



REGULATIONS

PART IV - JUDGES

This Part incorporates Regulations of Dogs Australia

PART 2: JUDGES

[2-da-reg2_judges_01-07-23.pdf \(dogsaustralia.org.au\)](https://www.dogsaustralia.org.au/2-da-reg2_judges_01-07-23.pdf)

Reference to “Dogs Australia” herein is a reference to the Australian National Kennel Council Limited (ABN 77 151 544 679) trading as Dogs Australia

Amended 6 February 2019

Amended 10 July 2019

Amended 14 August 2019

Amended 13 November 2019

Amended 11 December 2019

Amended 5 February 2020

Amended 19 February 2020

Amended 10 February 2021

Amended 10 March 2021

Amended 29 June 2022

Amended 13 July 2022

Amended August 2022 - ANKC Ltd to Dogs Australia

Amended 10 August 2022

Amended 14 September 2022

Amended 8 March 2023

Amended July 2023 – to include Dogs Australia rider

Amended March 2024

Amended March 2025

Amended August 2025

DOGS NEW SOUTH WALES

PO BOX 632, ST MARYS NSW 1790

TEL: (02) 9834 3022 FAX: (02) 9834 3872

Issue Date: August 2003

REGULATIONS

PART IV - Judges

INDEX		PAGE
SECTION 1	General	3
	List of Judges	3
	Fees	3
	Soliciting of Appointments	3
SECTION 2	Approval to Judge	4
SECTION 3	Responsibilities and Privileges of Judges	7
	Reserve List of Approved Judges	7
	Suspension, Cancellation or Refusal of Approval	7
SECTION 4	Judging Appointments - Judging at Recognised Shows	9
SECTION 5	Order of Merit	13
SECTION 6	Foreign Judges	14

REGULATIONS

PART IV - JUDGES

SECTION 1

General

- 1.1 This Part of the Regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of January, 1983.
- 1.2 The Judges Panels constituted under the prior RegulationsPart III are hereby abolished together with the Regulations which govern the same.

List of Judges

- 1.3 The Board of Directors shall keep and maintain a list of Members who have been approved to judge a Breed of dogs; a Group of breeds of dogs; or All Groups of Breeds of dogs. Such list shall be known as the List of Approved Judges.
- 1.4 A Member who has been approved to judge as aforesaid shall be entitled to judge in accordance with such approval anywhere in the world and to award Challenge Certificates anywhere in the world for a period of twelve (12) months commencing on the 1st day of July.
- 1.5 A Member previously appointed to a Judges Panel shall be deemed to have been approved under these Regulations to judge during the currency of such licence those Breeds or Groups of dogs for which he was previously licenced.
- 1.6 The DOGS NSW Secretary shall be the Registrar of the List of Approved Judges. He shall keep a record of the names and addresses of the Members who have been approved as Judges and the details of such approval and shall record all amendments thereto and at least once in each year shall publish such List in the Journal.

Fees

- 1.7 The Board of Directors may prescribe from time to time the fee payable in respect of the granting of its approval to judge.

Soliciting of Appointments (1/11)

- 1.8 No person shall, either for himself or for any other person, solicit any appointment to judge at a fixture conducted or to be conducted under the Regulations of DOGS NSW.

The application or the effect of this Regulation is not intended to and shall not limit in any way the proper nomination and selection of Judges by Committees or authorised members of Clubs conducting such events.

SECTION 2

Approval to Judge

- 2.1 The Board of Directors may approve a qualified Member as a Judge and authorise the entry of such Member's name in the List of Approved Judges.
- 2.2 A Member who has successfully completed a Group Training and has passed the examination held in respect thereof may apply to the Board of Directors for approval as a Judge for such Group and before making such appointment the Board of Directors shall consider the assessment made by the Examinations Committee of the applicant's general demeanor, aptitude and suitability for such appointment.

The Board of Directors on the recommendation of the said Committee may in its absolute discretion grant or reject or postpone such application on such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors shall determine.

- 2.3 A Member who has been approved to judge all seven groups shall be known as an All Breeds Judge and shall be listed as such.
- 2.4 A Member who has been approved as a Judge may apply for further approval annually by lodging with the DOGS NSW Secretary the prescribed application for such approval on or before the 30th day of June in each year together with the prescribed fee. Such an application received after such date may be granted by the Board of Directors at its sole discretion but subject to the payment of the applicant of the prescribed additional fee. **(08/92)**
- 2.5 A person who has qualified as a Judge in another State or Country and has become a Member and a resident of the State may make application to DOGS NSW to be approved as a Judge PROVIDED THAT:-
- (a) he produces to the Board of Directors with such application evidence of his particular qualifications from the Canine Controlling Body of that State or Country recognised as such by the Board of Directors;
 - (b) he undertakes to take such instruction or examinations as the Board of Directors deems necessary.

The Board of Directors in its absolute discretion may approve such application in respect of those Breeds or Groups for which the applicant is so qualified.

- 2.6 The Board of Directors in its absolute discretion may grant approval on the recommendation of the Examinations Committee to a Member who has successfully passed the examination held in respect of a particular breed to judge that breed at a Specialist Show, Open Show, Sanction Show or Parade.

- 2.7 A person who has been approved or authorised by a canine controlling body of another State recognised as such by the Board of Directors shall be entitled to judge at a show conducted in the State in accordance with such approval or authority without first obtaining the approval of the Board of Directors.
- 2.8 A Member who is enrolled in a Training Scheme shall be entitled to judge at a Sanction Show under the supervision of an official of such scheme or of a Judge appointed for that purpose by the Examinations Committee.
- 2.9 The Board of Directors in its absolute discretion may grant approval to judge subject to such terms and conditions as it may see fit either generally or in a particular circumstance.
- 2.10 A Member who applies for approval to judge shall be deemed to have full knowledge of the Rules and Regulations and hereby agrees to indemnify and hold indemnified DOGS NSW, the Board of Directors and Members from all claims and demands which may arise in consequence of his being granted such approval or having the same suspended, cancelled or refused.
- 2.11 The granting of approval to judge to a Member shall not confer any rights or entitlements on such Member except as herein provided that the cancellation refusal or suspension of such approval shall not entitle the Member concerned to any claim for damages, compensation or right of reinstatement except in accordance with Regulation 3.4 hereof.
- 2.12 The Board of Directors may refuse an application for the renewal of approval to judge if the applicant:-
- (a) has during the period of his then current approval failed to fulfil his contract to judge at a Show without good reason acceptable to the Management Committee whose decision thereon shall be final and binding on the applicant;
 - (b) shall have failed to give to DOGS NSW any information within his knowledge required of him or if he shall have failed to reply to any correspondence addressed to him by DOGS NSW;
 - (c) on the recommendation of the Judges Committee is considered to be **(11/19)**:-
 - (i) incompetent;
 - (ii) temperamentally unsuitable; or
 - (iii) by reason of his age incapable of properly carrying out his duties as a Judge;
 - (d) has ceased to be a Member; **(08/92)**

- (e) has been found guilty of misconduct or if his membership or his approval as a Judge has terminated or been suspended or if he has been disqualified from exhibiting or otherwise in relation to a Show;

or

- (f) has not judged at a Show during the period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application for renewal of approval to judge. **(02/93)**

2.13 A Member who wishes to judge at a Championship Show:-

- (a) in another State, may only do so in respect of a breed or group for which he holds an ANKC Ltd Judges License and, conversely, shall not judge any dog for which he does not hold such License.
- (b) in another country, may accept invitations from overseas Controlling Bodies recognized by ANKC Ltd, or one of their Affiliates, to judge any breed/s, Specials or other classes.
- (c) must judge in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of that other State or country and with the regulations of ANKC Ltd relating to judging at Championship Shows.

(02/14)

2.14 Under no circumstances shall a Member sign a contract to judge Breeds or Groups in Australia for which they do not hold an ANKC Ltd Judges Licence. **(02/14)**

SECTION 3

Responsibilities and Privileges of Judges

- 3.1 Notwithstanding anything in Section 2 of these Regulations, a person shall not be entitled to judge at a recognised Show until he has been duly approved as a Judge or unless he has received the permission of the Board of Directors to judge at a nominated Show or at shows of a particular category or with the prior consent of the Board of Directors if he is a person usually resident in a foreign country and is authorised to judge in that Country by the Canine Controlling Body thereof recognised as such by the Board of Directors PROVIDED THAT he Judges only those Breeds or groups for which he has such approval. **(08/92)**

Reserve List of Approved Judges

- 3.2 A Judge who is not available to accept judging appointments by reason of absence from the State or for other reasons acceptable to the Board of Directors may apply to the Board of Directors to have his name placed on a reserve list of Judges. A person whose name has been placed on the Reserve List of Judges may apply at any time to the Board of Directors to be reinstated to the List of Approved Judges and subject to any recommendation of the Judges Committee such application shall be granted.
- (a) A person, whose name has been placed on the Reserve List of Approved Judges by the Board of Directors, must remain a financial Member of DOGS NSW. **(11/13)**
- (b) Excepting as provided in (c) below, a person applying to be reinstated to the List of Approved Judges will be required to pay any arrears in license fees since they were last financial, as a condition of approval. **(07/14)**
- (c) A person whose name has been placed on the Reserve List of Judges may apply to the Board of Directors to be temporarily reinstated on no more than one occasion during any given five year period to judge Special Classes, Breed Classes and General Specials within no more than one whole ANKC Breed Group for which the applicant had been previously licensed. A fee equal to one half of the Annual Judges License Fee for the current year is payable in any such case. **(07/14)**

Suspension, Cancellation or Refusal of Approval

- 3.3 The Board of Directors may require a Judge to show cause why his approval to judge should not be suspended, cancelled or refused or the Board of Directors may suspend, cancel or refuse to grant approval to judge without giving or being required to give any reason for so doing.
- 3.3.1 The circumstance resulting in a judge cancelling a judging contract two or more times in a twelve month period will be referred to the Judges Committee for review and to make appropriate recommendation to the Board. **(11/19)**

3.3.2 Judges must not judge if they require the use of aids whilst judging that may have a negative impact on exhibits or efficient judging procedure. Aids includes items such as walking sticks and walking frames but is not limited to these. **(Effective 1 March 2020) (12/19)**

3.4 A Member whose approval to judge has been cancelled, refused or suspended may appeal to the Board of Directors for its reinstatement. The Board of Directors shall hear or in its discretion the Inquiries Committee may hear such appeal and the decision of the Board of Directors or of the said Committee shall be final and binding on the appellant.

3.5 The Board of Directors or such Committee may require the appellant and any witnesses to make statements on oath or by way of statutory declaration. The proceedings of the appeal shall be strictly confidential without regard to the normal rules of evidence and a member of the Board of Directors or of such Committee or a person who appears as a witness before it who is a member of DOGS NSW shall not make any reference to or statement concerning matters dealt with by the Board of Directors or by such Committee other than by way of report to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4

Judging Appointments - Judging at Recognised Shows

- 4.1 A General Class, Special Prize Class, Group or General Special Class shall not be judged by more than one judge.
- 4.2 A Judge who has judged a Breed or Breeds or Classes of Breed or Breeds (other than Special Prize Classes) at a Show recognised by any Member Body of ANKC shall not, (except in Classes of Special Prizes) or, otherwise with the prior written consent of the Board of Directors):-
- (a) (i) Judge the same Breed or Breeds or Classes of the same Breed or Breeds of dogs at another Show held in NSW within 200 kilometres by the shortest road of the first mentioned Show sooner than three (3) months thereafter. (The distance reference to be taken from <https://www.google.com/maps>). This Regulation applies to Judges Contracts received by the Office of DOGS NSW after 1 July 2020 and does not apply in the case of a person who has been appointed as an Emergency Judge. **(08/25)**
- (ii) ***Deleted 06/22***
- (iii) An Emergency Judge means a Judge appointed to judge at a show either during the show or no earlier than 72 hours before the scheduled start of the show due to the illness or other unavailability of the Judge originally appointed to judge at the show. **(08/25)**
- (b) handle an exhibit that he/she has judged at another Show held within 6 months of the last date of the first mentioned Show; except in such case as the exhibit has been purchased or leased by the Judge after the said appointment and the transfer to the Judge as owner or part-owner has been duly registered in the Register prior to the commencement day of such Show. **(07/11)**
- (c) Breaches of Clauses 4.2(a)(i) & (b), above, will be subject to the following penalty regime:-
- 1ST Offence WARNING
2ND Offence \$200.00 fine
3RD Offence \$500.00 fine
- for all disciplines for Judges signing contracts that they are not eligible to judge at shows and events in accordance with DOGS NSW Regulations regarding time and distance, **effective 1st January 2024**, and further, the Judge be responsible for the costs incurred by the relevant Clubs. **(03/24)**

- 4.3 (a) A Judge may not judge General Specials at any All Breeds Show sooner than two (2) months after having done so at another show held within 200 kilometres, by the shortest road, of that subsequent show. (The distance reference to be taken from <https://www.google.com/maps>) or otherwise with the prior written consent of the Board of Directors. **(08/25)**
- (b) **Deleted (08/25)**
- (c) Breaches of Clauses 4.3(a) & (b), above, will be subject to the following penalty regime:-
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 ST Offence | WARNING |
| 2 ND Offence | \$200.00 fine |
| 3 RD Offence | \$500.00 fine |
- for all disciplines for Judges signing contracts that they are not eligible to judge at shows and events in accordance with DOGS NSW Regulations regarding time and distance, **effective 1st January 2024**, and further, the Judge be responsible for the costs incurred by the relevant Clubs. **(03/24)**
- 4.4 (a) At an exhibition at which he is officiating as a judge, a Judge shall not:-
- (i) exhibit or handle any dog, provided that a Judge shall not be in breach of this Regulation if he shall be appointed to judge at Junior Handler Class/es. **(07/22)**
 - (ii) in any Class at the show, judge an exhibit which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with other/s or which, at any time during the previous six (6) months, has been owned, co-owned or handled by his spouse, his children, parents, brothers, sisters, their children, the parents of his spouse, their children, or grandchildren, or members who are members of his household, or in any case one or more of them;
- (Note: “handled” in this clause does not include any circumstance where the person had assisted another exhibitor who, due to a judging decision on the day, was required to compete with two or more exhibits at the same time.)
- (iii) judge an exhibit which, during the previous six (6) months, has been used at stud over a bitch which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with other/s or which, during that period, has been mated to a dog which he directly or indirectly owns or leases alone or jointly with other/s;
 - (iv) judge an exhibit which has been exhibited or handled contrary to Regulations Part II-Show, Clause 12.18. **(08/22)**
 - (v) use electronic devices whilst he is carrying out his judging appointment in the ring unless confirming a breed standard or when critiquing. Electronic devices must not be used for communication purposes while judging. **(09/22)**

- (b) Notwithstanding the above (a), a Judge officiating only at an Obedience or Agility Trial may exhibit in a Conformation Show being held in conjunction and vice versa. **(08/22)**
- (c) Two or more shows being conducted at the same venue on the same day by the same or different clubs are identified as separate Shows and this Regulation is to be applied independently to each Show;
- (d) An exhibit causing, or likely to cause, a contravention of this Regulation shall be disqualified with effect from the commencing day of the Show.

