



Australian National Kennel Council Ltd ABN 77 151 544 679 trading as Dogs Australia

REGULATIONS

PART 3E(a)

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF TRACKING TRIAL JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME

**Adopted
November 2010**

**Amended
August 2015
October 2015
March 2018
October 2025**

1. OVERVIEW

- 1.1 Australian National Kennel Council Limited (ANKC Ltd) Member Bodies will be responsible for the Training, Testing, Assessment and Maintenance of Judging licences.
- 1.2 ANKC Ltd Member Bodies may assess Tracking Judges sequentially or concurrently for each of the following:
 - 1. Tracking Dog
 - 2. Tracking Dog Excellent
 - 3. Tracking Champion
- 1.3 If an ANKC Ltd Member Body requires a higher standard than the ANKC Ltd Minimum Standards, the ANKC Ltd Member Body's Regulation/s will take precedence over the ANKC Ltd Minimum Standard/s.

2. APPLICATION

- 2.1 All applications for Tracking Judges Courses must be made on the required application form by the date specified by the ANKC Ltd Member Body. All requirements for specific classes must be fulfilled prior to the trainee undertaking Oral or Written examination and practical assessment. The ANKC Ltd Member Body has the right to seek verification of any information provided by the applicant.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 The Applicant must:
 - 3.1.1 Be a member of an ANKC Ltd Member Body for at least 3 years prior to the application and be a current financial member of an ANKC Ltd Member Body.
 - 3.1.2 Be over eighteen (18) years of age
 - 3.1.3 Reside in the State or Territory of application for the licence
 - 3.1.4 Have an active and ongoing participation in the sport of Tracking or conducting Tracking Trials.
 - 3.1.5 Have personally trained and trialed a dog to a Tracking Dog title and stewarded at a minimum of two sanctioned Tracking Dog trials.
- 3.2 Trainees are expected to attend all lectures and practical training sessions unless otherwise approved by the relevant ANKC Ltd Member Body. Trainees will also be required to educate themselves by studying the Rules for the Conduct of Tracking Trials.
- 3.3 ANKC Ltd Member Bodies may approve applications received from members who do not meet the above criteria providing that they are permanent residents of Australia and can effectively demonstrate and produce documentation verifying their experience and qualifications to meet the above standards gained in a previous country of residence.
- 3.4 Subject to the agreement of both the trainee Judge and ANKC Ltd Member Bodies, a person may be approved to enrol in a Tracking Judges Training Scheme conducted in a more convenient geographic location to that person.

4. METHOD OF EDUCATION (SELF EDUCATION)

- 4.1 Trainees will be required to educate themselves by being conversant with the ANKC Ltd Member Body Rules and Regulations relevant to Tracking trialling and updates to the Rules for the Conduct of Tracking Trials.

- 4.2 Trainees are to attend all lectures and practical training sessions unless otherwise approved by the relevant ANKC Ltd Member Body.
- 4.3 Trainees will also be required to educate themselves by studying the Rules for the Conduct of Tracking Trials.
- 4.4 The trainee will arrange for a Trainer/s to observe their judging at the relevant level to assess their performance. A copy of the completed Judges Sheet is to be forwarded to the Course Convener prior to the date set by the ANKC Ltd Member Body.

5. PRACTICAL TRAINING SESSIONS

- 5.1 Trainers will be appointed by the Judges Training Panel
- 5.2 The Trainer/s must;
 - 5.2.1 Supervise the trainee's Judging of at least one (1) dog for Tracking Dog Excellent and Tracking Champion Test.
 - 5.2.2 Advise the trainee of ways in which they feel the trainee's judging could be improved.
 - 5.2.3 Sign the trainee Judges Practical Training Form after completing details of suggested judging modification or reinforcement of the trainees judging.
- 5.3 These forms are to be retained by the Trainee and forwarded to the Course Convener by the set date of the ANKC Ltd Member Body. Copies may be retained by the trainee.

