

BREEDING DOGS/CATS CHECKLIST

REFERENCE: ANIMAL WELFARE CODE OF PRACTICE BREEDING DOGS AND CATS

PROPRIETOR: _____

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

LOCATION: _____

(4.1) RESPONSIBILITIES/COMPETENCY OF STAFF

4.1.1 The person in charge of the facility is responsible for the facility complying with all enforceable provisions within this code.

Compliant Not Compliant

4.1.2 The person in charge of the facility must be aware of their responsibilities towards dogs and cats. Each day, a person must be present to meet the requirements of this Code, and must be knowledgeable and competent to provide for:

1. The care and welfare of dogs and cats

Compliant Not Compliant

2. The feeding and watering of dogs and cats

Compliant Not Compliant

3. Protection from distress or injury caused by other animals or people

Compliant Not Compliant

4. Cleaning and proper hygiene in the facility

Compliant Not Compliant

5. Identifying signs of common diseases

Compliant Not Compliant

4.1.3 Where trainees and volunteers are employed by the facility, they must work under the supervision of trained and experienced staff.

Compliant Not Compliant

(5.1) QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

5.1.1 The following information must be recorded relating to each dog or cat housed at the breeding facility:

1. A description of the dog or cat which includes: name, m/chip number; sex (includes whether desexed); breed; colour; distinguishing features; vaccination status; details of any special medical/dietary requirements

5.1.1 continued

2. The date of birth; and the date of acquisition/arrival, and registration number (for purebred animals) of owned and leased dogs and cats

Compliant Not Compliant

3. The name, address and telephone number of owner or lessee of the dog and cat

Compliant Not Compliant

4. Details of preventative and veterinary treatment of dogs and cats, including routine husbandry procedures such as worming and parasite control

Compliant Not Compliant

5. For leased dogs or cats, the name and contact telephone number of the veterinary practitioner who normally attends the animal

Compliant Not Compliant

6. The disposal of owned and leased dogs and cats including the date and details of the disposal

Compliant Not Compliant

5.1.2 Information which details each litter bred must be recorded and must include: the name and m/c number of both the dam and the sire; the date of mating(s); the date of whelping/queening; ID details of each animal within the litter: inc. abnormalities or deaths

Compliant Not Compliant

5.1.3 Records must be retained for no less than three years, at the facility, and all staff must be able to produce the records

Compliant Not Compliant

5.1.4 The facility must have a documented program in place to control insects, ectoparasites and vertebrate pests. This document must be kept at the facility and all staff must be able to produce the document and must be familiar with its content

Compliant Not Compliant

Compliant Not Compliant

5.1.5 Each facility must have a documented procedure for the swift removal of animals from the facility, in the case of emergency. This document must be kept at the facility and all staff must be able to produce the document and must be familiar with its content.

Compliant Not Compliant

(6.1) ACCOMMODATION

6.1.1.1 Vehicles, caravans, portable crates and the crawl space under any dwelling must not be used as permanent housing for dogs and cats

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.2 Breeding facilities must have a continuous water supply, adequate to meet the daily requirements of the dogs and cats held

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.3 Breeding facilities must be designed, constructed, serviced and maintained in a way that provides for the good health and well being of the animals, which prevents the transmission of infectious disease agents, the escape of animals and does not cause injury to either animals or humans

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.4 Animals must be provided with protection from rain and wind, direct sunlight or other adverse weather conditions and must be provided with a clean and dry dedicated sleeping area

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.5 Where a facility houses both dogs and cats, cat housing must be a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog housing to minimise the stress created by the sound, sight or smell of dogs

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.6 Dog housing and cat housing must meet the minimum pen sizes shown in Tables 1 and 2. These limits do not apply to dogs and cats under veterinary care for a disease or injury

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.7 Dogs and cats must not be in extended contact with wet floors

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.8 Each cat must be provided with a suitable box in which to hide or sleep

6.1.1.9 All sleeping areas for cats and dogs must have clean, hygienic, dry and soft bedding, appropriate to the species and breed, sufficient for the number of animals held, and sufficient to insulate them from the floor

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.10 Each confined cat must be provided with a litter tray which is at least 1.2 times the length of the cat, and which contains a sufficient depth of material such as cat litter, sawdust, shavings, sand or shredded paper

