

Rule and Policy Notification 2023/2

At its meeting on 5 June 2023 the AFA committee approved the following:

1. A revision of the Black Card Penalty Protocol for black cards to simplify the awarding of a penalty and give the Dog Incident Sub-Committee flexibility in determining any penalty.
2. A revision to the Timekeepers Manual to reflect approving a financial contribution to assist trainee timekeepers from jurisdictions with few clubs to travel interstate to meet the requirements to become a timekeeper.
3. The deletion of the Training Day Policy and redefining a training day.

RULE CLARIFICATION – A revision to the Black Card Penalty Protocol to simplify its application and give flexibility to the Dog Incident Sub-Committee to award any penalty if required.

Appendix 14:

The current paragraph

If the **dog incident sub-committee** finds an allegation of **aggression** to be made out, the **dog incident sub-committee** will recommend a penalty in accordance with the AFA Black Card Penalty Protocol in **Error! Reference source not found.**
is replaced with:

If the **dog incident sub-committee** finds an allegation of **aggression** to be made out, the **dog incident sub-committee** will have regard to the AFA Black Card Penalty Protocol in Table A14.1 in deciding on the appropriate penalty to be recommended. To avoid doubt, the **dog incident sub-committee** may recommend a penalty which is not consistent with the AFA Black Card Protocol where it considers that to be warranted in the circumstances.

The definition below is altered for consistency:

dog ~~behaviour-~~incident sub-committee means a sub-committee appointed by the **AFA committee** comprising three members of the **AFA committee** best qualified to assess dog behaviour. See Appendix 14.

The revised Black Card Penalty Protocol is adopted to replace existing protocol.

The Black Card Penalty Protocol clarification is effective from 1 August 2023.

<https://flyball.org.au/rules/>

MANUAL AMENDMENT – Timekeepers Manual amended

The AFA Committee has reviewed the reimbursement of expenses for trainee timekeepers and has approved the following amendment in the Time Keepers Manual.

- **Note:** ~~If for a timekeepers~~ residing in a jurisdiction where **race meetings** normally have fewer than 30 **races**, the **AFA committee** in its absolute discretion may agree, on receiving a request made in advance by the timekeeper, consider to pay or contribute to the expenses of the timekeeper in funding attendance at a remote **race meeting** for the final required assignment of 30 **races** or for the opportunity to gain experience with different forms of racing at a **race meeting**.

The Manual amendment is effective from 1 August 2023.

https://www.flyball.org.au/media/page_images/AFA_TimeKeepers_Manual_June_2023.pdf

POLICY - Training Day Policy

Due to issues with insurance coverage the Committee has approved the deletion of the Training Day Policy.

As a result of this change the following definition for training days has been updated in the Rules:

training day means an event held for the purpose of providing the opportunity for **AFA members** and dogs with a **valid CRN** to train in conditions similar to those normally found at **race meetings**.

The Training Day Policy is no longer valid from 1 July 2023 and the definition is effective from 1 August 2023.

At its meeting on 7 July 2023 the AFA committee approved a revision to the 90 Day Rule to remove any ambiguity in relation to how the AFA Committee applies the 90 Day Rule.

RULE CLARIFICATION – A revision to the 90 Day Rule to remove any ambiguity in relation to how the AFA Committee applies the 90 Day Rule.

Definition of *owner*

Change to read:

owner means the **AFA member** recorded in the **AFA** database as the owner of a dog.

Rule 2.5

Change first paragraph to read:

AFA recognises three classes of racing:

- **regular class** in which each **team** must be comprised of dogs that are all registered on the **AFA** database on the day of the **race meeting** as belonging to the same **club**;
- **open class** in which **teams** may comprise:
 - dogs that are all registered on the **AFA** database as belonging to the same **club**; or
 - a combination of dogs that are registered on the **AFA** database as belonging to different **clubs** or no **club**;
- **veterans class** in which **teams** may comprise:
 - dogs that are all registered on the **AFA** database as belonging to the same **club**; or
 - a combination of dogs that are registered on the **AFA** database as belonging to different **clubs** or no **club**;

but all dogs must be at least seven years old on the date of the relevant **race meeting**.

Insert Rule 5.2A – Registration of dogs and changing clubs

The **owner** of a dog must register the dog on the **AFA** database as belonging to:

- a single specified **club**; or
- no **club**.

The **owner** of a dog may change the registration of the dog by giving notice to the **AFA committee**.

Rule 5.4

Change heading to **Restriction on dogs racing with different clubs**

Change the following paragraph:

If a dog ~~has that~~ races in regular class in a team from one club ~~the dog~~ may not race in regular class in a team from another club for a period of 90 days after the date on which it raced with the first club.

The 90 Day Rule clarification is effective from 1 August 2023.