

## 20.7 CODE OF CONDUCT BY DOGS VICTORIA MEMBERS AT DOGS VICTORIA EVENTS

Dogs Victoria expects that all members and exhibitors will conduct themselves in a responsible manner when attending Dogs Victoria activities. Participants must also ensure that their dogs are properly cared for at all times during events and do not become a nuisance to others.

Members will always act in a way which will make events friendly and welcoming, creating a safe environment for the enjoyment of all. They will conduct themselves by displaying good manners, respecting other participants, officials and judges.

The following is the expectation of Dogs Victoria of all attending an event authorised by it.

- You will display a commitment to the values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, spirited competition whilst winning and losing with grace equally
- You will welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport
- You will act so that the experience of others attending a Dogs Victoria event may be enriched
- You will reject any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed on you
- You will always consider paramount, the welfare of the dogs
- You will refuse to embarrass the sport or Dogs Victoria whilst taking part

### Behaviour not tolerated

- Abusive or aggressive behaviour towards anyone attending the event whether it be the judge, event officials or management or participants
- Harassment which may be defined as causing alarm, distress or anxiety, physical violence, threats, offensive language or verbal abuse
- Refusal to accept a judge's decision by comment on the decision whilst still in the ring or near precincts or refusal to continue to participate whilst eligible to do so

Reporting of poor or bad behaviour will be encouraged. It may then be speedily tracked through the disciplinary process by which Dogs Victoria demonstrates its strong commitment to a high standard of behaviour at all times by its members.