



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

REGULATIONS

PART 3K

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF DRAFT TEST JUDGES TRAINING & ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Adopted 2016

(Effective from 1 January 2022)

Amended
October 2021

DOGS AUSTRALIA

These Guidelines have been designed to assist the standardized development of Draft Test 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 Dogs Australia National Draft Test Committee agree that these Guidelines can be reasonably adhered to by all States.

CHAPTER 1 JUDGES TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

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| Section 1 | Dogs Australia Regulations How to Become a Judge |
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Section 1 How to become a Judge

- 1.1 Application Procedure. All applications for entry into the Judges Training Program must be on the nominated form and be received before the nominated date. (Copy of application form attached to these regulations) To be eligible to enter the Program the applicant must:
 - [a] have been a member of the Dogs Australia Member Body for a total period of not less than five [5] 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.
 - [d] Be physically fit (FITNESS TO JUDGE 11.1 Dogs Australia Regulations Part 2, Point 1.4.)

- 1.2 Eligibility to judge All Draft Tests levels (Novice, Open, Novice Brace and Open Brace). Applicants must have:
 - [a] Trained and qualified a dog in a Draft Test.
 - [b] Acted as Steward and/or Test secretary within 12 months prior to application
 - [c] Attended a lecture on Draft Test rules within 12 months prior to application

- 1.3 Practical Training.
 - [a] Completion of practical training is mandatory for a licence. A minimum of two [2] practical training sessions must be completed. Sessions must include a minimum of five [5] dogs where possible. Each of these training sessions to be conducted in conjunction with a member of the Draft Test Judges Training and Assessment Panel. Two judges appointed by the relevant Member Bodies Draft Test Committee or the National Draft Test Committee will provide written assessment on the trainee's progress, to be submitted with the trainee's Judge's application.
 - [b] No person may apply for more than one licence in any one year.
 - [c] All applicants for licences must attend the relevant workshop and complete practical training where required for their particular discipline within twelve [12] months prior to application.

- [d] Non attendance at required workshops will preclude application for a licence, unless a written apology acceptable to the Draft Test committee is received within seven [7] days of the relevant lecture and workshops.

1.4 Written Examination and Practical Tests.

- [a] All applicants for a Draft Test Licence must pass a written examination.
- [b] All written examinations shall require a 75% pass mark
- [c] A pass in a written examination will remain valid until the adoption of the next Dogs Australia Rule change for the discipline.
- [d] 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.
- [e] All applicants who pass a written examination must pass a practical examination, prior to being granted a licence.
- [f] The Assessment Panel will consist of at least three [3] qualified Judges appointed by the National Draft Test Committee.
- [g] The Assessment Panel must reach a majority decision prior to recommendation to the member Body that a Licence be granted.
- [h] All written (theoretical) examination papers shall consist of “multi choice and/or mix and match”
- [i] For “multi choice questions” one person only is required to mark the papers
- [j] The results are to be forwarded to the Controlling Body

1.5 Judges Dress Code. Neat coordinated attire is required when judging. The following are not acceptable – track suits, thongs, scuffs, bare feet.

1.6 Rule Changes. Following any Rule changes by Dogs Australia, all Judges must attend Lectures conducted to explain/discuss such Rule changes.

1.7 Once a judge has been passed it is advisable that their first three (3) appointments be as “Apprentice” with another experienced judge. This is to help apply the regulations to the myriad of real world situations and progressively demonstrating the ability to conduct all aspects of a Draft Test as a Judge.

Section 2 Judges Code of Practice.

- 2.1 A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.
- 2.2 A Judge shall give every exhibit and exhibitor fair and equal opportunity in each and every class.
- 2.3 A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.
- 2.4 A Judge is required to be punctual in availability to fulfill their judging assignment.
- 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.
- 2.6 A Judge shall not solicit a judging appointment.
- 2.7 A Judge shall not influence or seek the entry of any particular dog or dogs for a class in which they are judging.

- 2.8 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.
- 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 fulfill the original contract except with the written dispensation of the contracting body.
- 2.10 Accommodation provided for the Judge to fulfill an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.
- 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.
- 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.

- 3.1 Criteria satisfied according to guidelines “How to become a Draft Test Judge”.
- 3.2 Knowledge of Dogs Australia rules for each discipline accurately demonstrated.
- 3.3 Knowledge of current relevant Controlling Body constitution, rules and regulations demonstrated.
- 3.4 Handler and dog’s ability to work as a team assessed according to Dogs Australia rules.
- 3.5 Competitor assessed for each individual exercise according to Dogs Australia and Controlling Body rules.
- 3.6 Judges Lectures. Judges lectures are delivered on an annual basis and are a compulsory part of the Judges Training Program.
- 3.7 Lecturers. Lecturers are to be nominated by the Draft Test committee on the basis of experience in judging and general involvement in the discipline concerned.

Lecturers are to cover the following;

Rules and regulations relevant to the discipline.
Requirements of the Judges Training Program.
Judges responsibilities.
Planning of ring.
Instructions to stewards.
Practical judging procedures.
Procedures to be followed for aggressive dogs.

