



Dogs Victoria Conformation Judges Training Program 2026

Trainee Manual

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
METHOD OF EDUCATION	2
DOGS VICTORIA JUDGES TRAINING PROGRAM STRUCTURE	3
RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASPIRING AND TRAINEE JUDGES	3
LINKS TO TRAINEE INFORMATION AND FORMS	4
DOGS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL JUDGE'S CODE OF PRACTICE	5
ASPIRING PROGRAM	7
TRAINEE GROUP PROGRAM	8
TRAINEE GROUP PROGRAM MODULES	9
PRACTICAL EXAMINATION PROCESS	10
INTENSIVE CRITIQUES	11
PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING TRAINEE CLASSES / SWEEPSTAKES AT SHOWS	12
SINGLE BREED TRAINING PROGRAM	13
2026 IMPORTANT DATES	14
CONFORMATION JUDGES COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS	15
BREED LECTURE PROTOCOLS	16
2026 DATES ASPIRANTS	16
2026 DATES GROUP 1 TOYS	17
2026 DATES GROUP 2 TERRIERS	18
2026 DATES GROUP 3 GUNDOGS	19
2026 DATES GROUP 4 HOUNDS	20
2026 DATES GROUP 5 WORKING	21
2026 DATES GROUP 6 UTILITY	22
2026 DATES GROUP 7 NON-SPORTING	23
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	24

Introduction

Dog judging requires clear, consistent, and efficient decision-making skills. Without the necessary knowledge and expertise, fulfilling this role can be highly challenging. Successful judges are open to listening to others, accepting constructive feedback, recognising both strengths and weaknesses, and appreciating the diversity among dogs and exhibitors.

The Conformation Judges Training Program has been designed to support Dogs Australia members on their journey to becoming Championship Show Judges. The program follows a structured progression, beginning at the Aspiring Judge level and advancing to the Trainee Judge stage.

This is a voluntary, competency based, flexible, and self education program. It provides members with access to a wide range of learning opportunities, including breed lectures, general seminars, field events, and practical judging experience.

Method of Education

Trainees will participate in a program to develop sound knowledge of relevant breeds by engaging in a variety of educational and practical activities, including:

- **Studying:**
 - Breed standards
 - Dogs Australia Glossary of Canine Terms
 - Other relevant literature
- **Research:**
 - Investigate specific breeds
- **Attendance:**
 - Lectures and seminars
 - Field events organized by the CJC (Canine Judges Committee)
- **Practical Experience:**
 - Write critiques
 - Visit kennels
 - Interact with breeders and exhibitors
 - Attend group and breed championship shows
 - Stewarding at events

These experiences help trainees gain broad and practical breed knowledge. Training is based on competency-based principles, with guidance from mentors and accredited assessors.

Dogs Victoria Judges Training Program Structure

Aspirant Level (Year 1)

- Lecture Program: One year
- Theory Exams: 2 total
- Must achieve 75% on each exam
- Any score below 75% constitutes a fail, requiring both exams to be repeated.
 - Repeating the exams requires enrolment in a new training programme.
- Practical Exam: Required

Trainee Level (Years 2 & 3)

- Lecture Program: Two years
- Subgroup Theory Exams: 4 total
- Must achieve an average of 75% over the 4 exams
- Any score below 75% constitutes a fail, requiring all four exams to be repeated.
 - Repeating the exams requires enrolment in a new two-year training programme.
- Practical Exam: Required

Responsibilities of Aspiring and Trainee Judges

1. **Acquire and share knowledge** – through reading, research, observation, questioning, discussion and debate.
2. **Participate** – attend lectures, seminars and dog shows.
3. **Be active** – practice judging, write critiques, seek out opinions and information about breeds, observe judging and exhibits at shows, read extensively, engage in discussions, listen attentively, and both provide and accept constructive feedback.
4. **Be a role model** – act with respect and in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and in all situations.
5. **Maintain decorum** – always conduct yourself in a respectful and professional manner.
6. **Protect confidentiality** – any information regarding the merits (or otherwise) of dogs must remain strictly within the Program.
7. **Adhere to conduct requirements** – any breach of conduct will be referred to the CJC and/or Management Committee for investigation and possible disciplinary action

Links to Trainee Information and Forms

Aspirants and trainees are encouraged to check these pages regularly, as rules and regulations are subject to ongoing review and updates.

