

## DogsNT Regulations – Section 4 - Aggressive Dogs.

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### 4.1 Responsibilities of Owner or Handler:

Each owner, exhibitor or handler at an exhibition or event must take all action necessary to ensure that any dog under their control or responsibility does not behave in an aggressive manner.

### 4.2 Reporting incidents of an Aggressive Dog:

- a) Any person at an exhibition or event observes an incident where a dog has acted in an aggressive or savage manner causing actual damage or unreasonable danger to any person or exhibit, should report the incident to the exhibition or event Manager as soon as possible after the incident.
- b) In the case of a Judge, Steward or a Club Official conducting the event, this is obligatory.

### 4.3 Inquiry Committee:

- a) Upon receipt of such a report the exhibition or event Manager must appoint an Inquiry Committee which must meet immediately to consider the matter.
- b) The inquiry Committee will consist of at least three (3) Financial Members of DogsNT who are not Executive Members of the Affiliate hosting the event, show/trial Secretary for the day, or any exhibitor competing in the same group/trial as the exhibit, or a Council Member. **(06/19)**

In the event of an Affiliate being unable to establish an Inquiry Committee as required by Rule 4.3 b), the following rules will apply: **(06/19)**

1. Dog to be removed from all further competition and/or participation.
  2. Written statements to be obtained from all parties involved and sufficient details obtained for a review.
  3. Affiliate to immediately hold a meeting where the complaint has been determined to have merit and establish an Inquiry Committee if the conditions of 4.3 b) are not able to be met.
  4. Affiliate to refer the matter to DogsNT Council within seven (7) days.
  5. If an Affiliate cannot meet the requirements as per 2. and/or 3. – the matter is to be reported in writing to DogsNT within twenty-four (24) hours.
  6. DogsNT Council will make the determination in regards to the penalty, if any, which is to be applied.
- c) The Inquiry must look at all relevant evidence relating to the incident.
  - d) The person making the report must give oral and written evidence (statement) and witnesses may give oral and written evidence (statement).
  - e) The owner or person responsible for the dog has the right to be in attendance at all times and be

allowed to question witnesses and make statements in defence of the dog.

- f) If the Inquiry Committee is satisfied that the incident involving the dog attacking or attempting to attack any person at an exhibition or event, or another dog, or other sufficiently aggressive behaviour, the Inquiry Committee may declare the dog to be an aggressive dog, providing the Committee believes that no justified provocation occurred.
- g) The Inquiry Committee shall then advise in writing the person responsible for the care and control of the dog of its declaration as such.

#### **4.4 Declaration of an Aggressive Dog:**

- a) Where the Inquiry Committee declares a dog to be an aggressive dog;
  - 1. The person responsible for the dog shall immediately remove the dog from the show/event ground; and
  - 2. The dog shall thus be disqualified from further exhibition at the current event or any Show or Trial until and if the disqualification is raised by Dogs NT Council.
  - 3. During the period of such disqualification the dog shall not be allowed to enter or remain on any show or trial ground within the jurisdiction of the ANKC.
- b) The event Manager shall ensure that all the above procedures in respect of a complaint of an aggressive dog are followed.
- c) Where the Inquiry Committee declares the dog to be an aggressive dog; the Affiliate concerned, must within the next seven (7) days, provide Dogs NT Administrator:
  - 1. With a written report of the incident, and;
  - 2. The Inquiry Committee's minutes and decision, and;
  - 3. Copies of all statements in writing concerning the incident, and;
  - 4. A copy of the advice referred to in 4.3(g) above, and;
  - 5. The relevant catalogue pages and any other relevant documents.

#### **4.5 Responsibilities of Dogs NT:**

- a) At the next available DogsNT Council meeting the Council shall:
  - 1. Consider the reports and,
  - 2. If satisfied that the dog is likely to constitute a danger to persons, dogs or property at an exhibition or event,
  - 3. May suspend, disqualify or otherwise debar the dog from competition, or
  - 4. May impose conditions concerning the exhibition or trialling of the dog;
  - 5. In either event for such period as Council deems necessary.
- b) If the Council has not finally dealt with the matter within two (2) months of the incident, the owner of the dog may apply in writing to DogsNT for the removal of the disqualification.
- c) Upon such an application the Council shall forthwith either;

1. Grant the application; or
2. Reach a decision about the matter.
3. If a decision is not reached within one (1) month of receipt of the application, the application shall be deemed to have been granted.

**4.6 Re-assessment of aggressive dogs:**

- a) A dog which is required to be re-assessed is to return to DogsNT's environment (or at the discretion of DogsNT Council, may be done elsewhere), to be assessed by a recognized panel, which is approved by DogsNT. **(08/19)**
- b) All documents and reports of previously reported aggressive acts and subsequent remedial actions if available should be provided to the assessor.
- c) All costs involved with the provision of re-assessment, indemnity and subsequent or related costs will be borne by the owner.

**4.7 Suspended Registration**

- a) Any suspended dog cannot be mated or used at stud from the date of suspension. Where the dog had been mated or used at stud prior to the date of suspension the litter may be registered at the discretion of DogsNT. **(06/19)**