Section 4 Guidelines for Theory Assessments

4.1 All assessment must be objective – that is only one (1) correct answer.

- 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. (these guidelines are most important, because these questions can easily degenerate to being too easy/obvious or just confusing. One of the problems is that you have to set a large number of questions to obtain a reasonable assessment.
- Leave a space questions can be useful for a particular purpose i.e. Verbatim answers, straight from the rule book (not usually able to test understanding, but easiest to set)
- Short answer or essay type questions (these are easy to set but very difficult to assess objectively)

Practical situation questions e.g. "What would you do if?" These question can be set in either multiple choice (preferable) or short answer.
- The person setting the assessment paper must supply an answer sheet.
- The answer sheet must indicate the correct OBJECTIVE answer for each question, including questions which contain a variety of components

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

- If two or more responses are necessary, then two or more marks must be allocated for that question i.e. one mark for each part of the question. Or the question must be divided into two or more questions.
- If one part of a question is correct one mark is awarded
- It is not possible to have 2 marks or no marks for a question

Each of these areas would receive one mark which would be indicated on the answer sheet.

4.3 The written assessment for the discipline of Draft Test will be in two sections:

- .1 Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations for Judging Draft Test according to relevant class.
- .2 General Section

Each section will require a minimum pass mark of 75%.

4.4 Criteria for distance written assessment:

- .1 Candidates who are considered by a Member Body's Draft Test Committee to reside a distance from the normal venue for Lectures and Theory Examinations, that would pose a travelling risk, may apply to study through Distance Training.

Section 5 Procedure for Judges Theory Assessments

- 5.1 Draft Test committee/working party members to be in attendance on the night of the written assessment (they are not to mark any papers). One Draft Test member is to be a full panel judge.
- 5.2 Panel(s) of two (2) Draft Test members to mark assessment papers.
- 5.3 A third independent Draft Test committee member will be required to mark an assessment paper that has a divided decision.
- 5.4 Assessment papers are not to be marked in any way (comments, ticks, crosses, etc) in pencil or ink.
- 5.5 Because of step 4 all papers will have a marking sheet to indicate correct and incorrect answers and result. These will then be handed to either the Chief Executive or Assistant in a sealed envelope.
- 5.6 All candidates are issued with a number. This number is their signature. A list of numbers linking to the candidate is to be kept in a sealed envelope by one of the Draft Test members on the night until all papers have been marked.

Section 6 Procedure for Practical Draft Test Judges Assessment

- 6.1 The following instructions are provided for the information of Candidates, Stewards 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:

- .. It will be the responsibility of the appointed convenor to arrange the venue, dogs, handlers and stationery.
- .. Suitably qualified dogs are necessary to enable all candidates to be properly and fairly assessed.
- .. Panel members will comprise members of the Draft Test and licensed judges appointed by the National Draft Test Committee.
- The members of each panel, together with the stewards will be arranged by the convenor.
- Panel members will be chosen from the current Judges Training and Assessment Panel.
- The same panel will assess all candidates aspiring for a particular licence.
- The starting times will be staggered if considered necessary.

- The stewards must be experienced for the class in which they will be required to assist, apart from their nominated duties, stewards must not become involved in the assessment proceedings.
- The assessment panel must not move around unnecessarily and shall be positioned so that they can independently assess each dog.
- 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 scores being recorded.
- Each assessment panel member's score must be entered on an Assessment Sheet immediately the exercise is completed, prior to interviewing the candidate. Should an alteration to the panel member's score be necessary because of circumstances unknown at the time of its recording, the amended score is to be initialled and the reasons for the alteration stated in the comments column.
- The candidate will record his/her results on a Draft Test Judges Evaluation, which must be signed.
- Five dogs are usually sufficient to assess the candidate. This does not preclude additional dog/s being given to the candidate to score should circumstances warrant.
- At the completion of the tests, the panel members shall not confer. Each panel member will individually make a recommendation as to whether the candidate has passed or failed. The Assessment Sheet is then completed and handed to the convenor.
- Alterations to assessment sheets must include time, date and signature.
- Candidates will not be advised of the outcome of the test on the day.
- The convenor is responsible to notify the Member Body of the results.
- .. The Controlling Body will promptly advise the candidates and all results must remain confidential until such time as all candidates have been notified.
- The necessity to question candidates with regard the allotted score is appreciated.
- 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.
- Stress on the candidate must be minimised, and the dog and handler should be able to complete the exercises without unnecessary delay.
- Unsuccessful candidates may request a review of their practical test, subject to meeting the published criteria. Panel members should be available to attend review interviews on an "as required" basis. Outside of the interview process, the tests and their results must not be discussed



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Dogs Australia Draft Test Judge Application form

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

Member since: _____

List dog(s) trained/titled: _____

List when & where acted as Stewart and/or Test Secretary at Draft Test:

Attended rules workshop at: _____