DOGS AUSTRALIA LINKS:

- [Dogs Australia Breed Standards](#)
- [Dogs Australia Glossary of Canine Terms](#)
- [Dogs Australia Regulations Part 2 Judges](#)
- [Dogs Australia Regulation Part 3 Judges Training & Examination Scheme](#)
- [Dogs Australia Regulation Part 5 Conformation Show](#)
- [Ramped breeds](#)
- [Dogs Australia National Judge's Code of Practice](#)
- [Dogs Australia Judges Guidelines](#)

DOGS VICTORIA LINKS

- [Dogs Victoria.org.au](#)
- [VCA Rules & Regulations](#)
- [Lecture Dates](#)
- [Code of Conduct for Members social media](#)
- [Conformation Trainee Judges Program](#)
- [Stewarding Record Card](#)
- [Trainee Judging Record](#)
- [Intensive Critique & Accredited Assessor Observation Form](#)
- [Dogs Victoria Accredited Assessors](#)

Dogs Australia National Judge's Code of Practice

Dogs Australia National Judge's Code of Practice

1. A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.
2. A Judge shall give every exhibit and exhibitor fair and equal opportunity in each and every class.
3. A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.
4. A Judge shall present himself/herself in attire that is acceptable, appropriate, and comfortable for each judging assignment. Footwear appropriate to the discipline shall be worn.
5. A Judge is required to be punctual in availability to fulfil their judging assignment.
6. If in the judging procedures an exhibit displays an obvious physical impediment or is unable to be handled or can be regarded as savage or vicious the exhibit should be excused from the competition, in accordance with the Dogs Australia Member Body rules/regulations.
7. A Judge shall not enter or exhibit any dog at any Conformation Show at which he or she is appointed to judge.
8. Should an exhibitor offer information to the Judge that may be regarded as designed to influence the Judge, the Judge shall excuse the exhibitor and their exhibit from competition and report the incident in accordance with the Dogs Australia Member Body rules/regulations.
9. Should a Judge be approached to favour or disfavour a particular exhibit the matter is to be reported to the Administrator of the Dogs Australia Member Body.
10. Should a Judge be approached with an inducement and/or bribe to advantage or disadvantage an exhibit the Judge is to report the matter in writing to the Administrator of the Dogs Australia Member Body.
11. A Judge shall not solicit a judging appointment.
12. A Judge shall not solicit or seek entry of any particular dog or dogs.
13. A Judge shall not allow entries for a Conformation Show at which that person is judging to be received at the Judge's address.

14. A Judge shall complete all the requirements of the judging contract promptly. Any verbal acceptance of an assignment by a Judge shall be subject to the receipt of the contract within fourteen (14) days.
15. At the time of completing a contract the Judge shall inform the inviting body of any disability or limitation that could restrict carrying out in full the reasonable handling of all exhibits to be judged.
16. A Judge must not duplicate assignments in the same breeds and or group within a minimum of 3 months of each other and within a minimum of 200 kilometres at Championship Shows. Note: This will not apply to Neuter only shows.
17. A Judge shall honour each contract and will not be free to accept an alternative contract that will affect his or her availability to fulfil the original contract except with the written dispensation of the contracting Club.
18. Accommodation provided to the Judge to fulfil an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.
19. A Judge shall be responsible for the cost of all personal telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and any personal laundering except where mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body at the time the contract is accepted.
20. A Judge who withdraws from any contracted appointment for any reason shall not be permitted to judge at any other canine event wherever held on any date that would prevent him/her from attending the originally contracted event, unless dispensation has been granted in accordance with Clause 17.
21. Judges must not smoke nor drink alcohol in the ring.
22. At an exhibition, an officiating Judge shall not use electronic devices whilst carrying out judging appointment in the ring unless confirming a breed standard or when critiquing. Electronic devices must not be used for communication purposes while judging
23. Judges shall not criticise by act or word the work of other judges, nor offer criticism of any previously judged dog(s) to anyone including other officiating judges during the course of the show. Except for authorised ringside mentoring.
24. All judges must judge exhibits in accordance with their relevant Dogs Australia breed standard.

