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3.1 – GENERAL

- 3.1.1** These Rules shall apply to all Exhibitions held in the Northern Territory and all Members, Exhibitors or persons attending, such Exhibitions and all Affiliates shall be deemed to have expressly agreed to submit to carry out, enforce, and be bound by the NACA Rules.
- 3.1.2** Any person who takes part in any matter coming within these Rules shall be held thereby to consent to be bound by them.
- 3.1.3** Any person causing annoyance by loud comments on a decision of a Judge or being guilty of unsportsmanlike or unseemly actions while in the precincts of the Exhibition may be removed from the Exhibition and/or disciplinary action may be taken.
- 3.1.4** Persons or dogs participating at any Dogs NT sanctioned or approved event do so at their own risk. **(07/20)**
- 3.1.5** All Rules, Regulations, Definitions, or Instructions in the nature of Rules and Regulations printed in the Schedule shall be deemed to be the rules of the Exhibition and shall have the same effect as if they formed part of these Rules PROVIDED, they are not inconsistent with NACA Rules.
- 3.1.6** Should an occasion arise when the Rules and/or Regulations of an Affiliate are inconsistent with these Rules on any matter, those of the NACA shall prevail.
- 3.1.7** Any matter arising affecting the conduct and management of an affiliated Exhibition and not specifically provided for under these regulations shall be decided by the Council, whose ruling shall be final and binding.
- 3.1.8** A levy is charged when entering an Exhibition in the NT and becomes payable on the first entry of each exhibit based on ownership.
- 3.1.9** The use of firearms (including imitation firearms and starting pistols) at any Championship Exhibition, Parade or other Conformation fixture will not be permitted.
- 3.1.10** To ensure the welfare of all dogs, under no circumstances are vehicles to be left with the engine running whilst parked at Exhibitions. Failure to comply may incur disciplinary action.
- 3.1.11** Affiliates conducting All-Breeds championship shows within the Darwin region are required to conduct sweepstakes class/es at a minimum of one (1) fixture per year (Show Societies exempt) (Effective: Jan 2020). **(09/19)**

3.2 - DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

- 3.2.1** It shall be deemed a serious offence for any official of an Affiliate to disclose information to unauthorised persons, as to the entries or entrants in an Exhibition prior to the start of the Exhibition.

3.3 – ADVERTISING

- 3.3.1** At Exhibitions, Exhibitors may be permitted (at the discretion of the Exhibition Committee) to display advertising material. The display must be executed attractively and shall be removed promptly if deemed by the Exhibition Manager, to be misleading, contrary to the Rules or otherwise undesirable.

3.4 – PERMISSION: PRIOR TO AN EVENT

- 3.4.1** No Affiliate shall hold or conduct any Exhibition without permission having been granted by the NACA.
- 3.4.2** Any Affiliated body that wishes to apply to change the date or to cancel a sanctioned or approved Exhibition that has been allocated for the holding of an affiliate shall make such application no later than 6 (six) months prior to the scheduled date of the fixture. Applications received after that date will not be considered unless there are extenuating circumstances. If an affiliated body does not comply with the above procedure NACA may:
- a.** Impose such penalty on the affiliated body as it deems warranted or;
 - b.** May withdraw or deny approval for any or all future exhibitions scheduled to be conducted by the affiliated body.
- 3.4.3** Any Affiliate desiring, to hold an Exhibition shall make an application, in writing to the NACA by such date as the NACA shall determine or at least six (6) months prior to the date of the exhibition.
- 3.4.4** All official DogsNT pre-exhibition paperwork is now required no less than four (4) calendar weeks before the proposed event - except for Conformation Ring Steward/s Contracts - these may be submitted with Post Exhibition paperwork **(13/09/2022)**
- a.** Schedule in such a manner as may from time to time be prescribed by the Council.
 - b.** Appropriate fees.
 - c.** For Exhibitions (Conformation) a signed Judges contract for each Class/Breed of dog, for approval, or otherwise, by the NACA.
 - d.** For Exhibitions (Trial) a signed Judges contract for each discipline that the judge is judging on the day.
 - e.** *Intentionally deleted (13/09/2022)*
 - f.** An Affiliate may contract multiple Ring Stewards for any single Exhibition. Where multiple Ring Stewards are contracted for an Exhibition, each Ring Stewards contract must state the Group/s and/or Specials (as applicable) the Ring Steward is contracted to steward for. **(16/04/2023)**
- 3.4.5** Ring Stewards at conformation Exhibitions must be a member of a Controlling Body of the ANKC and on the Ring Stewards Panel in that State/Territory.
- 3.4.6** Unless the special permission of the Council is obtained, documentation prescribed at **3.4.4 & 3.4.5** that is not submitted on the Official form shall be returned to the Affiliate. A penalty may be imposed if conditions set out in **3.4.4 & 3.4.5** are not met.
- 3.4.7** No Exhibitions are to be conducted in the same town at the same time or on the same day if not held in conjunction with each other without prior approval of the NACA.
- 3.4.8** Where an Affiliate wishes to make any special requirement of the exhibitors, this must be stated on the schedule and approved by Council.

