

AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION NOTIFICATIONS



Update: **October 2019**

#	<u>Description of Notification</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>
1.	Notification for Member Ballot for 2008 AGM: 1. Changes to AFA Rules & Policies 2. Marking Ring Centreline 3. Determining placings with a tied result Rule 9.2 (q) 4. Dogs must cross between start gates Rule 9.2 (b) Rule Clarifications: 1. Combined Divisions Points 2. Clarification if all 4 dogs do not run 3. AFA Representative role 4. Manual starts by judges	June 2008	Incorporated in rulebook
2.	On Trial Rule: Combined Division competition points	July 2008	Incorporated in rulebook
3.	5. Champions trophy racing 6. Breakout rules 7. Points & Interference rule 8. Minor editorials 9. Ring centreline to be marked 10. Determining placings with a tied result 11. Dogs to cross between starting gates 12. Dog jump height 5 inches below withers & 7" minimum 13. AFA Privacy Policy 14. AFA Dog Behaviour Policy 15. AFA Training Day Policy	2008 AGM	Incorporated in rulebook
4.	On Trial Rule: Determining competition placings with a tied result	Sep 2008	Incorporated in rulebook
5.	Implementing new jump heights – new wickets	Oct 2008	
6.	AFA Regional Rep responsibilities	Nov 2008	Incorporated in rulebook
7.	Division Splits calculation guideline	Dec 2008	
8.	On Trial Rules: 1. Interference, including active during warm-up 2. Forfeit Rules rewrite 3. Fouling in Ring active during warm-up	Jan 2009	Incorporated in rulebook
9.	Clarification: taking Web times from AFA website for competition seed times	May 2009	Incorporated in rulebook
10.	Dog Vaccination Policy	May 2009	

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11.	Competition Special Conditions to be notified	May 2009	Incorporated in rulebook
12.	Mistreatment of a dog	Aug 2009	Incorporated in rulebook
13.	AFA Representative duties	Oct 2009	Incorporated in rulebook

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14.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forfeits for late teams (3 minute allowance) 2. Chasing in other team's lane 3. Rerunning after a false start 	Nov 2009	
15.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interference by ball crossing to other lane 2. Interference definition 	Dec 2009	
16.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Location of ball bucket 2. Pre event training in the ring 	Jan 2010	
17.	Veterans Class rules	Apr 2010	Incorporated in rulebook
18.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliberate false starts 2. Use & calculation of Declared Seed Times 3. 90 second changeovers 	Apr 2010	
19.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No breakouts for Division 1 2. Forfeit teams no false starts or re runs 3. Box Malfunctions & Distraction rules active during warm-up 4. Running height 	June 2010	Incorporated in rulebook Incorporated in rulebook Incorporated in rulebook NOT in 2010 rulebook
20.	Appointment of Supervisory Judge	Oct 2010	Incorporated in rulebook
21.	AFA Cancellation Policy & Refunds	Oct 2010	Incorporated in rulebook
22.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amateur Competition update 2. Interference wording correction 	Nov 2010	Incorporated in rulebook
23.	Clarifications: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Box Loader behaviour 2. Handling protests in the ring 3. Calculating team seed times 	Dec 2010	
24.	Nationals Planning Policy	Jan 2011	Incorporated in rulebook
25.	Official Measuring of Dogs	Jan 2011	Incorporated in rulebook

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26.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarification on dog measuring, 2. Clarification for points for breakout teams, 3. Approvals for competition formats etc, 4. Timing system batteries 	Feb 2011	
27.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revised Incident report Forms, 2. Update re Jumps Specification 	May 2011	
28.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Junior Handlers 2. Clarification: Interference, 3. Clarifications: Veterans Format, Fouling in the Ring, 4. Use of competition ring at lunchtime, 5. Clarification: Judges Accreditation Process. 	June 2011	
29.	Sandbagging rule clarification	June 2011	Incorporated in rulebook
30.	Jumps design specification	June 2011	Incorporated in rulebook
31.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amended Countback rule 2. Clarification – one handler running two dogs in one heat 	Aug 2011	