Aspiring Program

Requirements:

- Attendance at all lectures and both hands on events is **compulsory**.

Modules:

1. Introduction, Interpreting Standards and Study Techniques
2. Critiquing and Glossary of Terms
3. Canine Anatomy
4. Gait and Movement
5. Ethics and Responsibilities / Rules and Regulations
6. Ringcraft Theory
7. Ringcraft Practical & Hands On (two sessions)

Theory Examinations:

- **Theory Exam – July**
 - Content: Rules and Regulations, Anatomy, Glossary of Terms
 - Pass Mark: 75%
 - Content: Aspirant's nominated group
 - Pass Mark: 75%

Assessment:

- **Practical Assessment –**
 - Requirement: Complete and pass

Outcome:

- Upon passing the Practical Examination, the aspirant shall be listed as a **Dogs Australia Open Show Judge** for that breed or group.
- Participants are **eligible to apply** for the Trainee Program, either group or single breed
- Should an aspirant not achieve a pass result, the Aspirant will have to re-sit the complete aspirant course

Trainee Group Program

- Attendance at ALL scheduled Field Days/Nights through the four subgroups is compulsory. Failure to attend will render the trainee ineligible to apply for a Practical Exam.
- A trainee who is unsuccessful in their Practical Exam OR previously passed their theory, must attend ALL Field Days/Nights in the year they wish to apply for a Practical Exam.
- A trainee who is unsuccessful in their Practical Exam must attend a minimum of 75% of lectures in the year they wish to apply for a Practical Exam.
- A trainee who has previously passed their theory, and wishes to apply for a Practical Exam, must attend 75% of the lectures in the year they wish to apply for a Practical Exam
- A trainee who is unable to attend a lecture must complete the following to obtain credit for the breed(s) covered that night:
 - a) Contact the Group Leader and the Group Leader will supply two or more photos of a dog and bitch for each breed
 - b) For each breed missed, a 1000-word essay be completed consisting of history, form and function of the breed, critique of the dog and bitch and reasoning for Best of Breed. This will be done via a proforma found on the Dogs Victoria CJC site
 - c) This essay proforma(s) must be sent to the Chair, the Group Leader and to the DV Office within 14 days of the lecture.

Trainee Group Program Modules

Year 1

- Subgroup 1: Breed lectures and field day
- Submit an application form
- Sit Theory Exam
- Subgroup 2: Breed lectures and field day
- Submit an application form
- Sit Theory Exam

Year 2

- Subgroup 3: Breed lectures and field day
- Submit an application form
- Sit Theory Exam
- Subgroup 4: Breed lectures and field day
- Submit an application form
- Sit Theory Exam

Practical Assessment –

- **Requirement:**
 - Have submitted an application form
 - Complete and pass (see Practical Examination Process on below)

Outcome

- Upon successful completion, participant will be licensed as a **Dogs Australia Championship Judge** for that group and is eligible to apply for another group
- Should a trainee not achieve a pass result in a practical examination, to qualify to take a further group practical examination a trainee judge must:
 - Judge an additional 25 dogs
 - Examine and critique an additional seven dogs' intensive critiques
 - Must attend 75% of the lectures in the year they wish to apply for a Practical Exam
 - Attend all field events

Practical Examination Process

Practical Examination Qualification Requirements

To qualify to sit for a Practical Examination, a Trainee Judge must:

- Attend **all lectures and field events**.
- Obtain a **75% aggregate pass** across the four (4) Sub Groups.
- Judge a minimum of **50 dogs** and complete at least **15 intensive critiques**.
- Only **one (1) Practical Examination** may be attempted per calendar year.

