

Rule Notification FY2425-9 Running of dogs by non-competitive teams

At its meeting on 5 May 2025 the AFA committee resolved to amend the rules to allow non-competitive teams to run in a heat any number of dogs to a maximum of four.

The change to the rules is set out below. It will be effective from 1 July 2025 and will be included in the next published version of the rules.

Background

The rules currently provide that a non-competitive team may run three or four dogs in a heat. The committee considered that this can lead to an unfair result when there are less than three dogs in the non-competitive team that would otherwise be able to run in a heat. The committee could not identify any detriment to the opposing team in allowing a non-competitive team to run less than three dogs.

Rule change

The first bullet point in the second paragraphs of rule 5.10 is amended to read as follows:

- the ***non-competitive team*** may run four dogs or fewer in a ***heat*** (unless the opposing ***team*** elects to race unopposed);