

CODES OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

This code is designed

- To return the element of enjoyment and satisfaction to all handlers.
- To make adults aware that young people play to satisfy themselves and not necessarily to satisfy adults or member of their own peer group.
- To improve the physical fitness of youth by making it attractive, safe and enjoyable for all young people.
- To constantly remind Members, