

**10.1.1.15 Puppies and kittens must be observed to ensure that they achieve a steady weight gain every week.**

## 10.1.2 GUIDELINES

10.1.2.1 Breeding practices should ensure that both breeding animals and the offspring they produce are as physically and behaviourally sound and healthy as possible. Dog and cat breeders have a responsibility to ensure that their breeding animals maintain the best quality of life possible, and litters should only be produced with a reasonable expectation of finding homes where they are both wanted and appreciated, and are offered a similarly good quality of life.

10.1.2.2 Where a heritable disease is recognised in a breed and where there is screening procedures or a test for that disease the person in charge in the case of a stud cat or dog or bitch or queen should:-

- have a current official evaluation or test result for the dog or cat for such hereditary disease;
- provide the official evaluation or test result to the owners where the dog or cat is to be mated to an animal not owned by the breeding facility;
- provide the official evaluation or test result of both the sire and the dam to the new owners of any puppy or kitten;
- endeavour to ensure that the genetic make-up of both sire and dam will not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of known inherited disorders.

10.1.2.3 Breeding dogs and cats should be selected to eliminate negative behavioural traits, for example poor mothering ability or aggressiveness.

10.1.2.4 It is desirable to encourage puppies and kittens to urinate and defecate away from the nesting area. It is easier for dogs and cats to learn this behaviour at a young age, and animals with good toileting practices may make better pets.

- 10.1.2.5 Dogs and cats which are well socialised to human adults and children and with other animals will become well-adjusted companions. The best opportunity to socialise puppies to humans and other animals is before twelve weeks of age. For kittens, socialisation to humans and other animals is best achieved before seven weeks of age.
- 10.1.2.6 Before any dog or pup, cat or kitten is sold the prospective owner should be advised that the breeder has taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the animal is physically and behaviourally healthy.
- 10.1.2.7 Breeders should consider the welfare of their breeding sires and dams when deciding on the best time to re-breed or to cease breeding their animals.
- 10.1.2.8 When dogs or cats reach the end of their useful breeding life, or when mature potential breeding stock is found to be in some way unsuitable for breeding purposes, it is the responsibility of the owner to:-
- have such dogs or cats spayed or castrated;
  - settle the dogs or cats into their new condition (ex stud cats require considerable patience and care, but can become excellent candidates for pet homes);
  - either provide a pet home for the desexed dogs or cats themselves, or to canvass for and carefully select a new pet home for the animals;
  - exercise patience and retain responsibility for the dog or cat until such time as a satisfactory new home is established.
- 10.1.2.9 When cats are housed together for the purposes of mating, the animal care personnel should endeavour to ensure that:-
- the queen and stud are both eating and using their litter tray;
  - the animals have separate beds and are able to get some rest;
  - the animals have actually mated; and
  - the stud has an easily accessible shelf on which to jump after mating the queen, to enable him to escape her claws.
- 10.1.2.10 After delivery of a litter, the mother and young should be health checked by a veterinary practitioner, and the birthing area should be cleaned and disinfected.
- 10.1.2.11 Any puppy or kitten which does not achieve a regular weight gain should be referred for veterinary consultation.

10.1.2.12 The correct paper work, including mating dates, sire's pedigree and any service agreements or litter registration forms should be supplied to the owner/lessee of the bitch or queen when she is collected after the mating, or on payment of an agreed fee.

**Notes**

*The person in charge of the facility is reminded of the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998 concerning dangerous dogs and restricted breeds.*

## **ANIMAL RECORD FORM**

To assist members with compliance with:-

- DOGS NSW Regulations Part I The Register & Registration, Section 18
- DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics
- Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats, Clause 5.1.



## DOG RECORD

Member Name	
Address	
Contact Number	
Member Prefix	
DOGS NSW Membership Number	

Registered Name			
Microchip No.		Sex	
Registration No.		Breed	
Date of Birth	/ /	Colour	

### BIRTH HISTORY OF WHOLE LITTER

Number of live females in the litter		Number of live males in the litter	
Number of stillborn females in the litter		Number of stillborn males in the litter	
Number of females that died post-whelping		Number of males that died post-whelping	
Describe any birth complications			

Purpose of Dog	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibition (any discipline)	<input type="checkbox"/> Companion	<input type="checkbox"/> Breeding
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## NEW OWNER DETAILS

