

## **AFA Policy for Training in the Ring**

Clubs and competition organisers who wish to offer Training in the Ring at their competition must:

- Obtain approval as part of the Competition sanction special conditions and then advertise it in the details for their competition on the Web,
- Ensure there is adequate supervision to control the ring and ensure fair access,
- Ensure there is a safe number of dogs in the ring at any time,
- Ensure that only dogs NOT entered in the competition are permitted in the ring at this time,
- Ensure that all handlers are AFA members,
- Ensure that all dogs are registered with the AFA by verification of membership card or soft copy of receipt for registration.

In addition to the above, the following shall apply:

- The Competition Organiser is responsible for arranging supervision of Training in the Ring. An officiating Judge can NOT be made responsible as Judges need the lunch break to relax and refresh.
- There is no minimum age for dogs to take advantage of lunchtime training. However, dogs under 12 months of age may not be run over jumps or train on the box.
- The Competition Organiser shall arrange and manage a system for fair and equitable access to the ring.
- A member who reserves the ring shall be responsible for management of and safety in the ring during the entire period of their reservation. They must be present and may agree to share the ring with others at their discretion.
- Jump height shall be at the discretion of the handler, and in any case be not more than an appropriate maximum for the dog's height. If the dog has not yet been measured, the maximum height shall be conservative, i.e. err on the low side.
- Training remains at the discretion of the Competition Organiser at all times
- Competition officials may withdraw or cancel the training at any time for a valid reason, such as need to resume racing or to cover racing time lost due to interruptions such as weather.
- Members using the ring shall supply their own box and balls.

A 'Training in the Ring Booking Form' can be found on the AFA website on the Forms page.