- 3.4.9** Where an Affiliate wishes to make provision to a commercial operation at the Exhibition they must:
- a. apply in writing to Council.
 - b. pay the prescribed fee to Council.
 - c. provide adequate proof of suitable insurance cover as required by the Council.

3.4.10 All Affiliates must advertise approved Exhibitions in the official publication of The NACA (DogsNT), in a manner approved by The Council and its Sub-Committees. All Exhibitions must be advertised as a Schedule in the Schedules section of the Territory Dog World (The NACA official publication). Only Exhibitions with consecutive dates can be included on any one (1) Schedule. **(28/10/20)**

3.5 – SCHEDULES AND CATALOGUES

3.5.1 A notification to the effect that the body is Affiliated with the NACA, and that the exhibition is held under NACA Rules and that a copy of the Rules will be available at the Exhibition, must be inserted in the Catalogue.

3.5.2 Both Schedule and Catalogue shall state:

- a. The correct status of the Exhibition whether Championship Exhibition, Members Parade, Open Parade etc.
- b. The name of the Judge for each Breed of dog; and the Schedule shall state the Closing Date of entries.
- c. Persons or dogs participating at any DogsNT Sanctioned or Approved event do so at their own risk **(per Rule 3.1.4) (07/20)**

3.5.3 Both Schedule and Catalogue shall also state: **(07/20)**

- a. The judging order for any Special Classes offered. **(07/20)**

3.5.4 All Schedules and Catalogues shall contain the details of all Special Prizes for which more than one (1) win is required. A list of the names and the number of wins and/or points recorded by each prior winner shall be listed in Catalogues.

3.5.5 The conditions as set out in the approved Schedule and Exhibition catalogue must be strictly adhered to unless the permission of Council is obtained no less than seven (7) days prior to the event. Exhibitors shall be given the option of withdrawing their exhibits and receiving a refund of their entry Fee.

3.5.6 A reasonable number of Catalogues must be made available to the public at all Exhibitions held under these Rules.

3.5.7 The following words must be printed in all Conformation Exhibition catalogues:

- *"ANKC Challenge & Best of Breed Certificates are offered at this Exhibition, one (1) Challenge Certificate for each sex of every Breed and one (1) Best of Breed Certificate replacing the Challenge Certificate for the Best of Breed winner. These certificates will be awarded at the discretion of the judge."*

Where Neuter Classes (classes 15, 16, 17 or 18) are offered at an Exhibition the following statement must replace the one above:

- *“ANKC Challenge, Best of Breed, Neuter and Best Neuter of Breed Certificates are offered at this Exhibition, one (1) Challenge Certificate and one (1) Neuter Certificate for each sex of every Breed and one (1) Best of Breed Certificate replacing the Challenge Certificate for the Best of Breed winner and one (1) Best Neuter of Breed Certificate replacing the Neuter Certificate for the Best Neuter of Breed winner. These certificates will be awarded at the discretion of the judge.”*

3.5.8 The name of the Exhibitor and the registered name of the exhibit, including any Titles, together with the dog's date of birth and registration number, shall be published in Catalogues. EXCEPT that Parade Catalogues need only the name of the Exhibitor, the registered name and number, and the date of birth of the exhibit.