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.11 An isolation facility must be available either at the facility or vet hospital, and must have documented and demonstrable biosecurity measures in place

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.12 Animals known or suspected to be suffering from a significant infectious disease or severe injury must be taken directly to the isolation facility unless written assurances from a registered veterinary practitioner regarding the appropriateness of housing with other animals is received

Compliant Not Compliant

6.1.1.13 A cat isolation facility must be a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog enclosures to minimise the stress created by the sound, sight or smell of dogs

Compliant Not Compliant

(6.2) ENVIRONMENT

6.2.1.1 Dog and cat housing must have a shaded area when exposed to sunlight

Compliant Not Compliant

6.2.1.2 Dogs and cats must be protected from extremes of temperature

Compliant Not Compliant

6.2.1.3 The duration and intensity of artificial lighting, where used, must be as close as possible to natural conditions, sufficient to allow thorough inspection and observation of animals, and which mimic the prevailing natural light cycles. Animals must be protected from excessive light which is generated from an external source

Compliant Not Compliant

Compliant Not Compliant

6.2.1.4 Animal housing areas must be provided with ventilation which is sufficient to maintain the health of the animals; while minimising undue draughts, odours and moisture condensation

Compliant Not Compliant

6.2.1.5 Air ventilation devices, where used, must have an air change rate which is sufficient to distribute fresh air evenly to all of the areas holding animals; and must have a back-up system in the case that the ventilation device becomes inoperable

Compliant Not Compliant

(6.3) SECURITY

6.3.1.1 The facility must be able to be reasonably secured to prevent access to the facility by unauthorised people

Compliant Not Compliant

6.3.1.2 Dog and cat housing must be fitted with a secure closing device that cannot be opened by the dogs and cats held

Compliant Not Compliant

6.3.1.3 An animal must not be able to escape except in circumstances that cannot reasonably be foreseen and guarded against

Compliant Not Compliant

6.3.1.4 Unauthorised people must not have access to dog and cat holding areas unless under the supervision of a staff member

Compliant Not Compliant

6.3.1.5 Functioning firefighting equipment must be readily available and staff trained and practiced in its use

Compliant Not Compliant

6.3.1.6 All potential poisons and harmful substances, whether in storage or in use, must be kept out of reach of dogs and cats

Compliant Not Compliant

(7.1) ANIMAL CARE

7.1.1.1 Each animal must be individually identified

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.2 Measures must be implemented to protect dogs

7.1.1.3 Dogs and cats must be protected from distress or injury caused by interference by people

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.4 Dogs and cats which must be housed singly in a quiet, warm and dry area isolated from other animals include:

1. Animals with dependant young

Compliant Not Compliant

2. Animals about to give birth

Compliant Not Compliant

3. Animals in season, where it is not the intention to breed

Compliant Not Compliant

4. Sick or injured animals

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.5 Dogs and cats that may be distressed by the presence of other dogs and cats must be housed in a manner that prevents visual and minimises or reduces olfactory contact

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.6 The coats of long haired dogs and cats must be groomed by brushing or clipping at a frequency which ensures that the dogs and cats coats are not left dirty, matted, tangled or unkempt

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.7 Dogs must have the opportunity to exercise for at least 20 minutes daily, except under the written advice of a veterinary practioner. This can be provided by allowing the animal access to an exercise area to run freely, or by walking them on a lead

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.8 Exercise areas must be supervised to ensure that dogs contained within it are compatible

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.9 Dogs must not be exercised in any way which may pose the risk of serious injury, eg attached to a motor vehicle

Compliant Not Compliant

7.1.1.10 Dogs and Cats must receive environmental enrichment, recognising the physiological status and special needs of differing ages & species, to ensure good psychological health

and cats from distress or injury caused by other animals
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.1.1.11 Dogs & Cats that are unable to feed themselves must only be kept where adequate facilities & expertise is available for artificial rearing
Compliant **Not Compliant**