#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
32.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collection of loose balls; 2. Allowable in warm up period 	Dec 2011	
33.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of Regional Rep; 2. Training in the Ring; 3. Title Points in incomplete or cancelled competitions 	Dec 2011	
34.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disability Action Statement; 2. Teams on centreline; 3. Aggression incidents before or after an AFA event 	Feb 2012	
35.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interference & Crossing; 2. Measuring of racing lanes; 3. Training in the Ring; 4. Dog measuring 	May 2012	
36.	On Trial Rule: Champions Trophy Format	Jul 2012	

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37.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarification regarding approvals for any competition involving time limitations and the use of 60 second change overs; 2. Rule amendment re Signage on Jump base boards; 3. Rule amendment – Rule 9.2 (h) regarding conduct of box loader resulting in assistance to own team’s dogs or distraction to other team dog/s. 4. Rule amendment to eliminate duplication of wording in Rule 9.2 (b). 5. Rule amendment to clarify requirement to rerun dogs in order of fouls - rule 9.2 (n) 6. Process clarification re approval of competition division splits, formats and racing orders – Rule addition - Definition of Supervisory Judge in Section 2.7 of Rules. 7. Addition of Matting Levy to Appendix E - Schedule of Fees in Rule book. 	Oct 2012	_____
38.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review Handicap Racing Format 2. Clarification: Meaningless Heat 3. Clarification: clean return run 4. Revised Timekeepers Quiz 5. Clarification: Limited Entry competition 6. Clarification: Stewards Exam in own words 7. Clarification: No change of points after Team Captain signs timesheet 	Nov 2012	
39.	Signal cards review Rule 9.2 (r)	Jan 2013	
40.	Round Robin Handicap Racing Format	May 2013	
41.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training in the Ring Policy 2. Minor rule changes – remove contradiction; terminology “Backstop”; redraft section on Barriers / Backstops 3. Clarify meaning of “Suspending” a dog 4. Clarify restrictions on what Honorary members can do 5. Anti-smoking legislation 6. Process for posting dog title points 	May 2013	

#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
42.	Review of Round Robin Handicap Racing Format	May 2013	
43.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Withdraw On-Trial Rule for Red carding dogs for crossing 2. Breaking the start in Handicap racing to gain an unfair advantage 3. Clarification of Countback Rule where ties involve more than two teams 4. Clarification to Rule 9.2 r) “Signal Cards” 5. Reminder to use latest version of Forms from AFA Website 	Nov 2013	

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44.	<p>1. On Trial Rule: Clubs to renew affiliation to take part in AFA Activities</p> <p>2. Eliminate hard copy of Flying Times</p>	Feb 2014	_____
45.	On Trial Rule: Suspension of Crossing Rule	Mar 2014	
46.	<p>On Trial Rules:</p> <p>1. Rule 9.2 (b): Dogs to take jumps on way to box</p> <p>2. Age for Junior Stewards</p>	Apr 2014	
47.	On Trial Rule: New Rule 1.6 – Relief Judges	Jun 2014	
48.			
49.	Rule Clarification – Handler running two dogs in same heat.	Feb 2015	
50.	<p>Rule Notification No 50</p> <p>Advice to clubs and members regarding ways to promote membership growth and involvement in the sport of flyball.</p>	Feb 2015	
51.	<p>AFA Rule Notification to Members No. 51. Minor</p> <p>Changes to the Rules</p> <p>The introduction, On Trial, of a new format of racing – Open format class racing The Rules for the new format will be on trial for a minimum 12 month period commencing 1st April 2015.</p>	March 2015	

