



COMPLIANCE INFORMATION FOR FACILITY MANAGERS

RSPCA Tasmania provides this guide to Animal Welfare (Dogs) Regulations 2016, to assist facility managers ensure practices comply.

In order to be compliant, please ensure that all records can be identified and readily accessed upon Inspectors request. Penalties apply for noncompliance.

Breeding and rehoming

- Dams must not have any more than 2 litters in an 18 month period.
- On rehoming every dog must be vaccinated and the vaccination certificate provided to the new owner.
- Must be wormed prior to rehoming.
- Facilities must provide written details on the care of the dog/puppy.
- At rehoming every dog must be checked by a veterinarian and the date the check was made, given to the new owner.
- Puppies that are rehomed must be accompanied by the microchip number of the puppy, or the microchip number of the dam of the puppy or the council the dam is registered with and her registration number.
- Dogs and puppies cannot be rehomed if they are known or suspected to be injured, sick, pregnant, have behavioural problems or are diseased - unless this is clearly disclosed to the new owner.
- No puppy under 8 weeks of age is to be rehomed.
- In the advertisement it must specify the microchip number of the puppy or the microchip of the dam of the puppy or the registration number and council the dam is registered with.

Record Keeping

- All records must be kept for 3 years.
- Name, Owners' details, Sex, Microchip number, Vaccination status, Registration Number
- *Breeders*- Dam/Sire name, registration and microchip number, date of whelp, identification number of puppies.
- Condition report of dogs in facility- regular observations must include nutritional intake, behaviour, temperament.
- Changes in eating, drinking, defecation and urination must be notes.
- Details must include the date the dog/pup arrived and the date of departure including name and address of person assuming care and charge of the animal.

Emergency Management Plan

In case of evacuation in the event of an emergency and updated every 12 months.

Health Plan

- A health plan must be approved by a veterinary surgeon to prevent, treat and eradicate infectious diseases.
- A person in charge of the facility must ensure that the name of a veterinary surgeon is displayed within the facility, for easy access.
- A facility must have provision to isolate infectious dogs.

Housing Requirements

- All housing must be designed and constructed, serviced and maintained for the safety of the dogs in the care of the facility.
- Water must be supplied, facilities kept clean,
- adequate light for inspections and biosecurity measures considered.
- There must be adequate space to provide isolation for dogs suffering significant infectious diseases or severe injury.
- Dogs must not be tethered for a continuous period exceeding 3 hours.
- Every dog over 6 months of age must have exercise for an hour daily, as part of this exercise, every dog must be exercised at least twice daily for a period of 10 minutes.
- Coats must not be matted or tangled.
- Dogs sleeping areas and water must be checked daily.

Definition from the Regulations

facility includes –

- (a) an animal shelter, pound or pet shop; and
- (b) premises operated by, or on behalf of, a dog rearing, training or boarding organisation that –
 - (i) is run for profit; and
 - (ii) as part of its operation, accommodates dogs overnight for profit; and
- (c) premises operated by, or on behalf of, an organisation which has 3 or more bitches over 6 months of age, that are not desexed, and which sells dogs, other than –
 - (i) working dogs, or hunting dogs, within the meaning of the Dog Control Act 2000 ; or
 - (ii) dogs registered with an organisation approved by the Minister for the purposes of this definition; or
 - (iii) greyhounds registered with Tasracing Pty Ltd (as established under the Racing (Tasracing Pty Ltd) Act 2009); and
- (d) premises operated by, or on behalf of, any other form of organisation that is primarily used for the accommodation, shelter, holding or breeding of dogs;

Animal Welfare (Dog) Regulations 2016

<https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sr-2016-121>