6. APPLICATION FOR ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 Assessment will be carried out in the following sequential order;
 - 1. Oral or Written
 - 2. Practical

7. ORAL OR WRITTEN EXAMINATION

- 7.1 The pass mark for this examination is a minimum of 80%.
- 7.2 The marking is to be undertaken by judges appointed by the Judges Training Panel who will mark examination papers independently. The trainee must receive a pass mark by the majority of the markers in order to achieve a pass.
- 7.3 The examination papers must be marked by at least two and if necessary three examiners.
- 7.4 The trainee must pass the theory exam in order to undertake the practical exam.
- 7.5 Examination papers should comprise of;
 - 7.5.1 Questions as set by the ANKC Ltd Member Body for the relevant tests.
- 7.6 Trainees who have failed an Oral or Written examination may make a written request within 14 days of the advice of the results for their paper to be reviewed. A different panel of three markers appointed by the Judges Training Panel will, without conferring, separately re-mark the papers.
- 7.7 All questions with incorrect answers will be supplied to the trainee with the correct answers.

8. PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 The trainee must pass the Oral or Written exam in order to undertake the practical assessment.
- 8.2 The following are the requirements for a pass in the Tracking Judges Trial Scheme practical examination:
 - 8.2.1 Trainees are required to judge a minimum of 2 dogs
 - 8.2.1.1 One (1) will be a Tracking Dog Excellent test level and one (1) will be a Tracking Grand Champion test level. **(Amended 10/25, 5.20 – Effective 01/01/26)**
 - 8.2.2 At the assessor's discretion, the trainee may be asked to judge additional dog/s.
 - 8.2.3 At least three assessors must assess each trainee.
 - 8.2.4 Each assessor will individually make a recommendation as to whether the trainee has passed or failed.
 - 8.2.5 A majority of assessor's recommendation is required to pass.
- 8.3 Assessment sheets will be completed and submitted to the ANKC Ltd Member Body for written notification to the trainee of their results
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9. RE – ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 Trainees who fail the practical assessment may apply for re-assessment. The ANKC Ltd Member Body is not obligated to automatically agree to a re-assessment and each case should be reviewed on its merits. A reassessment should not be granted earlier than three months or later than 6 months following the original assessment at a mutually agreed time. The Judges Training Panel must take into account the need for further practical training of the trainee and the availability of suitable handlers/dogs and facilities.

10. DRESS CODE

- 10.1 While Trainees need not comply strictly with a Dress Code at all their Practical Training Sessions leading up to their examination, they should meet generally acceptable standards (i.e. neat, sensible clothes, appropriate footwear, no open – toed sandals, thongs etc.) when judging at 'non sanctioned trials'. However, the Practical examination is a formal occasion and must be treated in the same manner as a sanctioned Tracking Trial. As such, the trainees must display an appropriate form of dress befitting an official at such an event and they will be marked accordingly.

11. FITNESS TO JUDGE

- 11.1 ANKC Ltd Regulations Part 2, Point 1.4 states;
 - 11.1.1 All Judges Application Forms, both new and renewal; shall contain the following declaration to be signed by the applicant:

“I declare that I am physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Rules and if required I am prepared to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test at the discretion of the Member Body of ANKC Ltd. I further accept that my Member Body may at its absolute discretion refuse to grant any renewal of licence and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted or to be granted.” **(05/93, 7.2.1) (Amended 10/13 –**

5.6.4) (Amended 10/14, 7.5.12) (Amended 08/15, EM#117) (Amended 10/15, 7.5.1.1)

- 11.2 Should the ANKC Ltd Member Body consider that either the applicant or a licenced judge is unable to meet 11.1.1, the ANKC Ltd Member Body has the right to;

- 11.2.1 Refuse the application
- 11.2.2 Refuse to grant any renewal of the licence to any person and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted; or
- 11.2.3 Direct any judge to undergo a medical "Fitness to Judge" examination by a nominated medical office; or
- 11.2.4 Grant in part only an application for renewal of the licence.

12. MAINTENANCE OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- 12.1 All judges are expected to actively maintain their knowledge and understanding of the Rules and their interpretations as deemed by the ANKC Ltd and the ANKC Ltd Member Body

- 12.2 In the event that a Judge fails to fulfil this responsibility or

- 12.3 To follow directions issued by the ANKC Ltd Member Body

- 12.3.1 The ANKC Ltd Member Body may refuse to grant any renewal of licence or may cancel or suspend for any period or variation in any way, any licence already granted.
- 12.3.2 The ANKC Ltd Member Body may direct any Judge within its jurisdiction to undergo additional training or counselling by the Judges Training Panel