

DOGS AUSTRALIA

EST. 1958 AS AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL

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

REGULATIONS

PART 3Q

CANINE GROOMING

JUDGES TRAINING

&

ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Effective

1st January, 2027

This Program is designed to assist Canine Groomers to become Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Championship Competition Judges by graduating through specific stages of training for all five categories.

1. Terminology

1.1	Member Body	The relevant authority in each State or Territory
1.2	ANKC	Australian National Kennel Council Ltd
1.3	Canine Groomers Judges Training & Assessment Program	A Training Program for Canine Groomers conducted by the Member Body in accordance with the current Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Training and Assessment Program at the time of the commencement of the Program.
1.4	Enrolment Form	A form approved by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming National Committee
1.5	Aspiring Judge	A Canine Groomer accepted in the Canine Grooming Judges Training and Assessment Program
1.6	Trainee Judge	A canine groomer having fulfilled the Aspiring Judge's syllabus and passed the relevant examinations is qualified to enter the Canine Grooming Judges Training
1.7	Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Judge	A Canine Groomer who has successfully completed the required Trainee Judge Theory and Practical Assessments and is qualified to apply to be elevated to ANKC status whereby they may then judge the category/categories for which they are qualified at Championship Canine Grooming Competitions within Australia.
1.8	Accredited Assessor	A Master Groomer who has completed the Dogs Australia Assessor Accreditation Program.
1.9	Clerk of Examination	A person approved by the Member Body to oversee all aspects of the Practical Assessments.

2. Method of Education

2.1 Self-Education: Trainee Canine Grooming Judges will be required to educate themselves to examination standards by studying Breed Standards, ANKC approved Breed Standard Extensions, the ANKC Glossary of Canine Terms and other appropriate material, attending appropriate Lectures, Seminars as arranged by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming National Chair.

(a) The competencies, which Trainees will be expected to achieve through the program are:

• Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the Breed Standards.
• Ability to identify characteristics in relation to the Breeds for the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Ability to recognise profiles in relation to the Breeds for the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Ability to use Breed specific language and apply it correctly in their description of the Breeds for the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Ability to approach and examine the exhibits correctly and appropriately for the Breeds for the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Ability to place the better grooms at the front of the class in the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Demonstrate their knowledge of coat and coat texture in the Category in which they are a Trainee.
• Demonstrate an ability to make decisions in an effective way and in an efficient time frame.
• Demonstrate an ability to understand and apply the Regulations relevant to Canine Grooming judging.

3. Teaching Aids and Materials

3.1 Rules and Regulations. As authorised by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee.

3.2 Anatomy. The publication/s approved by the ANKC shall be the references for Anatomy.

3.3 Canine Terms. The Glossary of Terms as published by the ANKC.

3.4 Breed Standards as approved by the ANKC.

3.5 Extensions to Breed Standards as approved by the ANKC, however shall not be used as the basis in Theory examinations.

3.6 Any other material as authorised by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee from time to time.

4.1 Aspiring Judge Entrance Program 1st Category

4.1.1 To enrol in the Program as an Aspiring Judge, a Canine Grooming must fulfil the following criteria:

4.1.1.1 be 18 years of age or over;

4.1.1.2 have been a member of an ANKC Member Body for a minimum of four (4) years during the ten (10) years immediately prior to the date of the application and be a resident of Australia.

4.1.1.3 Have at least 5 years of grooming experience.

4.1.1.4 Have entered and competed in a minimum of 6 sanctioned Dogs Australia Canine Grooming competitions.

4.1.1.5 Must have passed Certification to A+ level under Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Certification program.

4.1.1.6 The application shall be for the Category in which the requirements of 4.1.1.5 have been met.

4.1.1.7 complete and submit the approved enrolment form which must include evidence of the criteria of 4.1.1.1 – 4.1.1.6 above and be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

5. Aspiring Judge Training Program

5.1 Once accepted into the Program, the applicant must:

5.1.1 Attend all lectures and pass the Theory Examination on Rules & Regulations, Anatomy, Glossary of Terms and Judging Procedure.

5.2 Successful completion of the training will qualify the Aspiring Canine Grooming Judge to complete and submit the approved enrolment form, with the appropriate fee, for the Category Entrance Theory Examination on the Category for which they are training.