Name			
Residential address			
Address where dog is housed			
Contact Number			
Microchip form transfer signed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Microchip form transfer lodged?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Sales contract signed and given to new owner?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

**Note: Copy of microchip transfer form and signed contract/guarantee should be attached**

### DEATH/EUTHANASIA DETAILS

Date of euthanasia (or death)	/ /
Vet clinic performing euthanasia	
Reason for euthanasia (death)	

### RETURN RECORD

Microchip No.		Return date	/ /
Microchip form transfer signed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: / /	Microchip form transfer lodged?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: / /
Return reason			

**Note: Copy of microchip transfer form must be attached**

**VACCINATION & WORMING HISTORY****(Must be accompanied by a copy of the veterinary issued vaccination record)**

<b>Date Given</b>	<b>Core Vaccine - C3 (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus)</b>	<b>Canine Cough (parainfluenza (Type II) &amp; Bordetella bronchiseptica)</b>	<b>Intestinal worms</b>	<b>Heartworm</b>	<b>Fleas, Ticks &amp; Mites</b>
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**GENERAL HISTORY**

**(Must be accompanied by a copy of any veterinary treatment record)**

Date Given	Description of Illness/Injury	Treatment
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		

**REPRODUCTIVE HISTORY (BITCH)**

Registered Name			
Microchip No.		Date of Birth	/ /
Attach copy of breeding clearance to this record (if required/obtained)			

Last annual health certificate issue date	Mating/ Insemination date (List each date)	Expected due date	Sire (Registered Name Registered Number & Microchip number)	Birth date	No. Live births (Record colour/markings of each puppy)		No. Stillborn		Total number in Litter
					Male	Female	Male	Femal e	
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/ /		/ /		/ /					
/ /		/ /		/ /					

**Attach copies of litter records whelped by this bitch here.**

**REPRODUCTIVE HISTORY (DOG)**

Registered Name			
Microchip No.		Date of Birth	/ /
Attach copy of breeding clearance to this record			

Last annual health certificate issue date	Mating/ Insemination date (List each date)	Expected due date	Female (Registered Name Registered Number & Microchip number)	Birth date	No. Live births (Record colour/markings of each puppy)		No. Stillborn		Total number in Litter
					Male	Female	Male	Femal e	
/ /		/ /		/ /					
/ /		/ /		/ /					
/ /		/ /		/ /					
/ /		/ /		/ /					
/ /		/ /		/ /					

**Attach file notes**

## LITTER RECORD FORM

To assist members with compliance with:-

- DOGS NSW Regulations Part I-The Register & Registration, Section 18
- DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics, Clause 28
- Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats, Clause 5.1.

**LITTER RECORD**

Member Name	
Address	
Contact Number	
ANKC Breeding Prefix	
DOGS NSW Membership Number	
Breed	

**Litter Parents Details****Sire:**

Registered Name			
Microchip No.		Colour	
Registration No.		Date of Birth	/ /

**Dam:**

Registered Name			
Microchip No.		Colour	
Registration No.		Date of Birth	/ /

1 <sup>st</sup> Date of Season		Date of Insemination	/ /
Method of Insemination (AI - Circle applicable type)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural	<input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Insemination	Fresh      Chilled      Frozen (Surgical/TCI) (circle applicable insemination type)
Comments and observations on bitch during gestation (Food, medications, health, etc)			



**WHELPING RECORD**

Date first pup born:     /     /

Puppy No.	Time	Sex	Colour	Markings	Placenta	Presentation	Weight	Comments
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

**Litter Details**

Number of females in the litter		Number of males in the litter	
Number of live births in the litter		Number of stillborns in the litter	
Describe any birth complications			

**LITTER WEIGHT RECORD**

Puppy ID	Birth	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														

Comments (progress of puppies plus dam; include full details of meals and fluids for dam)

**LITTER WEIGHT RECORD/DATES WORMED/VACCINATED/MICROCHIPPED**

Puppy ID	2 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	6 weeks	8 weeks	10 weeks	12 weeks
1				Chip No.			
2				Chip No.			
3				Chip No.			
4				Chip No.			
5				Chip No.			
6				Chip No.			
7				Chip No.			
8				Chip No.			
9				Chip No.			
10				Chip No.			