#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
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<p>52.</p>	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 52 _____</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <p>1. Adoption of an On Trial Rule dealing with requirement for Branch structured clubs to treat each regional branch as a separate club/team for purposes of Rules 1.0 and 2.4. More complete information regarding this matter can be found in the April 2015 AFA Committee Minutes.</p> <p>The new On Trial Rule will apply effective from 1st July 2015. The Committee has also determined that the On Trial Rule will be submitted to the AFA membership for ballot as part of the 2015 AFA AGM process. This will give all AFA members the opportunity to vote on adoption of the Rule or not.</p> <p>On Trial Rule amendment :</p> <p>“Section 2.7 Definitions – add</p> <p>A Club/Team for AFA membership and racing purposes shall consist of an affiliated entity to which members and their nominated dogs are recorded as members. Each branch of a branch structured club (Clubs registered as operating in more than one State/regional area of Australia) shall be treated as a separate Club/Team for affiliation and racing purposes and shall be subject to the requirements of Rules 1.0 and 2.4. “</p> <p>2. Clarification regarding correct process to be followed where a Team has a “clash” as a result of back to back races at a competition.</p> <p>Where a team recognizes that it has a clash and will not have all team members ready to enter the ring for a race it should immediately inform the Judge that there is a clash and not enter the ring to start its warm up. The Judge will inform the other Team of the clash and will delay the start of the warm up period for both teams. When all team members are present the Team Captain should inform the Judge that the Team is now ready to begin warm up. Both teams will then be advised by the Judge to start their warm ups.</p>	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>_____</p>
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#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
53.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 53</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meanings of Restart and Rerun in the Rules. 2. Clarification – Forfeit after being more than three minutes late for a race – Rule 7(a)(iii). 	June 2015	
54.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 54</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Rule amendment - Section 2.8 Footwear 4. Rule clarification regarding reserve dogs required to be held by handler and not tied up in or near the ring. 5. Combined Open and Veterans Class – Rule to apply re number of heats and races. 6. Training in the Ring Policy – Membership card required to be shown when booking a dog for training. 	July 2015	
55.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 55</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minor changes to the Open Racing Format On Trial Rules. 2. Amendments to the Guidelines for Hosting a Competition document available on the AFA Web site. 3. Restricted entry competitions which also include an Open format class. 	August 2015	

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56.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 56 _____</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarification of Open Racing Format Rules relating to Open Teams entered by a single Club. 2. Clarification regarding handicap racing in a situation where a handicap time gap between teams exceeds 10 seconds. 3. Clarification regarding Dogs entering more than one class (example Regular and Open) at a Limited Entry Competition. 	December 2015	_____
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#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
57.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 57</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New AFA Policy - Anti Bullying 2. New AFA Policy - Social Media 3. Revised Policy – National Championship Planning 4. Request to all Competition Organisers to make an announcement at start of competition to remind team captains to check dog CRNs on Timesheets. 	January 2016	
58.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 58</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lane spacing when using a minimum or restricted size Flyball ring. 2. Guidelines for competition organisers running handicap racing where a gap of 10 seconds or more exists between Teams. (Document also on AFA Web under “hosting a competition”) 3. Guidelines for use by Regional Representatives when asked to approve a running order. (Whilst this document is meant for use by Regional reps the content will be of interest to any Competition Organiser and hence is circulated to all Judges and Club Co-ordinators. (Document also on AFA Web under “hosting a competition”) 	February 2016	

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59.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 59 _____</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minor wording error in Notification no. 58 – Para 5 in Guidelines for Regional Reps when approving running orders. 2. Clarification of Rules – Section 1.4 dealing with seed times and breakout penalties. 3. Rule Clarification – Section 9.2 (q) – Determining the winner of a Round Robin Race Competition. 4. Clarification of use of Team names in Open format 	March 2016	_____
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#	Description of Notification	Date	Current status
60.	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 60</p> <p>This rule Notification deals with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption of On Trial Rule Amendment re additional wording added to Section 9.4 dealing with taping of dogs (other than leg wrap) not being permitted. 2. The adoption by the AFA of a set of Extreme Weather Guidelines to be taken into account by event organisers. 	May 2016	

<p>61.</p>	<p>AFA Rule Notification No 61 _____</p> <p>This Notification deals with the decision taken at the November 2016 Committee Meeting to abolish the rear inbound stewards position on a “ON Trial” basis effective from 1st December 2016. For competitions scheduled after 1st December 2016 there will be no requirement to have rear steward in place.</p> <p>The following are the amendments to the Rules relating to this change:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 10.1 (a) amend to read One Judge, Four (4) stewards and etc; 2. Section 10.1 (b) delete “one (1) inbound steward shall be positioned (sitting) in the middle at the rear of the ring in the inbound area:” 3. Section 10.1 (c) deleted from line 1 and 4 the words “inbound steward”; 4. Section 10.1 (d) delete the words “the inbound steward” from line 6. 5. 10.3 (g) – delete sub para and renumber following sub paras. 6. 10.3 new (i) delete the words “inbound steward and” from line1. 	<p align="center">November 2016</p>	<p align="center">_____</p>
<p>62.</p>	<p>AFA Rule Notification to Members No. 62 – March 2017.</p> <p>This Rule Notification deals with the following two matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consideration of the existing Rules dealing with display of the dogs CRN. Given that each competing dog’s CRN information is available on each team’s timesheet consideration was given as to whether there was a need for a handler to display the dogs CRN as per the current rules. Given the increasing prevalence of dogs being run by members with a different membership number to the dogs CRN, consideration has been given to the rule being amended to require each member to display their membership number so that judges and other officials could be assured that all people running dogs were financial members of the AFA. In most cases it is the members CRN that is currently displayed. 		