5.3 A pass in the Category Entrance Theory Examination will enable the Aspiring Canine Grooming Judge to complete and submit the approved enrolment form to enter the Trainee Canine Grooming Judges Training Program.

6. Trainee Judge Program (1st and Subsequent Categories)

6.1 A Canine Grooming Trainee Judge acknowledges, upon submitting a signed enrolment form to their Member Body to enrol into a new Canine Grooming Judges Education Program, that upon approval of their application by their Member Body they

are governed by the current ANKC Ltd Canine Grooming Judges Training Regulations operational at the time of their enrolment.

(a) To qualify for a Category Practical Examination in their first and subsequent Categories, the Canine Grooming Trainee Judge must have attained a pass in the Category Theory Examination, completed the following Modules 1 and 2 and have submitted an enrolment form.

(b) A Trainee Judge can only train for maximum of two (2) Categories at a time.

(d) A Canine Grooming Trainee shall not be permitted to attempt more than two (2) Theory examination per Category in any Canine Grooming Judges Education Program.

6.1.1 Module 1. Breed Lectures / Seminars

All Canine Grooming Trainee Judges must attend all lectures/seminars in the Category they are training in at least once within the previous 2 years before applying for a Theory Examination. The breed lecture series is to be run by the National Canine Grooming Chair in conjunction with the chairs of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committees of the state controlling body over a **minimum** 4 month period with a lecture for all popular breed in the relevant Category to be presented over that time.

(a) A Trainee Judge must be present for and participate in the entire lecture in order to be credited with attendance.
(b) Failure to attend all lectures offered will render the Canine Grooming Trainee ineligible to site the Category Theory Examination in the current Canine Grooming Judges Training Program.

6.1.2 Module 2. Practical Experience

Judge a minimum of (3) three times which will include a minimum of 15 total dogs at Open Shows from the relevant Category in which they are training. The breeds covered in each category should be from, as wide a range as possible. All assessment to be conducted by an Accredited Master Groomer Assessor on the day. Judging will be in the form of hands-on experience by placing dogs in all level within the Category and also providing a critique of the first three (3) in each Level where possible.

8. Appointment of Assessors.

To be appointed by the National Canine Grooming Judges Training Committee, an Assessor must not be a Trainee Judge in the current Canine Grooming Judges Training Program and must;

8.1 Be a resident of a State Member body.

8.2 Be invited by the National Chairperson of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee.

8.3 Invitation to attend the course must be in writing.

8.4 Not be under investigation for any offence by the Member Body.

8.5 Hold a Certificate of Approval issued under the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Accreditation Program stating that the Assessor has completed the competency training.

8.6 Have held a Master Groomer certification for a minimum of five (5) years for the Category being used in the examination.

8.7 Have judged the Category being used in the examination on at least three (3) occasions.

9. Theory Examinations

9.1 All theory examinations shall consist only of "short answer" and/or "multi choice and/or "mix and match" questions. Except for multi choice and mix and match questions examinations where one (1) examiner is required, there shall be at least two (2) examiners appointed to separately mark the papers, without conferring. The results shall be separately forwarded to the National Chairperson of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee. In the case of a split decision (equal pass and fail) an additional examiner shall mark the papers and that mark shall decide the result.

9.2 All theory examinations shall require a 75% pass mark. The ANKC Breed Standards, ANKC Glossary of Canine Terms and any other references used in lectures during the Canine Grooming Judges Training Program and authorised by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee shall be the only basis for the theory examinations.

9.3 All theory examinations will be either open/closed book. Canine Grooming Trainee Judges will be advised the format for theory examinations upon entering the scheme. A Canine Grooming Trainee Judge who has failed a theory examination (other than multi choice) may request a remark of their paper. Such requests are to be in writing within 14 days of advice of the result of the paper. Two (2) Examiners appointed by the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming will separately remark the paper. The Examiners shall not be the original markers of the paper concerned.

9.3 Should a Canine Grooming Trainee Judge not attain a pass in the Group Theory Examination, to progress, they will be required to enrol in the next available or other future Canine Grooming Judges Education Program.

9.4 A Canine Grooming Trainee Judge must sit the Theory Examination within 3 years. They must also pass within five (5) attempts. If either of the previous criteria is not met or achieved then they may not re-sit that examination for a period of two (2) years.

