

DOGS NSW RAFT Process for 2026 Rule Reviews

31/3/26 - Rule Review initiated by DOGS Australia for the following rules:

- a. *Rules for the Conduct of Field Trials for Pointer & Setter Trials;*
- b. *Rules for the Conduct of Field Trials for Utility Gundogs;*
- c. *Rules for the Conduct of Field Trials for All Pointing Breeds of Gundogs;*
- d. *Rules for the Conduct of Retrieving Ability Tests for Gundogs;*
- e. *Regulations Part 3B – Field Trial Judges Training Scheme*
- f. *Regulations Part 3I – Retrieving Ability Test for Gundogs Judges Training Scheme*

April 2026 – Notice of Rule Review posted on Retrieving NSW Facebook Group & in the Weekly Woof – submissions invited from interested parties¹ – to be reposted in May 2026.

28 February 2027 – Closing date for receipt of submissions to NSW RAFT.

31 March 2027 - NSW RAFT disseminates submissions to interested parties for their consideration.

1 April to 30 May 2027 – NSW RAFT consults with interested parties on the submissions.

June 2027 – NSW RAFT makes final submissions to DOGS NSW. In making the final submissions the NSW RAFT will consider:

¹ “Interested parties” includes financially current DOGS NSW Members including Triallers, Judges, Stewards, Administrators and Clubs etc. that have been involved with, or conducted, relevant events in the preceding three (3) years. Other persons may also make submissions, but they will carry less weight than parties currently involved in the sport.

DOGS NSW RAFT Process for 2026 Rule Reviews

- a. Whether, in the opinion of the NSW RAFT, the proposed rule changes are in the best interests of the sport; and
- b. The combined feedback from the interested parties. Where the NSW RAFT makes recommendations that are inconsistent with the majority feedback received, the RAFT shall advise the Board of Directors of the conflicting opinions and provide further rationale for their recommendation(s).

31 July 2027 – Closing date for DOGS NSW submissions to be made to DOGS Australia.

October 2027 – DOGS Australia to distribute submissions received from Member Bodies.

November 2027 - NSW RAFT to distribute combined submissions to DOGS NSW interested parties for their consideration.

1 December 2027 to 30 April 2028 – NSW RAFT consults with interested parties on the submissions.

June 2028 – NSW RAFT advises DOGS NSW of its position in relation to each submission. In making the final determinations the NSW RAFT will consider the matters referred to earlier.

July 2028 – Submissions are voted on at the National RAFT Meeting.

October 2028 – DOGS Australia Board meets and considers submissions of National RAFT.

1 January 2029 – New rules commence.