DOGS VICTORIA

REG. NO. A0023882W

REGULATIONS

PART 16 - SPRINTDOG

Last update: 15 December 2026

To be read in conjunction with DOGS AUSTRALIA Regulations, Codes & Policies

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16 – SPRINTDOG (Amended 15/08/26, 15/10/24)

16.1 TRIALS

16.1.1 All SprintDog Trials are to be held under the Rules of Dogs Australia for SprintDog and Dogs Victoria Rules and Regulations. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.2 OFFICIALS

16.2.1 All judges and officials must wear fully enclosed footwear. (15/06/26)

16.2.2 Where a contracted Judge does not attend within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time for that judge, the organising affiliate is to appoint a suitably qualified replacement judge.

16.2.3 A person must not officiate alone as a Sprint Marshal at any Dogs Victoria SprintDog event unless they have successfully completed the Dogs Victoria SprintDog Subcommittee Sprint Marshal Training Program. (15/08/26)

16.2.4 A person enrolled in the Dogs Victoria SprintDog Subcommittee Sprint Marshal Training Program may act as Sprint Marshal only under the direct supervision of an approved Mentor. (15/08/26)

16.2.5 Any fees payable to judges and other contracted officials must be paid within the period specified in Regulation 3.5.10. (15/08/26)

16.3 PARTICIPANTS

16.3.1 All participants must wear fully enclosed footwear. (15/06/26)

16.3.2 Any person who handles or is in control of a dog within the trial precinct area must be at least 16 years of age. (15/11/26)

16.3.3 If a dog is handled by, or under the control of, a person under the age of 16 years within the trial precinct area, at any time during the conduct of a trial, the dog may be disqualified from the event. (15/11/26)

16.4 RESTRICTED TRIALS

16.4.1 Restricted Trials may be held by a breed specific or group specific club, subject to approval by the SprintDog Subcommittee.

16.5 SCHEDULES

16.5.1 Schedules, Judges and Lure Operators Contracts must be submitted to the Dogs Victoria Office for approval. The schedule must contain the following information: (Amended 15/08/26)

16.5.1.1 The date on which the entries close as the first item appearing on the first page of the prize schedule.

16.5.1.2 Notification to the effect that the body is affiliated with Dogs Victoria and that the event is held under the Rules and Regulations of Dogs Victoria which are available on the Dogs Victoria website. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.5.1.3 The name of the Affiliate conducting the trial. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.5.1.4 The correct status of the trial, whether it is an open or restricted event. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.5.1.5 The name and address of the venue at which the trial is to be held. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.5.1.6 The date on which the exhibition is to be held.

16.5.1.7 The address and email address to which entries are to be sent and the telephone number of the Club Secretary or Trial Secretary.

16.5.1.8 The name of each Judge and Lure Operator.

16.5.1.9 Entry fees per class.

16.5.1.10 Time that judging will commence.

16.5.1.11 Advice as to the availability of catering for exhibitors.

16.5.1.12 Notification that the event will be subject to Regulations 3.5.20 and 16.10. (15/08/26)

16.6 TRIAL ENTRIES

16.6.1 Acknowledgment of receipt of postal entries will only be given if a stamped self-addressed envelope is included with the entry form. Online entries will be acknowledged via email.

16.6.2 Deleted. (15/12/26)

16.6.3 Each committee or affiliate conducting one or more SprintDog trials during the same calendar day may allocate priority entry to officials/helpers required for the safe and efficient running of the trial(s). (Amended 15/11/26) (15/08/26)

16.6.3.1 Priority entry is limited to the following recognised positions: (15/11/26)

- Judges – maximum two (2) positions
- Dogs Victoria Representative – maximum one (1) position
- Lure Drivers– maximum two (2) positions
- Sprint Marshals– maximum two (2) positions
- Assembly Stewards– maximum two (2) positions
- Gate Stewards– maximum two (2) positions
- Flag Timing Stewards– maximum two (2) positions
- Manual Timing Officials– maximum two (2) positions
- Electronic Timing Officials– maximum two (2) positions
- Catching Pen Stewards– maximum two (2) positions
- Trial Secretary – maximum one (1) position

16.6.3.2 Each person appointed to one of the positions listed in 16.6.3.1 may receive priority entry for a maximum of two (2) dogs. Priority entry is attached to the recognised position and is not transferable. If a recognised position is not utilised at a trial, any unused priority entries allocated to that position shall lapse and must not be reallocated to another role or person. (15/11/26)

16.6.3.3 Other duties including but not limited to vetting, checking-in and catering may be undertaken by persons already appointed to the positions listed in 16.6.3.1 but these additional roles do not constitute positions that qualify for priority entry. (15/11/26)

16.6.3.4 The total number of priority entries allocated under this regulation must not exceed forty (40) dogs unless otherwise approved by the SprintDog subcommittee. (15/11/26)

16.6.3.5 Where more than one SprintDog trial is conducted by the same committee or affiliate during the same calendar day, priority entry shall apply across the day and not separately to each trial. Each official/helper may receive only one (1) priority entry allocation for a maximum of two (2) dogs for that day regardless of the number of trials conducted. (15/11/26)

16.6.3.6 Where a SprintDog trial is restricted to a specified Group, Groups or Breed(s) any official/helper receiving priority entry must also meet the eligibility requirements and comply with all applicable Group/Breed restrictions. (15/11/26)

16.6.4 The Event Secretary or Trial Manager must maintain a record of all official/helper allocations including the person's name, role and number of dogs entered. The SprintDog subcommittee may request these records at any time, and any breach may result in the event being deemed non-compliant with SprintDog regulations. (15/08/26)

16.6.5 An Affiliate conducting a trial may offer members of the organising Affiliate a discounted entry fee for the trial, provided that the discount is available on the same basis to all members of that Affiliate who are otherwise eligible to enter the trial.