(7.2) FOOD AND WATER

7.2.1.1 Clean water must be available at all times at a temperature, quantity & quality that meets the physiological needs of the dog & cat
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.2 Dogs & Cats must receive a balanced & complete diet which allows them to maintain good health & growth, recognising the physiological status & special needs of differing ages & species
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.3 Puppies & kittens under four months of age must be offered a sufficient quantity of a balanced and complete diet at least three times daily, from three weeks of age
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.4 Dogs & cats which are co-housed with other animals must be monitored during feeding to ensure that all animals are eating their own share
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.5 Uneaten, spoiled or stale food must be removed and disposed of promptly
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.6 Food & water containers must be removed, cleaned & replaced immediately if noticed to be contaminated by urine, faeces, vomitus & the like.
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.2.1.7 Food must be stored to prevent its deterioration or contamination
Compliant **Not Compliant**

(7.3) CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

7.3.1.1 Areas housing animals within a facility must be cleaned at least once daily
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.2 Animal enclosures must be disinfected at least

Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.3 Animal enclosures must be cleaned and disinfected before new animals are introduced or before whelping or kitting
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.4 Bedding must be cleaned or changed at least once daily & disinfected at least once a week
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.5 Exercise areas must be cleaned daily or before new dogs are introduced to the area
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.6 Food preparation & storage areas, food & water containers, & utensils & equipment used in the preparation & provision of food, must be maintained to a hygienic standard
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.7 Collection drains must be cleaned daily
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.8 Litter trays must be checked, scooped & replenished daily
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.9 Litter trays must be changed, washed & disinfected at least once every 3 days
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.3.1.10 Litter trays that are saturated with urine must be changed immediately
Compliant **Not Compliant**

(7.4) TRANSPORT

7.4.1.1 All cats and dogs must be transported in such a manner which addresses their size & age. Cats & dogs & incompatible animals of the same species, must be physically separated during transport to prevent injury, harm or distress
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.4.1.2 Dogs & cats must not be transported in the boot of a car
Compliant **Not Compliant**

7.4.1.3 Vehicles must have adequate ventilation & shade, sufficient to maintain good health & to avoid distress

once weekly

Compliant Not Compliant

7.4.1.4 All vehicles used extensively for the purpose of transporting animals must be thoroughly cleaned & disinfected after use to minimise the possibility of transmission of infectious disease agents between consignments of animals

Compliant Not Compliant

7.4.1.5 The minimum exercise requirement of this Code applies to transported dogs

Compliant Not Compliant

(8.1) HEALTH CHECKS

8.1.1.1 All dogs & cats must be inspected at least once daily to monitor their health & wellbeing. The person checking the animals must note all adverse observations where an animal is not:

1. Eating

Compliant Not Compliant

2. Drinking inc Kittens puppies drinking milk

Compliant Not Compliant

3. Defecating

Compliant Not Compliant

4. Urinating

Compliant Not Compliant

5. Behaving normally

Compliant Not Compliant

6. Showing any obvious signs of illness or distress

Compliant Not Compliant

7. Able to move about freely

Compliant Not Compliant

8. Displaying a normal coat

Compliant Not Compliant

8.1.1.2 Any changes in health status must be promptly reported to the person in charge of the facility for appropriate action

Compliant Not Compliant

8.1.1.3 Where there is evidence that whelping or kitting has commenced (eg straining or contracting) & there is no progress within 2 hours, the bitch or queen must be examined by a veterinary practitioner & appropriate remedial action taken

Compliant Not Compliant

(8.2) VETERINARY CARE

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.2 The contact details for the veterinary practitioner must be posted in a location which enables staff & visitors to the facility to see them

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.3 Appropriate veterinary treatment must be provided for sick or injured dogs

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.4 Veterinary advice must be obtained in the event of unexplained illness or deaths

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.5 Permission in writing must be obtained from a dog or cat's owner or nominee if leased at the time of accepting the animal for breeding authorising the provision of necessary veterinary treatment

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.6 Dogs must be vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus & canine cough in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.7 Cats must be vaccinated against feline infectious enteritis & feline respiratory disease in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.8 Kittens & puppies must be vaccinated against common infectious diseases in accordance with best practice clinical guidelines, in consultation with a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.9 Dogs & cats known or suspected to be suffering from an infectious disease must not be used for breeding or be accepted for breeding under lease unless under written approval from a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.10 A program for heartworm prevention for dogs must be in place & in accordance with veterinary advice

Compliant Not Compliant

8.2.1.11 Internal & external parasites must be controlled

8.2.1.1 The person in charge of the facility must establish liaison with a veterinary practitioner who is able to attend to dogs & cats, & is able to advise on disease prevention measures