3.5.9 Catalogues must also include the names of the;

- a. Exhibition Manager
- b. Ring Steward/s
- c. NACA Representative
- d. The NACA Representative and the Trial/Show Manager cannot be the same person at any one (1) Exhibition. **(11/11/2021)**

3.6 – ENTRIES: ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER AN EXHIBITION

3.6.1 At the official closing date for entries advertised in the Schedule, the exhibits must be registered with, and the owners/partners owners must be Ordinary financial Members of a state-controlling body affiliated with the ANKC. **(10/19)**

3.6.2 Handlers at all competitions must be financial Ordinary Members or a financial Handler Member of a state controlling body affiliated with the ANKC. The minimum age to handle an exhibit at approved NT Exhibitions is seven (7) years of age. **(10/19)**

3.6.3 To enter a dog in an Exhibition all details on the approved entry form must be completed by at least one (1) owner or lessee who is also an Ordinary Member of an ANKC recognised controlling body and endorsed with an original signature of the member. **(10/19)**

3.6.4 To enter a dog in an Exhibition all details on the approved entry form **must be completed by at least one owner or lessee** who is also an Ordinary Member of an ANKC recognised controlling body and endorsed with an original signature of the member. Electronic entries may be accepted providing they contain a statement by the owners and as to the fitness of the dog. **(10/19)**

- The statement to read;

I hereby certify that: *“The exhibit details entered above are correct and I/We apply to enter this exhibit in terms of and in the conditions set out in the State Controlling Bodies Constitution Rules and Regulations by which I agree to be bound, and this exhibit has not within the said period of three months been in kennels affected with Distemper, Canine Hepatitis, Parvo Virus or any other contagious or infectious disease and is currently vaccinated in accordance with A.V.A. vaccination policies”.*

- **NOTE:** This may be done as a checkbox on the electronic entry. **(12/14)**

3.6.5 *Intentionally deleted (13/10/2022)*

- 3.6.6** The entry form must be forwarded to the Affiliate conducting the Exhibition together with the prescribed fee.
- 3.6.7** Any person making an entry for an Exhibition shall be liable for the Fees payable whether or not the dog entered is exhibited.
- 3.6.8** It is the responsibility of the owner or lessee to ensure that all information supplied on the entry form is correct (to clarify this rule applies to entry forms only – all other official forms must be signed by all parties).
- 3.6.9** a. ENCLOSED Shoes **must** be worn when exhibiting a dog in any Exhibition.
b. No spike shoes will be allowed to be worn at any Exhibition.
- 3.6.10** When entered for any Exhibition, a dog must be solely and unconditionally the property of or leased by, the Exhibitor in accordance with the Rules in Section 7.
- 3.6.11** Any dog over the age of six (6) months entered in a Conformation Exhibition must be entire with two (2) apparently normal testes descended and in the scrotum. **Neuter classes accepted.**
- 3.6.12** Associate Registered dogs shall be admitted into all Trials except where eligibility restrictions have been determined by the Trial Rules of the ANKC.
- 3.6.13** For Junior Handler Classes ONLY, the exhibit to be handled must be over the age of twelve (12) months, it must be entered in the Exhibition, or an entry form must be lodged noting the class as “*Junior Handler Only*”. If the dog is not entered in the Exhibition, then an application must be made to the Exhibition Manager to have the dog on the grounds (refer to **Rule 3.36.1**).
- 3.6.14** A contracted Ring Steward may exhibit, and handle exhibits at the same Conformation Exhibition PROVIDED they do NOT handle any dogs in the Group/s and/or Specials for which they are contracted to Ring Steward. **(16/04/2023)**

3.7 - EXPOSURE TO DISEASE

- 3.7.1** All dogs entered in any sanctioned Exhibition must have been inoculated against Distemper, Parvo Virus & Hepatitis in accordance with A.V.A guidelines and must not have been exposed to the risk of any infectious or contagious diseases within seven (7) weeks prior to the date of the Exhibition. Signing the Owners declaration shall indicate acceptance of this condition of entry. The owner of any dog entered in an Exhibition held under these rules may be called upon at any time by Council or its representative to provide proof of inoculation in the form of an inoculation certificate from a qualified Veterinarian or a statutory declaration if required.
- 3.7.2** An Exhibitor knowingly entering a dog which is suffering from, or within seven (7) weeks immediately preceding an Exhibition has been exposed to Distemper, Parvo Virus, Hepatitis, or other debilitating diseases shall render the owner liable to such punishment as Council may decide.

3.8 - REFUSAL OF ENTRIES

- 3.8.1** Entries may be refused if not made out in accordance with the rules of the NACA.
- 3.8.2** The committee of an affiliated club shall have the right to refuse the entry or entries submitted by any exhibitor provided the decision is made at the properly convened and constituted meetings of that committee. The Affiliate must notify the NACA within three (3) days of such a decision.