A discounted entry fee under this Regulation does not constitute, and must not be used to provide, any priority, preferential or guaranteed right of entry to the trial. (15/12/26)

16.6.6 An Affiliate conducting a trial must not provide any member, person, group or organisation with priority, preferential or guaranteed entry to a trial by reason of membership of the organising Affiliate or any other Affiliate, club or organisation.

Subject to any specific provision of these Regulations, entries must be accepted and processed on the basis stated in the approved schedule. (15/12/26)

16.6.7 An Affiliate must not offer, advertise, award or otherwise provide, as a raffle, lottery, competition or similar promotional prize, a free entry, guaranteed entry, reserved place or other entitlement that gives the recipient a right to participate in a trial ahead of, or independently of, the ordinary entry process. (15/12/26)

16.7 CATALOGUES

16.7.1 The SprintDog catalogue shall contain:

16.7.1.1 The name of the Affiliate conducting the trial. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.7.1.2 A notification to the effect that the body is affiliated with Dogs Victoria and that the trial is held under the Rules and Regulations of Dogs Victoria which are available on the Dogs Victoria website. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.7.1.3 The name and address of the venue at which the trial is being held. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.7.1.4 The date/s on which the trial is being held.

16.7.1.5 List of Judges showing their judging commitments as per the prize schedule and the name(s) of the Lure Operator(s).

16.7.1.6 Time at which judging will commence.

16.7.1.7 Notification of any alterations to the prize schedule.

16.7.1.8 Name of Dogs Victoria Representative.

16.7.1.9 Each entry to show name of the exhibitor, name of the exhibit and the exhibit number.

16.7.1.10 The precincts of the trial.

16.7.1.11 Notification that the event will be subject to Regulations 3.5.20 and 16.10. (15/08/26)

16.8 PRECINCTS OF THE TRIAL

16.8.1 The trial management committee will determine the precincts of the Trial.

16.8.2 The running of dogs off lead within areas designated as trial precincts, other than when required as part of its official SprintDog run or when directed by an authorised official is not permitted. (Amended 15/11/26)

16.8.2.1 Any dog found to be running loose or off lead in the trial precincts area when not authorised to do so, at any time during a trial, may be disqualified from the event. (15/11/26)

16.9 CHECK IN PROCEDURES

16.9.1 Exhibit cards shall be prepared in advance for all dogs scheduled to compete at the trial. (Amended 15/08/26)

16.9.2 All exhibit numbers must be collected, and bitches inspected during the advertised check in time. All bitches must be hygienically examined for traces of blood or any coloured discharge in the vulva. Bitches in oestrum or showing any coloured discharge are not permitted to compete in a trial or to remain in the precincts of a Trial.

16.10 EXTREME WEATHER – SPRINTDOG (15/12/25)

16.10.1 DEFINITIONS

Refer to Regulation 3.2

16.10.2 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.3

16.10.3 AFFILIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.4

Where the forecast temperature at the scheduled start time is between 25 and 30 degrees Celsius, the trial management is to adjust the start time of the event so that the temperature falls within the allowable limits.

It is the responsibility of the Affiliate to provide a thermometer and display it at the Trial Secretary desk so that it is visible to all exhibitors.

16.10.4 CONDUCT OF A TRIAL IN THE HEAT

A judge may order removal from competition of any dog suffering signs of heat stress as the dog is unfit to compete.

16.10.5 CANCELLATION OF A COMPETITION

Refer to Regulations 3.5.20.4 and 3.5.20.5, excepting that a trial must be cancelled when:

- The temperature at the trial site at the scheduled start time is forecast to be 32 degrees Celsius or higher

16.10.6 'WAIT AND SEE' APPROACH - JUDGING TO BE SUSPENDED

A trial must not continue past an average temperature of 32 degrees Celsius. The average temperature is calculated by adding the temperature in the Sprint Zone (unshaded) to the temperature in the shade and dividing by two. If the average temperature exceeds 32 degrees Celsius the trial shall either be postponed for 15 minutes or concluded. If after a further 15 minutes the average temperature still exceeds 32 degrees Celsius the trial must be concluded. (source Dogs Australia Rule 2.8)

Refer also to Regulation 3.5.20.6

16.10.7 'WAIT AND SEE' APPROACH - JUDGING MAY CONTINUE

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.7

16.10.8 POSTPONEMENT, RELOCATION (INCLUDES MOVE INDOORS) AND CHANGE OF COMMENCEMENT TIME

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.8

16.10.9 LIGHTNING AND THUNDER

Refer to Regulation 3.5.20.9

16.10.10 CLUSTER COMPETITIONS

Where multiple trials are scheduled over a day or a number of days, then a case-by-case (trial-by-trial) decision shall be made.

16.10.11 REFUNDS OF ENTRY FEES FOR EVENTS CANCELLED DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER

Any dog who has not had a chance to compete in Run 1, may be entitled to a refund. (source Dogs Australia Rule 2.8)

16.10.12 STATUS OF AWARDS WHEN AN EVENT IS CANCELLED DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER

Should any run be completed by eligible competitors prior to a trial being suspended or cancelled then the qualifying scores for that stake will still stand. If the trial is concluded due to extreme weather, the dog's run 1 times shall be doubled.

16.11 JUDGES TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT

16.11.1 A person must make application to Dogs Victoria by completing the application for entry into the Judges Training and Assessment Program and lodging it with Dogs Victoria office.

16.11.2 The Judges Training and Assessment Program as adopted by Dogs Victoria, and effective from 1st January each year, must be consistent with Dogs Australia Regulations Part 3P.

16.12 EQUIPMENT

16.12.1 Flat collars with a handle are acceptable for use at sanctioned events. (15/06/26)