

Agility Dog Club of NSW Inc.

General Club & Grounds Rules

Policy Adopted March 2022, Edit Adopted January 2025



All members, visitors and their dogs must comply with the following rules when involved in club activities. Non-participating members and visitors must stay clear of all training areas to avoid interference with or distraction from participants.

Handlers

1. All members must be financially current to train.
2. All members must be in class by the class training hours start time specified. Instructors have the right to refuse entry to the class if you are late. Members are asked to arrive early to prepare their dogs and assist with class setup.
3. Children are welcome at the Club during training, but they must be supervised.
4. The Club offers a family membership that is open to all ages; however, children cannot participate until they are 12 years of age.
5. Junior Membership is available for children over the age of 12 and under the age of 16 years old (must always have adult/parent/guardian supervision on grounds) who are welcome to train, providing they have sufficient control of their dog during classes. This will be at the discretion of the Executive.
6. All members must ensure that an appropriate dress code with appropriate footwear is worn at training, as Dogs NSW & ADDA requires. (For your safety, appropriate footwear must be worn. Thongs/sandals, scuffs, high heels, ballet flats or bare feet are prohibited.)
7. All members must help set up and pack away the equipment to the best of their ability.
8. All members are expected to volunteer their assistance in line with the Club's statement of purpose.
9. Members shall always behave courteously to other members and officials of the Club.
10. Abusive or foul language is not tolerated on Club grounds.
11. The Club is a community-based organisation focused on providing a fair, safe, and inclusive training and trialling environment for members and their dogs. Communication by and between members must always be respectful and courteous. It must not be offensive, aggressive, defamatory, threatening, discriminatory, obscene, profane, harassing, embarrassing, intimidating, sexually explicit, bullying, hateful, racist, or otherwise inappropriate. This includes face-to-face and written communication and communication through other channels, including social media.
12. If a member wishes to raise a formal matter (i.e., anything which requires the specific attention of the Club's office-bearers or consideration by the Main Committee), contact must be made using the Club's established communication channels (i.e., the Club's email address or by letter to the Club's postal address). Such matters should not be communicated via private or public social media channels, direct email to members' personal addresses, or calls or texts to their personal telephone numbers.

13. Any disputes should be referred to a Club Official for action at the time of the dispute.
14. Any member not in class may not exercise their dog in the vicinity of classes in progress.
15. Members are always responsible for the behaviour of their dog/s whilst present on the training grounds or representing the Club.
16. Members are not to use any equipment without the instructor's permission. This includes before, during and after training.
17. Smoking is not permitted during any of the Club's activities.
18. All persons, i.e., Members or non-members, are advised that they enter the club grounds and participate at their own risk. The Club accepts no responsibility for any accidents, loss or damage to any person or property.
19. All injuries must be reported and recorded.
20. The safety of our members and their dogs is important to us. Please report any unsafe equipment or ground issues to the office.
21. Members must not use harsh actions or verbals with their dogs. This includes hitting your dog or strong misuse of the dog's lead.
22. Kindly note that membership fees are not refundable.

Dogs

23. Dogs must be physically fit and healthy to join/train at ADC.
24. Dogs must be at least 12 months old to commence training in a Session 1 Class or at least 9 months of age to commence in Pink Class at the discretion of the Elected Committee.
25. Dogs under 12 months may not train on the weaving poles.
26. Bitches in season, dogs who are sick/unwell or recovering from illness or surgery must not attend training.
27. Dogs are **NOT PERMITTED** to be tethered to any objects, such as poles, water taps, garbage bins or equipment on the grounds at any time before, during or after training. The Club directs crating dogs or securing them in your vehicle with sufficient airflow when not conducting drills.
28. Do not approach crated dogs or dogs stowed securely in vehicles. Dogs crated or in vehicles must be left alone for safety reasons. Please do not let yourself or your dog approach or encounter any dogs who may be crated or in cars.
29. All Session 1 dogs **MUST** be contained within a crate whilst on grounds, unless toileting, participating in a training exercise, running a sequence or at the discretion of a Instructor or Club Official. Handlers who fail to bring crates will not be permitted to train. (A small grace period is in place during this implementation. Members will be notified).
30. All dogs in Session 2 must be contained within a crate or secured within your car whilst on grounds unless toileting, warming up, participating in a training exercise, running a sequence or at the discretion of an Instructor or Club Official. Handlers who fail to do so may be removed from class or training.
31. You are expected always to have full control of your dog, including when they are off lead.
32. Dogs must have a flat collar for training; check **chains, choker collars and prong** collars are strictly prohibited on the grounds. For safety reasons, harnesses are not permitted.
33. Dogs are to be on a short lead when walking around the grounds, and while training, keep dogs well apart to avoid confrontations and be mindful of the other dogs around you.

34. Dogs' waste is to be cleaned up immediately. Poo bags are provided on the grounds. If your dog urinates on a Club building or structure, please rinse it with water.
35. Any incidents of aggression shown by a dog will be dealt with individually.

Please see the ***Dog Arousal and Aggression Policy***.

36. In the event of a physical conflict between dogs or between dog/s and person/s on the Club grounds, handlers must gain control of their dog, place it on lead (if not already on lead), remove it from the immediate vicinity of the conflict, and report the incident to a Club official as soon as possible. Any dog involved in an incident must not be left unattended on the Club grounds after an incident to minimise further risks. Once alerted, the Club official is responsible for ensuring the incident is addressed under the Club's ***Dog Arousal and Aggression Policy***.
37. Dogs that require "space" for a variety of reasons. They may be a rescue dog, a dog attacked by another dog, or a nervous or reactive dog. Must wear Club-approved yellow attire, such as a Handler 'Give me Space' vest (available on request). Please be aware of a handler wearing one of these vests and give them the required space.
38. The Club reserves the right to decide that a dog must be muzzled. Please see the Club's ***Dog Arousal and Aggression Policy***. If you do not have access to view online, please request a hard copy from the Club Secretary
39. The Club may cancel training due to extreme weather. This is to ensure the safety of its members. Please see the Club's ***Extreme Weather Policy***. If you cannot view it online, please request a hard copy from the Secretary.

Review Date: This policy is to be reviewed in December 2025.