Comments (including weaning regime, food type and quantities, worming brand and dose and vaccination type and brand)

**GENERAL HEALTH HISTORY OF LITTER****(Must be accompanied by a copy of any veterinary treatment record)**

Date	Description of Illness	Treatment
<b>Example</b> 1/1/2020 12 noon	<i>Puppies Numbers 2 and 4 – not nursing</i>	<i>Tube fed 'Leerburg Formula' 1ml per ounce body weight per feeding every 3 hours. Supplementary feeding continuing.</i>
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		
/ /		

**PUPPY BEING REHOMED****(There must be a form completed for every puppy that leaves the breeder)**

Registered Name		Breed	
Registration No.		Gender	Colour
Microchip No.		Date of Birth	/ /

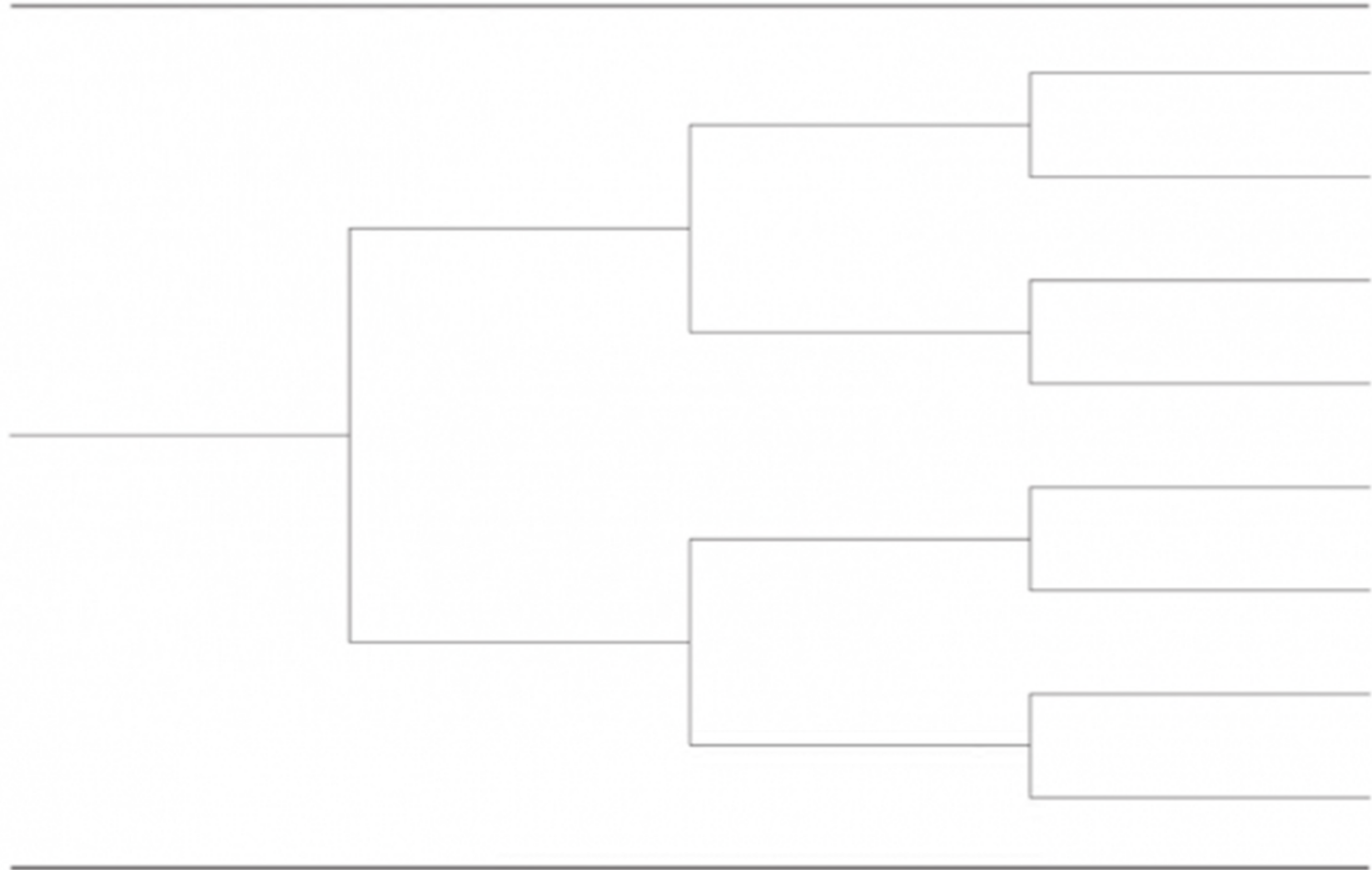
**New owner**

Name					
Residential address where dog will live					
Contact Number					
Microchip form transfer signed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Microchip form transfer lodged?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sales contract signed and given to new owner?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Health Certificate given to new owner?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Note: Copy of microchip transfer form and signed Sales Contract should be attached to this record****Return Record**

