

STRATFORD DOG AGILITY GUIDE TO THE CONDUCT OF AGILITY TRIALS AND TRAINING CLASSES COVID SAFETY PLAN

Purpose

- The following measures will be implemented by Stratford Dog Agility when holding events during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Scope

- All Agility Trials and training conducted by Stratford Dog Agility.

Reference

1. www.australia.gov.au
2. <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>
3. <https://www.tga.gov.au/hand-sanitisers-information-consumers>
4. <https://www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-reopening-roadmap-regional-victoria>

All Stratford Dog Agility requirements must be addressed when applying for approval to conduct an event. This includes the Stratford Dog Agility COVID Checklist and the SITE Plan.

Attendance

Participants will not be permitted to participate in any club activities if they:

- have travelled internationally within the previous 14 days;
- have been to a known COVID-19 ‘hotspot’ within the previous 14 days;
- have been in contact with a person who has tested positive with Covid-19 in the previous 14 days;
- have a cold or flu symptoms;
- have been instructed to self-isolate or live with a person who is self-isolating.
- Trials will be limited to essential participants – judges, members, and volunteers involved in operation of trialling activities.
- Trial will also be subject to any Federal, State or local restrictions. i.e. numbers of participants.

Physical distancing measures

Participants will be expected to adhere to the following physical distancing measures:

- Physical contact will be minimised, e.g. no shaking hands or hugging.
- Ensure a distance of at least 1.5 metres will be kept between participants not in each other’s immediate family.
- The 4 square metres per person rule will be adhered to when conducting events.
- Access to official areas will be restricted solely to participants, other officials, and essential workers(volunteers). Markers will be placed to indicate prescribed distances.

Agility Trial Restrictions

- Every participant will be temperature tested at entry drive on arrival. Anyone exceeding 37.6 degrees will not be permitted on ground.
- No Camping allowed on ground
- Food will not be provided for sale. Participants must provide own food and beverage requirements for the day.
- Practise Area will not be available.
- There is to be a 3m gap between setup shelters.
- Clubhouse will not be available for use. Toilet entry is via northern door and is limited to 1 person at a time. Cleaning will be conducted hourly.

Entries for Trials

- Entries should be submitted with payment made by direct debit or via K9 Entries site as advised.
- Acceptance of entries is upon your undertaking to adhere to the stated requirements.
- At all times everyone on site must meet COVID social distancing and all other safety requirements.
- Handlers will need to bring their own chairs, hand sanitiser and any other personal safety equipment.
- There will be a COVID Officer, appointed by the Club's Committee. That person will be responsible for ensuring that the COVID safety requirements are met including asking people to leave the grounds should they deem it necessary.

GUIDELINES TO JUDGES

- It is expected that Judges design and nest their courses so that:
 - there is the least amount of obstacle changes throughout the event and
 - to minimise movement when competitors are walking the course.
- Judges should also limit the time and numbers of the competitors walking the course to reduce the risk of contagion.
- Judges must design courses with a separate entry and exit.
- should schedule the classes accordingly for minimum handling of the equipment.
- Judges may wear masks while judging.
- Judges may use an information board for outside the ring stating:
 - Standard Course Time
 - Course Length
 - Rate of Travel
 - Any special instructions
- Briefing should only be conducted if special instructions are necessary.
- A lunch/cold beverage pack will be provided for Judges and Scribes.

During the Trial:

- Lead to be retained by Competitor as per ANKC rules (recently changed). Either around the neck, waist or in a pocket. The lead cannot be held in the hand during the runout.
- Judges and Stewards and appointed persons must sanitise their hands before and after handling equipment during set up and course changes. The sanitizer/cleaning products must be in accordance with State Health Department Guidelines.
- Stewards and appointed persons may wear a mask.
- If gloves are used, they must be disposed of after handling the equipment each time in an appropriate container.
- After each run the Judge is to verbally inform the score Steward the results as required.
- Judges and Stewards may wear face masks.
- Walk Throughs - limited to a maximum of 10 - 12 Competitors (1 person per 4 sqm of area). Social distancing must be maintained. Competitors may wear a mask during the walk through and while competing.
- Competitors must also ensure all others are following the COVID Guidelines and may address anyone breaching in a courteous manner or report to the COVID Coordinator.

Presentations.

- After all judging is completed for the day the Trial Secretary will announce whether there will be presentations.
- The affiliate may decide to hand out qualification cards as the classes are completed.
- The gathering may be in a designated area suitable to allow social distancing.
- All certificates and any awards will be on a table rather than held by the judge.
- Judges and competitors must maintain social distancing e.g. no hand shaking.

After the trial.

At completion of the trial all equipment will be sanitised before storing and all helpers will sanitise their hands.

Monitoring

Stratford Dog Agility will monitor Federal, State and Local guidelines to ensure adherence to best practice for minimising the transmission of COVID-19.

AGILITY TRAINING

During Training

- Training is only open to Stratford Dog Agility financial members.
- All attendees are screened on arrival and must abide by the Affiliate COVID safe plan.
- Training with a course set up, only the handler and the trainer are permitted in the ring

Handling of equipment

- Set up, course changes and pack up will be completed by a small number of rostered volunteers who must wash/sanitize hands before and after putting the equipment away.
- They may wear gloves for each time.
- They may wear masks while setting up and packing up the equipment.

Cleaning of equipment

- If equipment is accidentally touched then it must be cleaned/sanitized using products and procedures in accordance with State Health Regulations.
- All volunteers to wash/sanitize hands after cleaning.
- If equipment is fouled then it must be cleaned/sanitized -volunteer to wash/sanitize hands after cleaning equipment.

Use of face masks

Currently in Victoria you are required to wear a face mask unless you have a legitimate reason not to do so.

It is not recommended to wear a mask when you are exercising or doing physical activity where you are out of breath or puffing. The mask may reduce the ability to breath comfortably. Heavy breathing and sweat can make the mask wet which makes it difficult to breathe and promotes the growth of microorganisms.

Whilst wearing a mask

- Avoid touching it while you are wearing it. If you do, wash/sanitize your hands.
- Do not reuse single-use masks. Immediately replace the mask if you have coughed or sneezed into it.
- When disposing of a mask, put it in a sealable bag to ensure the used mask will not be touched by others. Then put the sealed bag in the bin.
- Always clean your hands immediately after removing your mask and putting it in the bin.