9.5 Should a Candidate provide proof, to the satisfaction of the Clerk of Examinations or the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee that they will be overseas or were incapacitated on the date of a scheduled Theory Examination they may be permitted to apply for and complete one of the following: that is a Pre or Post Examination.

9.6 Should a Canine Grooming Trainee Judge provide proof, to the satisfaction of the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee that they will be Interstate on the date of the theory examination they may be permitted to sit the theory examination in that State on the same date and time as the scheduled theory examination. This is to be organised between the relevant State Member Bodies with the initial request being from the Canine Grooming Trainee's State Member Body.

10. Practical Examinations

10.1 Practical Examinations must be undertaken at a venue nominated by the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee and the Chair of the Member Body Canine Grooming Committee and be supervised by the Clerk of Examinations.

10.2 There shall be a minimum of one (1) Practical Examination per Category per calendar year.

10.3 Practical Examinations shall only be conducted in Categories that have current Canine Grooming Trainee Judges enrolled.

10.4 A dog owned or co-owned by a member of an Examination Panel shall not be used in an examination class in which that Examiner is participating.

10.5 The Trainee Judge shall place the exhibits in each level in order of merit, record the placings and will be required to answer questions on the class.

10.6 The results of Practical Examinations shall be collated by the Clerk of Examinations. Canine Grooming Trainee Judges will be notified of their results by the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee as soon as possible after the expiration of the appeal period. Examiners shall not divulge their individual assessment of a Trainee Judge prior to the results being distributed. Results shall not be given at the time of the Practical Examination.

(a) In the case of a failed result, should the Clerk of Examinations have any concerns in regard to the inappropriateness of the Practical Examination paperwork, the concerns will be reported to the next available Dogs Australia National Canine Grooming Committee meeting.

(b) Should the Dogs Australia National Canine Grooming Committee concur with the Clerk of Examinations concerns a new Practical Examination will be conducted for the relevant Canine Grooming Trainee Judge.

10.7 Where a Canine Grooming Trainee Judge believes they have a legitimate reason for not wishing to be examined by particular Assessor/s, they may submit a maximum of (2) two names to the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee of those they do not wish to be examined by in writing at the time of applying for a practical examination. They must set out the reasons for such request. The National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee will retain the right to refuse any such request. Any additional costs incurred by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee or Member Body are to be at the expense of the Trainee Judge.

10.8 The National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee, when approaching an Assessor to examine a Canine Grooming Trainee Judges at a practical examination, shall advise the Assessor of the names of the potential Trainee Judges and the Assessor shall advise the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee, as soon as practicable, if there are any Trainee Judges they do not wish to examine or for whom it would be inappropriate for them to examine due to any contractual or ethical reason.

10.9 No person shall make any photographic or video record of any part of a Practical Examination except with the prior permission of the National Chair of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Committee.

(a) Whilst undertaking a Practical Examination, a Canine Grooming Trainee must not have in his/her possession, at ring side, a mobile telephone, electronic device, copy of the breed standards or any other grooming related paraphernalia.

10.10 Should a Canine Grooming Trainee not achieve a pass result in a Practical Examination, then to qualify to take a further Group Practical Examination a Trainee judge must judge a further fifteen (15) dogs at Open Show level and submit the approved enrolment form accompanied by the requirements of this clause. They may then attempt the next available Practical Examination.

12. Appeals

12.1 Appeals against the decisions of the Examination Panel will not be permitted.

12.2 Where a Trainee Judge believes that the Practical Examination for which they were a participant was not conducted in accordance with the Regulations they must lodge an appeal with the Clerk of Examinations no later than a period determined twenty-one (21) days after the conclusion of said practical examination and should

detail the Regulation/s that are alleged to have been breached. Appeals received after this time will not be considered.

13. Program Fees

13.1 The fee structure which is commensurate with administrative and actual cost shall apply for all phases of the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Judges Training and will be as determined by the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming National Committee.

1. Aspiring Judges Training Program 1st Group only (includes Lectures and Examinations) **$66.00 (incl GST)** payable when enrolling.
2. Trainee Judges Program (Lectures, Theory & Practical Examinations) per Canine Grooming Category **$77.00 (incl GST)** payable when enrolling.

13.1 Should a Canine Grooming Trainee Judge fail to achieve a **PASS** in the Theory Examinations for the Canine Grooming Category or withdraw from the Training Program; **NO** refunds of the above fees shall be allowed.