Examination Structure

No person shall make any photographic or video record of any part of a Practical Examination

The Practical Examination shall be conducted as follows:

- **Classes:**
 - Two (2) classes, each of a different breed, consisting of five (5) dogs over six (6) months of age.
 - One (1) mixed class of five (5) different breeds (over six (6) months), excluding the two previously used breeds (including varieties of).
- **Assessors:**
 - Three (3) Assessors will be appointed as a Panel for the Practical Examination.
- **Time Allocation:**
 - Trainee Judges are to be encouraged not to spend more than two (2) minutes on each dog.
- **Placings:**
 - For breed and group classes, the Trainee Judge must place the exhibits in order of merit, record the placings, and answer questions on the class.
 - Exact agreement of placings with Assessors is **not required**, but Assessors will consider:
 - The reasoning given.
 - Whether the better dogs are placed at the front of the class and the poorer dogs at the back.
- **Assessment:**
 - Each Assessor must make their own **independent assessment** of Pass or Fail.

Pass Criteria

- To achieve an overall pass:
 - The Trainee Judge must be passed in **all classes** by at least 2 of the 3 assessors

Intensive Critiques

- All intensive critiques require the physical examination by the trainee in the presence of a licenced Dogs Australia Accredited Assessor, who is not a trainee judge currently enrolled in the scheme.
- The intensive critique form MUST be completed, discussed, and countersigned by the trainee and licenced Dogs Australia Accredited Assessor on the day.
- A Dogs Australia Accredited Assessor can only sign a maximum of three intensive critiques.
- Approved Distance Trainees must complete the minimum 15 dogs intensive critiques plus essays.

Speciality Intensive Critiques

- Trainee judges are to attend a minimum of one breed, multi breed or group specialty show, for their group within the duration of the scheme.
- Complete a minimum of one written intensive critique at such “specialty show” as a part of the required 15 dogs’ intensive critiques

Please Note

- One critique per breed, this does not include varieties of breeds E.g. poodles, schnauzers
- All exhibits must be at least six months of age or over
- Only the official Intensive Critique Form on the DV website is to be used

Procedure for Conducting Trainee Classes / Sweepstakes at Shows

- To be credited for the required **50 dogs judged**:
 - There must be **only one (1) Trainee Judge in the ring**.
 - Exhibits must be **physically placed, discussed, and signed off** by an **Accredited Assessor only**.
 - All exhibits must be at least six months of age or over
- Each Trainee Sweepstakes Class must have a **minimum of five (5) dogs and a maximum of ten (10) dogs**.
- The Trainee Judge must maintain a **written record** of:
 - Date of the fixture
 - Number of dogs and breeds judged
 - The Trainee Judge's Judging Record Card/Sheet must be signed by an Accredited Assessor after a discussion of the dogs judged and confirmation of the numbers and breeds on the day
 - Sign off by a Show Official is not permitted.
- **Prior approval must be obtained from the Affiliate conducting the Show** before scheduling any Trainee Sweepstakes Class.

Single Breed Training Program

Application Requirements

To enrol in the Single Breed Training Program an Aspiring Judge must:

- Successfully complete the Aspirants program
- Submit a minimum 1,000-word illustrated essay on the relevant breed.
 - The essay must include:
 - A history and description of the breed
 - The breed's purpose
 - All relevant requirements contained in the Breed Standard
 - The essay will be subject to approval by the CJC as conforming with these conditions and demonstrating the required level of competency.
 - The applicant must also attend the breed lecture offered in the Training Program at the time of applying for the Theory Examination.
 - Where conducted (and at the discretion of the Member Body), the applicant must attend:
 - The breed club's Open and Championship Shows
 - The group club's Open and Championship Shows
 - The breed judging at an approved major show (e.g., Royal Show or the major Non-Royal Show in each State).

To qualify for a Single Breed Theory Examination, the Trainee Judge must:

- Have met the requirements above and
- Have submitted an application form.

To qualify for a Single Breed Practical Examination, the Trainee Judge must:

- Have attained a pass in the Single Breed Theory Examination, and
- Have submitted an application form.

Practical Examination Requirements

Single Breed Practical Examination shall consist of:

- One (1) class of a minimum of five (5) dogs over the age of six (6) months, and
- One (1) class of a minimum of five (5) bitches over the age of six (6) months.