- 3.8.3** Any exhibitor so penalised shall be notified within three (3) days of the closing date of entries of the Exhibition concerned. The exhibitor shall have the right of an appeal to the Council within seven (7) days of receiving the notice.
- 3.8.4** Should any member offend at a club event, Exhibition or otherwise, and it is considered by the club that it would be justified in refusing a future entry or entries the offending member is to be notified immediately after the decision is taken and the reason provided to the member in writing.
- 3.8.5** Council may call upon the committee at any time to give its reason/s for any such refusal.
- 3.8.6** All entry forms must be kept by the club for at least three (3) months from the last day of the Exhibition and on request be delivered to the NACA.

3.9 - CLOSE OF ENTRIES

- 3.9.1** Entries for any Exhibition (with the exception of Sweepstakes entry), shall close twenty-one (21) clear days before the opening date of the Exhibition or as published in the Schedule. (Refer Rule 3.6.4 and, in special circumstances, different closing dates may be approved in writing by the Council) **(09/19)**
- 3.9.2** If an Exhibitor reports **before the judging** of a Conformation Class that he has entered a dog in a Class for which it is ineligible, the Exhibition Manager shall transfer such a dog to the appropriate Class as determined by age or to the Open Class of its Breed and sex **before** judging commences.
- 3.9.3** In cases where the information supplied on an entry form differs from that on the Registration Certificate, the latter shall be regarded as correct for the purpose of the Exhibition and until the rectification is properly made thereto.

3.10 – EXHIBITIONS

- 3.10.1** The first day of an Exhibition means the first day on which the judging of dogs commences.

3.11 - POSTPONEMENT OF AN EXHIBITION

- 3.11.1** An Exhibition may not be postponed for more than one (1) month unless with the special permission of the Council.

3.12 - AGE OF DOGS

- 3.12.1** In all Classes limited to dogs of a specified age, **the age of the dog on the first day of the Exhibition shall be taken as being his age.** A dog's age is determined on the anniversary of his birth in both months and years i.e.; a dog born on January the 10th turns four (4) months old at 00.01 hrs on May the 10th of the same year. He turns one (1) year old at 00.01 hrs on January the 10th of the following year.

If, after the closing date for entry, any Exhibition is postponed for not more than one (1) month, the age of the dogs entered shall be computed to the original date of the Exhibition as advertised in the Schedule. If an Exhibition is postponed for MORE than one (1) month - then all ages of dogs must be re-assessed.

3.13 - BREEDS AND PURE-BRED VARIETIES

- 3.13.1** The Groups, Breeds and Varieties of Breeds shall be those adopted by the ANKC from time to time. The Varieties of Breeds shall be taken as referring to the purebred varieties.

3.14 - RING SIZES AND TRIAL PRECINCTS

3.14.1 The minimum size of a Conformation ring will be fifteen (15) by twenty (20) meters (15m x 20m), or for indoor rings, a minimum of 240 square meters unless permission has been granted by Council.

Trial ring sizes are as prescribed in the ANKC Rule books for each discipline.

- a. Trial precincts shall be determined by the affiliate conducting the Trial.
- b. Wherever possible the Trial Precincts should not vary between trials held on the same grounds, except in instances of **3.14.2 (c)**.
- c. Where a Conformation Show and a Trial are conducted concurrently on the same grounds, the Show and Trial Managers shall determine and agree on the Trial Precinct and a clear line of demarcation shall be established.

3.15 – CLASSES

3.15.1 No Conformation Classes, other than those prescribed by the ANKC or having prior approval from Council shall be offered. The total number of Classes provided for any one (1) breed or variety of breed shall not exceed the maximum laid down by the NACA from time to time.

3.15.2 At all Conformation Exhibitions, including All Breeds and Specialist Exhibitions, unless approval is applied and granted from Council, all Classes must be judged through to 'In Show Awards.'

3.15.3 The following judging order shall apply to all Conformation Exhibitions unless permission has been granted by Council;

- a. Breeds judged in order from Baby Puppy through to Neutered Class; at the conclusion of Breed judging.
- b. Group awards shall be judged commencing with Best Exhibit and Runner Up to Best Exhibit, then Classes from Baby Puppy to Neutered Classes. Special Classes to be at the conclusion of all Group judging.
- c. General Specials in Show awards shall be made commencing with Best Exhibit and Runner Up to Best Exhibit, then classes from Baby Puppy to Neutered Classes.
- d. Special Classes at the conclusion of all General Special judging. Judging order of Special Classes must be advertised in the schedule.
- e. Junior Handler Classes are conducted under ANKC rules.

