



Australian National Kennel Council Ltd ABN 77 151 544 679 trading as Dogs Australia

REGULATIONS

PART 3P

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF SPRINTDOG™

JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Effective 1 August 2024

These Guidelines have been designed to assist the standardized development of SprintDog™ across Australia by giving guidance as to the Judging standard each State is required to be working towards.

It is acknowledged that deviation from these 'Guidelines' in early development stages may be necessary in some States. Such deviations will continue to be acceptable until such time the ANKC Ltd SprintDog™™ Working Party agree that these Guidelines can be reasonably adhered to by all States.

Australian Judges recognised by Dogs Australia as SprintDog™ Judges may be approved to judge at any SprintDog™ Trial and must be members in good standing with their Member Body.

A registry of Australian SprintDog™ Judges will be kept and maintained by Dogs Australia.

CHAPTER 1 JUDGES TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Section 1	ANKC Ltd Regulations How to Become a Judge
Section 2	Judges Code of Practice
Section 3	Competencies for Judges
Section 4	Guidelines for Theory Assessments
Section 5	Procedure for Judges Theory Assessment
Section 6	Procedure for Judges Practical Assessment.

Section 1 How to become a Judge

- 1.1.1 Application Procedure. All applications for entry into the Judges Training & Assessment Program must be on the nominated form and be received before the nominated date. To be eligible to enter the Program the applicant must:
- [a] have been a member of the ANKC Ltd Member Body for a total period of not less than three [3] years, but dispensation may be given for persons with sufficient experience in this discipline.
 - [b] be over 18 years of age;
 - [c] be approved by the Member Body.
- 1.1.2 The only persons eligible to judge SprintDog™ Events shall be SprintDog™ Judges and those who have been accepted into the Judges Training & Assessment Program.
- 1.1.3 Written Examination and Practical Tests.
- [a] Completion of practical training is mandatory. Sessions must include a minimum of two events. Each of these training sessions to be conducted in conjunction with a Dogs Australia SprintDog™ Judge.
 - [b] Non-attendance at required practical training will preclude application for a licence, unless a written apology acceptable to the SprintDog™ Sub Committee / Working Party is received within seven [7] days of the relevant lecture.
 - [c] All applicants in the SprintDog™ Judges Training & Assessment Program must pass written examinations.
 - [d] Closed book for ANKC National Judge's Code of Practice and Conduct shall require an 80% pass mark.
 - [e] Open book ANKC SprintDog™ Rules exam shall require a 100% pass mark.
 - [f] A pass in a written examination will remain valid until the adoption of the next ANKC Ltd Rule change for that discipline.
 - [g] An applicant failing a written or practical examination may request a review. Such request must be received by the office within fourteen [14] days of notification of a result.
 - [h] All applicants who pass all written examinations must pass practical examinations, prior to being granted a licence.
 - [i] The Assessment Panel will consist of the State Judges Training Coordinator and two [2] qualified Judges drawn randomly by the SprintDog™ Sub Committee / Working Party.
 - [j] The Assessment Panel must reach a majority decision prior to recommendation to the Member Body that a Licence be granted.
- 1.1.4 Judges Dress Code. Neat appropriate attire is required when judging. The following are not acceptable – thongs, scuffs, bare feet.

- 1.1.5 Rule Changes. Following any Rule changes by the ANKC Ltd, all Judges must attend Lectures conducted to explain/discuss such Rule changes. An Open book exam shall follow requiring a 100% pass in order to keep a Judge's Licence current.

Section 2 Judges Code of Practice

- 1.2.1 A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.
- 1.2.2 A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.
- 1.2.4 A Judge is required to be punctual in availability to fulfil their judging assignment.
- 1.2.5 Should a judge be approached with an inducement to favour or disfavour, and/or a bribe to advantage or disadvantage an exhibit or exhibitor, the Judge is to report the matter in writing immediately to the Controlling Body.
- 1.2.6 A Judge shall not solicit a judging appointment.
- 1.2.7 A Judge shall complete all relevant requirements of the judging contract. Any verbal acceptance of an assignment by a Judge shall be subject to receipt of the contract within 14 days.
- 1.2.9 A Judge shall honour each contract and is not free to accept an alternative contract that will affect his or her availability to fulfil the original contract except with the written dispensation of the contracting body.
- 1.2.10 Accommodation provided for the Judge to fulfil an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.
- 1.2.11 A Judge shall be responsible for the cost of all telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and any personal laundering except where mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body at the time the contract is accepted.
- 1.2.12 A Judge who withdraws from a contracted appointment shall not be permitted to judge at any other canine event wherever held on a date which would prevent him/her from attending the original contracted event.