The Trainee Judge will be required to:

- Place the classes, and
- Select **Best of Breed** and **Runner Up to Best of Breed**.

The Trainee Judge must not be examined on dogs they own or co-own.

Appointment as Judge

Upon passing the Single Breed Practical Examination, the Trainee Judge shall be listed as a **Dogs Australia Championship Show Judge** for that breed.

2026 Important Dates

Applications For 2026 Program Close:	Monday 5th January
Application Sub Group One Theory Exam:	Open 6th March – Close 16th March
Sub Group One Theory Exam:	Thursday 16th April
Application Sub Group Two Theory Exam:	Open 5th June – Close 15th June
Sub Group Two Theory Exam:	Wednesday 1st July
Application Aspirants Theory Exam:	Open 5th June – Close 15th June
Aspirants Theory Exam:	Wednesday 1st July
Application Practical Exam	Open TBA – Close TBA
Practical Exam:	10th – 16th August
Aspirants Practical:	TBA

Please Note:

Applications for the practical examination must firstly be sent to the relevant group leader for verification at least 1 week prior to the closing date.

Conformation Judges Committee Contact Details

Chairperson: Julie Keenan
Mobile: 0407 830 710
Email: newf@aussiebb.com.au

Group Leaders

Aspiring Program: Lisa Woolley
Mobile: 0409 135 745
Email: eljaes1@gmail.com

Toys (Group 1): Jacqui Weekes
Mobile: 0432 722 223
Email: jacs44@mail.com

Terriers (Group 2): Glenys Alexander
Mobile: 0423 403 205
Email: glenalexander972@gmail.com

Gundogs (Group 3): Barbara Doyle
Mobile: 0472716966
Email: jarikadoyle@gmail.com

Hounds (Group 4): Judy Oliver
Mobile: 0417 368 621
Email: judyoliver2@bigpond.com

Working Dogs (Group 5): Mick Wilkinson
Mobile: 0404 464 729
Email: daneozetal7@gmail.com

Utility (Group 6): Julie Keenan
Mobile: 0407 830 710
Email: newf@aussiebb.com.au

Non-Sporting (Group 7) Shellie Marshall
Mobile: 0433 796 333
Email: shellie@pampard.com.au

Group Leader Support: Andrew Burt
Mobile: 0419 545 938
Email: kkazumi2000@gmail.com

Breed Lecture Protocols

- Lecture start times are set by the group leader
- Students arriving late will **not receive credit for attendance**.
- A Trainee Judge must be present at and participate in the entire lecture, either online or face to face to be credited with attendance.
- Students participating online must remain visible to the group leader for the entire lecture to be accredited with attendance.
- Students participating online must be free from distractions
- **Recording of lectures is strictly prohibited.**
- Both trainees and group leaders must maintain **Attendance Records** for cross-checking in the event of a dispute.
- Comments made during the lecture by group leaders or trainees are **confidential** and must not be disclosed outside the session.
- **Electronic devices** may only be used for participation in the Zoom lecture.

2026 Dates Aspirants

Group Leader: Lisa Woolley

Tuesday 10 th February	Introduction, Interpreting Standards and Study Techniques
Tuesday 17 th February	Critiquing and Glossary of Terms
Tuesday 24 th February	Canine Anatomy
Tuesday 3 rd March	Gait and Movement
Tuesday 10 th March	Ethics and Responsibilities/Rules & Regs
Tuesday 17 th March	Ringcraft Theory
Tuesday 5 th May	Ringcraft Practical & Hands on (Bulla Exhibition Centre)
Tuesday 12 th May	Ringcraft Practical & Hands On (Bulla Exhibition Centre)

2026 Dates Group 1 Toys

Group Leader: Jacqui Weekes

Sub Group One:

Thursday 22 nd January	Introduction & Chihuahua Long & Smooth
Thursday 28 th January	Chinese Crested Dog
Thursday 5 th February	Prague Ratter & Russian Toy Terrier
Thursday 12 th February	Italian Greyhound
Thursday 19 th February	English Toy Terrier
Thursday 26 th February	Miniature Pinscher
Saturday 28 th March	Field Day Sub Group1 - Kilmore Dog Show - Bulla
Thursday 15 th April	Sub Group 1 Revision