	<p>Consideration was also given to the application of section 5(h). Section 5(h) makes provisions for a team to forfeit a heat where a member, after being notified that they must display their dogs CRN, is later found to still not be displaying that CRN. It was suggested this provision was no longer required.</p> <p>It was decided by the Committee that on an On-Trial Basis from April 2017 the following rewording apply to Rule 5 (g)</p> <p>“All competitors will display their membership number whilst racing. The membership number must be of a suitable size to be easily read by the Judge”.</p> <p>The Committee also decided on an On-Trial basis to delete section 5(h) dealing with penalty.</p> <p>Both proposals were viewed to be changes to the rules and therefore needing to be treated as “On trial” effective from April 2017.</p> <p>2. The second matter related to Microchipping of dogs. The committee discussed the application of the current microchipping requirements and the frequency with which these provisions are used. It was noted that there are several member jurisdictions that do not require dogs to be microchipped and hence members in these areas may not have microchips inserted.</p> <p>Furthermore, to the best of the sub committee’s knowledge, the checking of a microchip number has only occurred in extremely rare circumstances and is not actively applied. Accordingly, the Committee decided to delete the requirement in Section 6.2 to have dogs microchipped. Section 6.2 (b) was accordingly deleted on an On-Trial basis as was Section 6.2 (e) and the remaining paras renumbered.</p> <p>Both On-trial change to the rules effective April 2017.</p>		
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63.	AFA Rule Notification No 63 Rewording of Rules Chapter 6 Measuring and Height Cards	May 2017	
64.	AFA Rule Notification No 64 On-Trial Rule for applying Countbacks in Handicap Racing Format	August 2017	
65.	AFA Rule Notification No 65 Elimination of inbound steward position Amended names for 3 top Titles No need to display CRNs in ring	August 2017	
66.	AFA Rule Notification No 66 Jump heights for Open format racing	October 2017	
66.	AFA Rule Notification No 66 (Duplicated Number) How to eliminate Open Teams in a restricted comp Limit on number of heats a dog can run in a day (max 40). Amendment to how to calculate declared time for a team. Guidelines for Training in ring Restricted entry comps – all classes must be restricted Open Class only competitions allowed under certain circumstances Closing dates for entries – minimum of 3 weeks recommended	Dec 2017	
67.	AFA Rule Notification No 67 Clarification on Declaring dog heights on Open Entries	Feb 2018	
68.	AFA Rule Notification No 68 Clarification re abandoned Round robin competitions where complete RR has not occurred	March 2018	
69.	AFA Rule Notification No 69. Clarification re dog title points in a suspended competition (this clarification over ruled in Notification 77). Extreme weather Policy Statement – Heat stress meter		
70.	AFA Rule Notification No 70. Clarification re fouling in ring.	July 2018	
71.	AFA Rule Notification No 71. Advice re unacceptable use of electronic collars in flyball	August 2018	
72.	AFA Rule Notification No 72. Rule change re fouling in ring Introduction of Ulna Measurement rules; Increase in preferred ring size to 120ft; Decision to replace Competition with Race Meeting in all Rules	Dec 2018	
73.	AFA Rule Notification No 73. Update on Ulna Measuring devices	Dec 2018	

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74.	AFA Rule Notification No 74. Advice to members re changes in Public Liability Insurance cover	Jan 2019	
75.	AFA Rule Notification No 75. Amendments to Rules to allow handicap racing in Regular Divisions; Sanction approval needed for any “special or unusual” activities in ring	Feb 2019	
76.	AFA Rule Notification No 76. Height Card application rules for ulna measuring Dog title points in tied heats – dogs in each team get 2 points	May 2019	
77.	AFA Rule Notification No 77. In suspended competitions dog title points are given for all completed heats; In suspended competitions all completed heats are taken into account for fastest times.	July 2019	
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