3.16 - CHALLENGE/BEST OF BREED–NEUTER AND BEST NEUTER OF BREED CERTIFICATES

3.16.1 The above certificates are issued as per the ANKC regulations.

3.17 - NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

3.17.1 Where a National Exhibition is held, no challenge certificates shall be offered or awarded for the breed/s involved in the National Exhibition, as per ANKC Regulations.

3.18 - PERPETUAL TROPHIES

- 3.18.1** A minimum value of \$100.00 is set for a perpetual trophy plus suitable engraving to the requirements of the Council and additional shields or plaques thereon.

3.19 - SPECIAL PRIZES

- 3.19.1** A Special Prize (of any description) is one that is offered at a competition for which **NO** entry fee is charged.
- 3.19.2** No dog shall be eligible to compete for a Special Prize at any Exhibition if, at that Exhibition, it has been beaten by a dog which is itself, eligible to compete for such Special Prize, or by a dog which has been beaten by an eligible one.
- 3.19.3** No dog shall be eligible to compete for a Special Prize unless it has competed in at least one (1) Ordinary Class at that Exhibition, provided that this last condition shall not affect the eligibility of any dog to compete for a Special Prize limited to the winner of a Special Class or Classes in which it is entered.

3.20 - APPOINTED JUDGES FOR SPECIAL PRIZES

- 3.20.1** At all Exhibitions and Parades, a Judge or Judges to act conjointly shall be appointed specially to judge all Special Prizes which involve adjudication on breeds of dogs which are scheduled to be judged by more than one (1) Judge. Save, as aforesaid, no single Judge shall award a Special Prize which is scheduled to be judged by more than one (1) Judge.
- 3.20.2** Subject to Rules **3.19.2** and **3.19.3**, all Special Prizes shall be confined to exhibits which have competed in the Class or Classes of the same description as such Special Prizes, provided that:
- a.** If there is no such Class offered for a breed or variety of breed, the fact shall not debar exhibits of that breed or variety of breed from competing for the Special Prize.
 - b.** Unless the conditions under which a Special Prize is offered for puppies define the age of such puppies, all exhibits which have competed in a Class or Classes for exhibits twelve (12) months of age or under of the breed or variety of breed stated, shall be eligible to compete, therefore (subject to Clause **3.20.2 (a)** above).

3.21 - PRIZES

- 3.21.1** No Prizes for which more than one (1) win is required shall be accepted by any Affiliate without the approval of the NACA.
- 3.21.2** No Class, Prize or Special Prize for dogs at any Open Exhibition shall be confined to dogs owned by a particular class or description of persons (Classes, Prizes or Special Prizes for exhibits excluded), unless a corresponding Class, Prize or Special Prize which is open to all dogs owned by all persons is offered, provided that when classification for only one (1) breed is offered this Rule shall apply to the awards 'Best Dog', 'Best Bitch' and 'Best Dog or Bitch'.
- 3.21.3** No Class prize or Special Prize may be inaugurated for dogs from a specified kennel or kennels or for the descendants of a specified dog or dogs (Progeny Class excepted), and no prize of a free service by any dog shall be permitted.
- 3.21.4** Conformation Affiliates are required to allocate not less than 20% of the total entry fees received towards trophies. This requirement includes the cost of trophies and sashes but excludes sponsored products.

3.22 - RIBBONS, SASHES, AND AWARD CARDS

3.22.1 At all Exhibitions held under these rules, other than those accepted by Council, wherever ribbons and/or Award cards are presented as Prizes, the name of the Affiliate conducting the Exhibition must be clearly marked on them.

3.22.2 Sashes must include the name of the Affiliate, the nature of the Exhibition and the appropriate Classes for which the sash is awarded. This excludes place ribbons and challenge ribbons.

3.22.3 Where Cards or Certificates are awarded at Exhibitions in lieu of sashes, they must include the nature of the Exhibition and the appropriate Classes for which the Cards or certificates are awarded. A provision for writing the name of the winning exhibit shall also be included.

3.22.4 If cards are awarded at Parades, they shall not bear more than the name of the club, the date of the fixture, whether first, second or third prize and the words 'Open Parade' or 'Members Parade' as the case may be.

3.23 - DUPLICATE CARDS & RIBBONS

3.23.1 Duplicate Award Cards or ribbons, if available, may be issued by the Affiliate concerned, only if the identifiable remains of the originals are produced, or they are or not received by the owner. Such issue is to be approved by the Host Committee.