Section 3 Competencies for Judges

- 1.3.1 Criteria satisfied according to Member Body Judge's Training Program.
- 1.3.2 Knowledge of ANKC Ltd rules for SprintDog™ accurately demonstrated.
- 1.3.3 Knowledge of current relevant Controlling Body constitution, rules and regulations demonstrated.
- 1.3.6 Judges Lectures are ongoing (where required) and compulsory for attendance upon a revision to the SprintDog™ Rules.

Section 4 Guidelines for Theory Assessments

- 1.4.1 All assessment must be objective – that is only one (1) correct answer.
- [a] Multiple choice questions are an obvious example of objective questions, but they can be difficult, but not hard to set, for the beginner, given guidelines.

- [b] Leave a space questions can be useful for a particular purpose ie. Verbatim answers, straight from the rule book. (not usually able to test understanding, but easiest to set)
- [c] Short answer or essay type questions (these are easy to set but very difficult to assess objectively)
- [d] Practical situation questions eg "What would you do if ?" These question can be set in either multiple choice (preferable) or short answer.
- [e] The person setting the assessment paper must supply an answer sheet.
- [f] The answer sheet must indicate the correct OBJECTIVE answer for each question, including questions which contain a variety of components

1.4.2 All Questions must have an Objective System of Marking – for example – one (1) answer = one mark.

- [a] Each question shall show the number of marks for the correct answer.
- [b] If two or more responses are necessary, then two or more marks must be allocated for that question ie one mark for each part of the question. Or the question must be divided into two or more questions.
- [c] If one part of a question is correct one mark is awarded.

1.4.3 The written assessment for the discipline of SprintDog™ will be in three sections:

- [a] Closed book exam for ANKC National Judge's Code of Practice and Conduct shall require an 80% pass mark.
- [b] Open book exam for ANKC SprintDog™ Rules and shall require a 100% pass mark.

Section 5 Procedure for Judges Theory Assessments

1.5.1 SprintDog™ Chair or State Training Coordinator to be in attendance at the time of the exams. If the Chair / Training Coordinator does not have their judges licence, a SprintDog™ Judge must be present to mark the exams.

Section 6 Procedure for Practical SprintDog™ Judges Assessment

1.6.1 The following instructions are provided for the information of Trainee Judges and Testing Panel members. It is intended that all officials and candidates be provided with a copy of these instructions prior to the day of the test.

The successful conduct and outcome of this assessment is largely dependent on compliance with the following:

- [a] Three (3) Panel members will be chosen from the current Judges Panel / Sub Committee / Working Party.
- [b] Panel Members are to be with the Trainee Judge.
- [c] While the necessity of brief discussion between the panel members for the purpose of clarification is understood, there must be no collaboration or unnecessary discussion between the panel members prior to their decision is recorded.
- [d] At the completion of the assessment, the panel members shall not confer. Each panel member will individually make a recommendation as to whether the candidate has passed or failed and placed into an envelope and sealed. The envelopes are handed to the State Training Coordinator.
- [e] Candidates may be advised of the outcome of the assessment on the day if time permits.
- [f] The SprintDog™ Sub Committee/Working Party is responsible to notify the Member Body of the results.

- [g] All results must remain confidential until such time as all candidates have been notified.
- [h] Panel members must understand that prolonged and intimidatory questioning and particularly "what if" situations are inappropriate and must not be carried out under any circumstances.
- [i] Unsuccessful Trainee Judges may request to complete another practical test, after completing more shadow judging with licenced SprintDog™ Judges (this must be over a period of a minimum of three [3] months.)

Section 7 Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

1.7.1 The following are considered to be RPL and as such will be given dispensation in towards requirements to be a SprintDog™ Judge

- [a] ANKC Licenced Judges who have officiated at SprintDog™ Unofficial Trials during the development period, shall automatically be recognised as SprintDog™ Judges.
- [b] Dog Sport Discipline and Conformation Judges, shall receive RPL for Judges Code of Ethics exam.
- [c] Officials who are not a Dogs Australia Judge and have acted in the role of Trial Secretary at a minimum of four [4] Unofficial Trials during the development period, shall receive RPL for Practical Assessment and SprintDog™ Rules Exam, but will be required to sit the Judges Code of Ethics exam.