Compliant Not Compliant

(8.3) HUMANE DESTRUCTION

8.3.1.1 Where treatment to restore the physical & mental health of a dog or cat while in the facility is impractical or unsuccessful & where it's recommended by a veterinary practitioner, the dog or cat must be humanely destroyed

Compliant Not Compliant

8.3.1.2 Euthanasia of dogs & cats must only be performed by a veterinary surgeon or a person who is a euthanasia technician

Compliant Not Compliant

8.3.1.3 Euthanasia must be performed by the intravenous administration of an overdose of pentobarbitone sodium unless there are compelling reasons to use other methods to destroy a dog or cat

Compliant Not Compliant

8.3.1.4 Euthanasia must be conducted in an area that is seperated from animal accommodation at the facility & must not be carried out in view of any other animals

Compliant Not Compliant

(9) TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

9.1.1.1 Puppies & kittens must not be re-homed before they are 8 weeks of age

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.2 Dogs & cats must not be re-homed to people less than 18 years of age

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.3 No dog or puppy, cat or kitten may be sold unless vaccinated in compliance with the requirements of Section 8.2 of this Code

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.4 All dogs & cats re-homed must be microchipped & treated to remove gastrointestinal parasites prior to release

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.5 No dog or cat suspected of being sick, injured or diseased may be sold under any circumstances

through routine & preventative treatments

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.6 At the time of purchase, clients must be offered accurate written information at no charge which concerns the care of animals purchased

Compliant Not Compliant

9.1.1.7 If within 3 days a dog or cat is not acceptable to the purchaser for any reason, the breeder is required to take the dog or cat back & refund 50% of the purchase price of the animal. This guarantee must be provided in writing to the purchaser at the point of sale

Compliant Not Compliant

(10) BREEDING AND REARING

10.1.1.1 Bitches & queens must not be intentionally mated during their first oestrous cycle

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.2 A dog or cat must be physically & mentally fit healthy & free of disease at the time of being mated

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.3 During mating, breeding pairs must be isolated from the remaining breeding population, & monitored by the person in charge

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.4 Mothers in the latter stages of pregnancy must be provided with access to food & water, provided at frequent intervals

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.5 During birthing bitches & queens must be isolated from the remaining breeding population, and monitored by the person in charge on a regular basis to ensure that the birth proceeds in a normal manner

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.6 Whelping bitches must be provided with a suitable whelping box, lined with clean bedding, changed daily

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.7 Kitting queens must be provided with a covered kitting box, lined with clean bedding, changed daily

Compliant Not Compliant

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.9 Bitches must not have more than two litters in any two year period, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.10 Queens must not have more than three litters in any two year period, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.11 Lactating mothers must be provided with additional food & water

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.12 Lactating mothers must be housed in such a manner that they are able to escape their young

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.8 Animals that are isolated from the remaining breeding population must be provided with additional attention & socialisation to animal carers

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.13 Kittens or puppies must not be separated from their litter or their lactating mother until they are seven weeks of age to facilitate socialisation, except in the best interests of the puppy or kitten, or their mother

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.14 Solid food must be offered to puppies & kittens from three weeks of age. Puppies & kittens must be monitored when first offered solid food to ensure that the food is acceptable & palatable. If necessary, solid food may require moistening or softening to increase palatability

Compliant Not Compliant

10.1.1.15 Puppies & kittens must be observed to ensure that they achieve a steady weight gain every week

Compliant Not Compliant

Standards describe the specific actions needed to achieve acceptable animal welfare levels. These are the minimum standards that must be met under the law. They are identified in the text by the heading 'Standards' and use the word 'must'.

Compliance with the Code does not remove the need to abide by the requirements of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and any other laws and regulations, such as the Local Government Act 1993 or the Companion Animals Act 1998.

This Code contains both standards and guidelines for the care of dogs and cats for breeding. The standards have legal effect in three ways:

1. Failure to meet a standard may result in the issue of a Penalty Infringement Notice under Clause 20 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (General) Regulation 2006.
2. Evidence of failure to meet a standard may be used in a prosecution under Clause 20 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (General) Regulation 2006.
3. In more serious cases, failure to meet a standard may support a prosecution for an offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979.

Signed: RSPCA Inspector

Signed: Breeder/Breeder's representative