3.24 - WITHHOLDING OF AWARDS

3.24.1 Where an objection has been lodged against any exhibit, NO Award or Prize shall be granted until such objection has been dealt with.

3.25 - DELIVERY OF PRIZES

3.25.1 All scheduled Awards/Prizes are to be presented at the Exhibition. Should exceptional circumstances make any Award not available, it must be forwarded to the Exhibitor within sixty (60) days of the close of the Exhibition.

3.25.2 Each Affiliate shall be deemed responsible for all Prizes or the monetary value thereof, offered for competition at its Exhibitions.

3.26 - AFFILIATES MUST PROVIDE AT FIXTURES

- a. First Aid box.
- b. A bowl of suitable disinfectant and a towel.
- c. A copy of the current NACA Rules and Constitution.
- d. A copy of the current relevant ANKC Regulations.
- e. A copy of the current breed standards.
- f. A copy of the current ANKC Junior Handler Manual.
- g. All entries received pertaining to that Exhibition.

3.27 - DOGS IN HARNESS & IDENTIFICATION

3.27.1 A dog in harness, or a dog wearing a collar on which the name of the dog, its owner or its Kennel name appears, shall not be allowed to enter the Judging Ring.

3.28 - AT AN EXHIBITION

3.28.1 Dogs shall be at the place of the Exhibition by the time stipulated in the Schedule.

3.28.2 Dogs must always be under effective control whilst in the precincts of any Exhibition.

3.28.3 Once dogs are called up for their breed/group judging they are required to remain in the assembly area until completion of their breed/group judging.

3.29 – VETTING AT TRIALS

3.29.1 Endurance Trials (ET) must have a Veterinary Surgeon in attendance.

3.29.2 Vetting shall be carried out by one (1) or more representatives of the affiliate conducting the trial. In the case of ET's these persons shall assist the Veterinary Surgeon.

3.29.3 Bitches in oestrus or showing a coloured discharge of any sort must not be permitted to compete in trials or be within the precincts of a Trial.

3.29.4 No preparation for concealing oestrus shall be used.

3.29.5 All entire bitches must be vetted to ensure compliance with rules **3.29.2** and **3.29.3**.

3.29.6 Any dog entering the trial precincts may be examined to determine if it is suffering any contagious or infectious disease or has any external parasites.

3.29.7 Any dog presented at a trial displaying signs of conditions outlined in **3.29.3**, **3.29.4** and **3.29.6** shall be required to leave the precincts immediately. Full details of dog, owner and condition shall be recorded on both the Trial Managers Report and NACA Reps Report.

3.30 - CONTAGIOUS AND/OR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

3.30.1 In the case of any person who exhibits a dog which to his knowledge has been:

- a.** Inoculated against distemper since the date which is two (2) weeks before that of this Exhibition. The Exhibition Committee may suspend or disqualify such person and/or dog from that Exhibition and shall send a full written statement of the proceeding to the NACA within forty-eight (48) hours of such suspension or disqualification.

3.31 - PROCEDURES

3.31.1 After the Ring Steward has given word to the Judge to proceed with the judging of a Class, no other Exhibit in that Class will be allowed to enter the judging ring, until that Class has been judged.

3.31.2 Interference with, and attracting the attention of, dogs whilst in the judging Ring by any person outside the Ring shall not be permitted. In the event of such an occurrence, the Ring Steward shall be empowered, after having warned the offender, to suspend judging and order the removal from the Exhibition of the person causing the interference or attraction.

3.31.3 Undue interference in any way with other dogs or their handlers whilst in the judging Ring, including 'Baiting' [ref: DogsNT Constitution: Part 1 – Preliminary: 4. Definitions (8)] by any person inside the Ring shall not be permitted. In the event of such an occurrence, the Ring Steward shall be empowered to suspend judging and order the removal from the judging ring of the person causing the interference and/or the dog handled by such person. **(08/21)**

3.31.4 At the time of judging, no person shall be allowed in the Judging Ring save the Judge, the properly appointed Steward or Stewards and the Exhibitor or his deputy with the dog eligible to compete in the Class or other competition.

3.31.5 Ring Stewards at Conformation Exhibitions must be a Member of a Controlling Body of the ANKC and on the Ring Stewards panel in that State/Territory.

