

## Dog Incident – DOGS VICTORIA Assessment Procedure

A dog incident is an incident involving a dog or dogs where disruption to the conduct of an exhibition occurs and / or the safety of other dogs or people is put at risk. An incident includes unruly or uncontrollable dogs, and dog aggression towards other dogs or towards people.

At the end of the period of suspension, the owner of a dog that has been suspended for unruly behaviour [ Level 3 ] or aggression [ Level 4 or 5 ] may apply to have the dog assessed for the purpose of re instatement. On receipt of the application the Chief Executive shall refer the application to the Management Committee at its next meeting. If the application is granted the assessment will be conducted as soon as practicable. The suspension shall remain in force until the result of the assessment. The application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.

The owner of a dog that has been suspended by a Fixture Committee for unruly behaviour [ Level 2 ], threatening or intimidating behaviour [ Level 3 ] or aggression [ Level 4 or 5 ] may appeal the decision of the Committee. An appeal must be in writing and received at the VCA office within five working days of the fixture. The appeal must state in detail the grounds for the appeal. On receipt of the appeal the Chief Executive shall refer the appeal to the Management Committee at its next meeting. The appeal must be accompanied by the appropriate fee. If the appeal is granted an assessment will be conducted as soon as practicable. The suspension shall remain in force until the result of the assessment. The result of the assessment shall be final, and if the appeal is unsuccessful the dog will serve out the period of suspension applied by the Fixture Committee, at the end of which the owner may apply for assessment for re instatement.

An assessment shall be conducted by three judges appointed by the committee responsible for the discipline applicable to the incident resulting in the suspension of the dog. That committee shall maintain a list of accredited assessors and advise the office of the names on the list. The list should be reviewed at least annually.

Method of assessment.

As much as is practicable the assessment should duplicate the conditions under which the incident resulting in the suspension occurred. However, the safety of the people and dogs used in the assessment must be paramount.

Each assessor will assess the dog individually and record the assessment and the reasons for the assessment on the form provided.

The individual assessments are to be forwarded to the CE as soon as practicable after the assessment.

The CE shall advise the owner of the dog and the Management Committee of the outcome of the assessment. To be successful the dog must be passed by the majority of the assessors.