Sub Group Two:

Thursday 23 rd April	Havanese
Thursday 30 th April	Lowchen
Thursday 7 th May	Bichon Frise
Thursday 14 th May	Maltese
Thursday 21 st May	Bolognese
Thursday 26 th May	Coton De Tulear
Saturday 6 th June	Field Day Sub Group 2 Toy Dog Club
Thursday 25 th June	Revision Sub Group 2
Thursday 6 th August	Final Revision

2026 Dates Group 2 Terriers

Group Leader: Glenys Alexander

Sub Group One:

Wednesday 21st January	Introduction to Trainee Judges Program and Terriers Sub Group 1
Wednesday 28th January	Fox Terrier (Smooth)
Wednesday 4th February	Fox Terrier (Wire)
Wednesday 11th February	Airedale Terrier
Wednesday 18th February	Lakeland Terrier
Wednesday 25th February	Welsh & Irish Terriers
Wednesday 4th March	Kerry Blue & Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers
Wednesday 11th March	Revision Night

Sub Group Two:

Wednesday 22nd April	Introduction to Terriers Sub Group 2
Wednesday 29th April	Jack Russell Terrier
Wednesday 6th May	Parsons Russell Terrier
Wednesday 13th May	Border Terrier
Wednesday 20th May	Manchester Terrier
Tuesday 27th May	Tenterfield Terrier
Wednesday 3rd June	German Hunting & American Hairless
Wednesday 10th June	Revision Sub Group 2
Saturday – Monday 6-8th June	Field Days

2026 Dates Group 3 Gundogs

Group Leader: Barbara Doyle

Sub Group One: Spaniels

Tuesday 20th January	Cocker Spaniel
Tuesday 27th January	Cocker Spaniel (American)
Tuesday 3rd February	English Springer Spaniel
Tuesday 10th February	Welsh Springer Spaniel
Tuesday 17th February	Field Spaniel
Tuesday 24th February	Clumber & Sussex Spaniels
Tuesday 3rd March	Irish Water Spaniel
Tuesday 10th March	Sub Group 1 Revision
Field Day	TBC

Sub Group Two: HPR Gundogs (Hunt, Point, Retrieve)

Tuesday 14th April	Weimaraner & Weimaraner (Longhair)
Tuesday 21st April	German Shorthaired Pointer & German Wirehaired Pointer
Tuesday 28th April	Hungarian Vizsla & Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla
Tuesday 5th May	Bracco Italiano
Tuesday 12th May	Italian Spinone
Tuesday 19th May	Brittany
Tuesday 26th May	Large Munsterlander
Tuesday 2nd June	Wirehaired Slovakian Pointer
Tuesday 9th June	Sub Group 2 Revision
Field Day	TBC

2026 Dates Group 4 Hounds

Group Leader: Judy Oliver

Sub Group One:

Wednesday 28th Jan	Intro
Wednesday 4th Feb	Greyhounds
Wednesday 11th Feb	Deerhounds and Irish Wolfhounds
Wednesday 18th Feb	Whippets
Wednesday 25th Feb	Borzoi
Wednesday 4th March	Afghan Hound
Wednesday 11th March	Saluki
Wednesday 18th March	Revision
Saturday 2nd May	Field Day at Hound Club Ch Show @ Bulla

Sub Group Two:

Wednesday 6th May	Azawakh and Sloughi
Wednesday 13th May	Ibizan Hound
Wednesday 20th May	Pharaoh Hound, Cirneco dell'Etna
Wednesday 27th May	AGM – No Lecture
Wednesday 3rd June	Podengos
Wednesday 10th June	Rhodesian Ridgeback, Hamiltonstovare
Wednesday 17th June	Revision
Saturday 13th June	Field Day at Frankston Ch Show @ Cranbourne

2026 Dates Group 5 Working

Group Leader: Mick Wilkinson

Sub Group One:

Wednesday 21st January	Collie (Rough) & Collie (Smooth)
Wednesday 28th January	Shetland Sheepdog & Icelandic Sheepdog
Wednesday 4th February	Australian Shepherd & Miniature American Shepherd
Wednesday 11th February	Border Collie
Wednesday 18th February	Beauceron & Kuvasz
Wednesday 25th February	Revision Night
Sunday 15th February	Field Day- Canine Amenities - Bulla Exhibition Centre

Sub Group Two:

Wednesday 15th April	German Shepherd Dog & German Shepherd Dog (Long Stock Coat)
Wednesday 22nd April	White Swiss Shepherd Dog & Dutch Shepherd Dog
Wednesday 29th April	Belgian Shepherd Dog (Groenendael, Tervueren, Laekenois, Malinois)
Wednesday 6th May	Maremma Sheepdog & Bouvier Des Flandres
Wednesday 13th May	Komondor & Tatra Shepherd Dog
Wednesday 20th May	Revision Night - Sub Group 2
Sunday 21st June	Field day- Dogs Victoria Open shows

2026 Dates Group 6 Utility

Group Leader: Julie Keenan

Sub Group One:

Tuesday 20th January	Introduction 7pm start /Akita /Shikoku
Thursday 5th February	Shiba /Japanese Akita
Thursday 12th February	Samoyed/ Yakutian Laika
Thursday 19th February	Alaskan Malamute
Thursday 26th February	Siberian Husky / Canadian Eskimo Dog
Thursday 9th April	Revision
Saturday April 11th	Field Day Sovereign City Show (Bulla) 9am start

Sub Group Two:

Thursday 23rd April	Neapolitan Mastiff / Dogue De Bordeaux
Thursday 30th April	Bullmastiff /Spanish Mastiff
Thursday 14th May	Central Asian / Anatolian / Kangal Shepherd
Thursday 21st May	Mastiff/ Cane Corso
Thursday 28th May	Revision
Sunday July 26th	Utility Dog Club Victoria Championship Show

2026 Dates Group 7 Non-Sporting

Group Leader: Shellie Marshall

Sub Group One:

Wednesday 11th Feb	Introduction Night plus Great Dane
Wednesday 18th Feb	Dalmatian
Wednesday 25th Feb	All Poodles
Wednesday 5th Feb	Xoloitzcuintle, Peruvian Hairless Dog (small, Med, Large)
Saturday 21st March	Field Day – Twilight canine country
Wednesday 8th April	Revision

Sub Group Two:

Wednesday 29th April	Boston Terrier
Wednesday 6th May	French Bulldog
Wednesday 13th May	Bulldog
Wednesday 20th May	Australian Bosdog
Wednesday 24th June	Revision
Sunday 26th July	Field Day – Non-Sporting Ch. Show

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I count dogs I examine at Breed Lectures on my Judging Record?

- **No.** You can only count dogs that you judge: Dogs Australia Reg. 6.1.2 Module 2. Practical Experience: Judging may be in the form of hands-on experience by placing dogs at Open Shows, Sweepstakes, Members Competitions, but not at breed lectures.

How many dogs can a Dogs Australia Accredited Assessor sign off as judged at a non-contracted show?

- Ten (10) dogs

Can I critique dogs at Breed Lectures?

- **No.** Critiques are a training tool and need time for full discussion with an Accredited Assessor to read your critique and have a full discussion on said dog.

What should I do with essays if I missed the lecture?

- Trainees must send 3 copies of essays **within 14 days**, one to each below.
 1. The group leader for checking
 2. Dogs Victoria office: All conformation judges training paperwork emailed to the office is to be sent to: mwilliams@dogsvictoria.org.au
 3. CJC Chair

Can I count dogs I judge in a 'Property Class's at a Speciality Show?

- Only in classes where the **entire dog is judged**.
e.g., Owner/Breeder Class, Interstate Exhibitor Class, Puppy Sweeps Class (over 6 months)
Not Best Head, Colour, Gaited etc where the whole dog is not being judged.

Can I complete Intensive Critiques interstate, and have them signed?

- **Yes**, but they **must** be on the DV Intensive Critique form and completed as required by the Dogs Victoria CJC.
They **must** be discussed and signed off by a Dogs Australia Accredited Assessor **on the day**.