Registered Name		Breed	
Registration No.		Gender	Colour
Microchip No.		Date of Birth	/ /
Microchip form transfer signed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Microchip form transfer lodged?
	Date: / /		Date: / /
Return Reason and Comments			

**PEDIGREE CHART**



## PUPPY/ADULT DOG HEALTH CERTIFICATE

To assist members with transparency in rehoming of healthy puppies/adult dogs.

If you or your Vet have an alternate form you prefer, please continue to use that.

**NOTE: It is important to record all matters that are not within normal health parameters, eg, heart murmur, hernia, undescended testicle(s), etc.**

**PUPPY/ADULT DOG HEALTH CHECK CERTIFICATE**

**Dog details**

Registered Name		Date of Birth	/ /
Microchip number		Gender	
Breed		Colour	

**Physical Exam:**

WEIGHT:..... TEMP: ..... PULSE/RESP:.....

**HYDRATION:**       Adequate       Marginal       Inadequate

Comments .....

.....

**TESTICLES:**       2 descended       1 descended (L/R)       None descended       N/A

Comments .....

.....

**HERNIA:**       No       Yes

Comments .....

.....



**MOUTH:**             Normal (Scissor Bite)             Level Bite             Overbite             Underbite             Other

Comments .....

.....

**EYES:**             Normal             Conjunctivitis             Glaucoma             Cataracts             Other

Comments .....

.....

**SKIN:**             Normal             Hot Spots             Fleas             Mites             Growth/Cyst             Other

Comments .....

.....

**EARS:**             Normal             Yeast             Mites             Other

Comments .....

.....

**CARDIOVASCULAR:**             Normal             Murmur             Arrhythmia             Other

Comments .....

.....

**RESPIRATORY:**             Normal                     Infection                     Other

Comments .....

.....

**LYMPH NODES:**             Normal                     Other

Comments .....

.....

**MUSCULOSKELETAL:**             Normal                     Other

Comments .....

.....

**GENITOURINARY:**             Normal                     Other

Comments .....

.....

**GASTROINTESTINAL:**             Normal                     Other

Comments .....

.....

**OVERALL HEALTH CONDITION:**

Excellent

Good

Fair

Poor

Comments .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**Veterinarian's Name** *(please print)* .....

**Veterinarian's Signature** *(please sign)* .....

**Date:** .....

**Clinic Name:**.....

**Phone:** .....

**Clinic Address:**.....

**Web:**.....

## BREEDING CLEARANCE

To assist members with compliance with:-

- DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics, Clauses 8, 9 and 12
- Animal Welfare Code of Practice for Breeding Dogs and Cats, Section 10

If you or your Vet have an alternate certificate, you can continue to use it in place of this sample template.

**BREEDING CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE**

**Bitch details**

Registered Name		Date of Birth	
Microchip number		Gender	<i>Female</i>
Breed		Colour	

Veterinary Practitioner's name	
Practice: Name & Address	
Contact Number	
DOGS NSW Member's Name	
ANKC Ltd Registered Prefix	
DOGS NSW Membership Number	

**Declaration**

I ....., today examined the bitch identified above being ..... years of age and, in my opinion, there are no impediments to this animal being used for breeding.

Signed: .....

Date: .....

Comments

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**  
Contact Details for the Care of my Dog(s) at Home

Full Name (owner): .....

Address: .....

Contact number: .....

My Dog's Name: .....

Microchip Number: .....

(Breed, likes, dislikes, age, distinguishing markings) medical conditions, neutered etc)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

In an emergency please contact the following:-

1. ....

.....

2. ....

.....

3. ....

.....

Please ensure that at no point should the above-named dog be surrendered to any party other than those named.

Signed .....

[Place photo of dog here]