3.32 - CONDUCT OF AN EXHIBITION

3.32.1 All Award and Best in Group winners **must** remain on the grounds until the completion of the Exhibition. Exhibits leaving the grounds must advise and receive permission to do so from the Exhibition Manager. **ALL** Award and Best in Group winners leaving the grounds prior to completion of the Exhibition will/may forfeit any prizes and/or awards unless there are extenuating circumstances to be determined by Council.

3.32.2 Any dog not exhibited in all the Classes in which it is correctly entered shall be disqualified from winning and/or the Exhibitor from retaining any prize awarded at the exhibition unless it has been properly withdrawn.

- 3.32.3**
- a. If a Challenge winner is found to be ineligible, the Reserve Challenge exhibit shall be awarded the points less one (1).
 - b. If a Neuter Certificate winner is found to be ineligible, the Reserve Certificate exhibit shall be awarded the points less one (1).
 - c. Where a Best of Breed winner is found to be ineligible NO elevation of position is permitted. This breed shall not be represented in the Best in Group line-up.
 - d. Where a Best Neuter of Breed winner is found to be ineligible NO elevation of position is permitted. This breed shall not be represented in the Best in Neuter Group line-up.

3.32.4 At Exhibitions where Conformation and Trials are conducted concurrently, judging of Conformation Classes shall take precedence and the Trials Committee shall allow competitors to compete out of catalogue order.

3.32 - EXHIBITS ONLY

3.33.1 No dog other, than an exhibit, shall be allowed within the precincts of an Exhibition during its continuance without the permission of the Exhibition Manager.

3.34 – EXHIBIT NUMBERS

3.34.1 All dogs entered for Exhibition shall be allotted an Exhibit Number and the person handling such exhibit shall display such number clearly whilst the dog is being exhibited.

3.34.2 Numerals on Exhibit Numbers shall not be less than 3cm in height and of proportionate width.

3.34.3 Not more than one (1) Exhibit Number is to be displayed by a handler at any one time, and under no circumstances shall an exhibit be judged without the handler clearly displaying its correct Exhibit Number.

3.35 - WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION

3.35.1 Once entered for any Exhibition, a dog may not be withdrawn from competition unless notice has been given to the Exhibition Committee and its permission to do so obtained **EXCEPT-**

- a. Where the Judge announced in a Schedule is changed. A dog may be withdrawn before the commencement of judging by the owner or his Agent by giving notice of his intention to the Exhibition Committee and, on application, a refund of entry fees shall be made.
- b. When Conformation and Obedience Classes are being held concurrently a dog may be withdrawn from either section without affecting its eligibility to compete in the other.

- c. Where the closing date for entries has not passed a dog may be withdrawn from competition by the owner or his agent by giving notice of his intention to the Exhibition Committee and, upon application, a refund of entry fees shall be made.
- d. Bitches entered in Exhibition classes that come into oestrus after the close of entries may withdraw from the competition without penalty.
- e. Where an exhibit is injured and unable to compete at an Exhibition after the close of entries it may withdraw from the competition without penalty. A veterinary certificate proving injury shall be supplied by the owner.

3.36 - DAMAGE TO EXHIBITS

3.36.1 Affiliates holding an Exhibition under these Rules, shall not under any circumstances hold themselves responsible for any loss or mis-delivery of exhibits at the Exhibition or any damage thereto.

3.37 - DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEIT OF PRIZES

3.37.1 A dog may be disqualified from Exhibition and/or the Exhibitor from retaining any Prizes awarded in connection with it at the Exhibition concerned by Council direct, or by the Exhibition Committee on objection, subject to appeal to Council if it is proved that:

- a. Any act which otherwise alters the natural formation of the dog, or any part thereof, or anything that has been done calculated to deceive.
- b. The dog is not “**fit for purpose**” as defined in the ANKC Breed Standards. This may include, but not be limited to, any defects in sight and/or hearing.
- c. The owners of exhibits referred to in **3.37.1** may be called upon to submit the exhibit to examination by a veterinarian or a NACA approved panel for verification of the objection.