(06/90), (06/98), (09/02), (06/03), (05/06), (02/13)

- 4.5 At each judging appointment a Judge shall enter the results of all awards made in the Judges Book, unless it is being maintained by the Show Steward in accordance with Regulations Part VIII – Show Stewards 4.4. The Judge shall sign or initial any alterations made in the records and sign entries of all awards made, upon conclusion of judging of each Class and before the Judges Book is submitted to the Show Secretary to process results. **(08/06), (01/09)**
- 4.6 At the conclusion of the show, the Show Secretary shall retain the Judges Books for at least twelve (12) months from the closing date of the Show. **(06/18E)**
- 4.7 At the conclusion of the judging of each Class the Judge shall make his awards in a clear and decisive fashion in respect of the winning exhibits and record the same in the Judges Book, except in the case of electronic device use. Such decision shall be final and binding on the exhibitors unless an exhibit given an award is or should have been disqualified by the Show Committee. **(03/23)**
- 4.8 If in the opinion of a Judge an exhibit is of insufficient quality to merit an award and it is in the best interest of the Breed so to do the Judge may withhold an award including Challenge or Reserve Challenge.
- 4.9 If a steward declares an exhibit absent, a judge has no authority to override the stewards action.
- 4.10 Only All Breeds Judges shall judge General Specials at an All Breeds Championship. **(10/05)**
- 4.11 Only Judges who have Championship approvals in four (4) groups are eligible to judge Sweepstakes classes at an All Breeds Championship Show. **(10/05)**
- 4.12 A Trainee Judge may judge General Specials at a Parade or Open Show if they are qualified and approved to judge at least four (4) Groups at Championship Show level. **(07/12)**
- 4.13 Regulation 4.11 may be amended by the Board of Directors for Trainee Judges officiating in remote areas of the State. **(07/12)**

- 4.14 If a Judge has judged, or is contracted to judge, with a panel of Judges at a Championship Show, whether in NSW, Interstate or Overseas, they must not exhibit or handle a dog under any of those Judges for a period of 9 days after such appointment. **(08/22)**

This regulation does not apply in a situation where a Judge only judges a heat/s of a Junior Handler Competition. **(12/14)**

- 4.15 A Judge shall not judge any Class or Classes at a Show for which he/she was required to receive or catalogue the mailed or online entries. **(03/21)**
- 4.16 A judge may enter and act as a Handler for a dog/s registered in his name/s at a Test/Class for Earthdog at which they are contracted to judge. A Judge's entry must be judged by an alternative Judge.

SECTION 5

Order of Merit

- 5.1 (a) Upon the making of an award by a Judge at the completion of the judging of a Class the award winner shall be lined up in order of merit.
- (a) A judge shall not make the same award to two exhibits in the same Class.

SECTION 6

Foreign Judges

- 6.1 The Board of Directors in its absolute discretion may approve upon the written application of an Affiliate the appointment of a foreign Judge to officiate at an Exhibition to be conducted by such Affiliate.
- 6.2 Such application shall give full particulars of:-
- (a) the Exhibition to be conducted by such Affiliate at which the prospective Judge is to officiate;
 - (b) the name and address of such Judge;
 - (c) the breed or breeds, group or groups which it is proposed such Judge is to judge;
 - (d) whether or not such Judge is to judge the General Special Classes;
 - (e) the name and address of the Canine Controlling Body of the country of residence of such Judge;
 - (f) written confirmation from such controlling body that the prospective Judge:
 - 1. (i) has been approved or licensed by that body:-
 - (a) to judge the breed or breeds, group or groups which it is intended that the prospective Judge is to judge
 - (b) to award Challenge Certificates in respect thereof;
 - 2. has awarded Challenge Certificates in respect of not less than 60 per centum of the breeds comprised in each Group which it is intended the prospective Judge is to judge.
- 6.3 Such Challenge Certificates must have been awarded in respect of a majority of the major breeds as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time in each Group which it is intended the prospective Judge is to judge.
- 6.4 If the aforesaid canine controlling body is not recognised as such by the Board of Directors the approval of the Judge to judge at the said Exhibition shall not be given.
- 6.5 If the aforesaid controlling body is unable or unwilling to or does not supply the information as required by regulation 6.2 (f) and the prospective Judge has been approved by or licensed by the Federation Cynologique Internationale to judge in another or other country or countries that Affiliate shall obtain from the said Federation written confirmation of the information required by that Regulation.

- 6.6 The determination of the Board of Directors to approve or not to approve of the prospective Judge shall be final and binding upon the applicant Affiliate.