3.38 - EXHIBITION PAPERWORK

3.38.1 A properly compiled catalogue and appropriate way of recording results must be provided for each exhibition (hard copy or electronic). The Exhibition Manager must retain for at least three (3) months from the last day of the Exhibition; any documentation not submitted to the NACA. **(09/06/2022)**

3.38.2 The Exhibition Manager shall forward to the NACA, within ten (10) days of the closing of the Exhibition, an official Catalogue containing a full and correct list of all entries and with all the awards and absentees correctly marked therein, the Ring Stewards charts (if any) and Contracts (if not submitted prior to the Exhibition), and Exhibition Manager's report. **(13/09/2022)**

3.38.3 It shall be the duty of the Exhibition Committee to report all reported incidents to the NACA within ten (10) days and to supply Council with all possible evidence of the actions and the names and addresses of witnesses. The responsibility of investigation and taking appropriate action in connection with unsportsmanlike or unseemly actions within the precincts of an Exhibition shall rest with the Council which shall deal with the matter and impose such penalty as it deems fit.

- 3.38.4 The Exhibition Manager shall forward to the NACA within ten (10) days of the closing of the Exhibition, in writing, full particulars for all dogs found to be suffering from any of the diseases or defects referred to in Rule 3.30 or to have been prepared for Exhibition in contravention of or otherwise than in accordance with these Rules.
- 3.38.5 Where an Act of Canine Aggression occurs at an Exhibition, the Exhibition Committee shall investigate, act on and report to the NACA as detailed in Section 4 of these rules.

3.39 – SWEEPSTAKES

- 3.39.1 **CONTRACTS:** as for regular Championship classes, Affiliates are required to contract a Sweepstakes Judge (contracting trainees is preferred by DogsNT). **Trainees must complete an official judges' contract in order to judge sweepstakes.** Affiliates may contract one (1) or two (2) Sweepstake judges – dependent on whether they are running one (1) or more Championship shows. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.2 **JUDGING ORDER:** all Sweepstakes classes must be conducted prior to the commencement of Championship Show judging in compliance with **Rule 5.8.7 (a).** **(12/19)**
- 3.39.3 **JUDGING PROCEDURE:** exhibits enter the ring as one (1) class altogether. They are examined and moved by the judge. The judge then makes their selection of three (3) place winners only. These being: first place, second place and third place. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.4 **CLASS SWEEPSTAKES:** Can be offered for any Age Class. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.5 **GROUP SWEEPSTAKES:** Affiliates may also offer Sweepstakes for one (1) particular group. The trainee must award the following placings: first place, second place and third place. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.6 **BABY PUPPIES:** Baby Puppies cannot compete in Group Sweepstakes. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.7 **NUMBER OF SWEEPSTAKES OFFERED:** Affiliates may offer more than one (1) sweepstakes class and contract one (1) or two (2) judges – depending on whether they are running one (1) or more Championship shows. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.8 **SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE AS AN EXHIBITOR:** Sweepstakes judges are permitted to enter the Championship Show in accordance with **Rule 5.8.7 (a).** **(12/19)**
- 3.39.9 **ENTRY PROCESS:** Sweepstake classes can be entered 'on the day' or prior with regular entry. **(12/19)**
- 3.39.10 **ELIGIBLE EXHIBITS:** to be eligible for a Sweepstakes class the dog must also be entered in an Ordinary class at the Championship show (dogs owned or bred by the judge are excluded from entering). **(12/19)**
- 3.39.11 **SWEEPSTAKES CLASSES:** May be held for champions or any class of dogs (Neuters maybe entered at Championship Shows where Neuter classes are not scheduled). **(04/24) (Ref: Dogs Australia Regulations: PART 5 Conformation Show (Effective 1 April 2024) - Section 1 – DEFINITIONS and CLASSES - 1.3 Special Classes: 1.3.6).**
- 3.39.12 **ENTRY FEES:** Sweepstakes' entry fees shall all be capped at a fee as determined by DogsNT Council. Entry fees for Sweepstakes are not considered by DogsNT to be part of the Affiliates overall entry income. **(12/19)**

3.39.13 AWARDS: Entry fees in their entirety are provided as prizes to the first three (3) placegetters – this being as near as possible: 50% first place, 30% second place, 20% third place. Affiliates are NOT required to provide any awards/prizes – but may do so at their discretion. **(12/19)**

3.39.14 DOGSNT FEES: Sweepstake classes are exempt from all DogsNT charges – there are no ground fees or exhibitor levies attached to these classes. **(12/19)**

3.39.15 AFFILIATE’S OBLIGATION: See - **Rule 3.1.11** (above). **(12/19)**

3.40 - BRACE CLASS

3.40.1 Brace: for two (2) dogs each six (6) months of age and over, of the same breed, each of which have competed in at least one (1) other breed class or neuter class at the same Championship show and each of which is registered in the SAME ownership and are handled in the judging ring by one (1) person. **(12/19)**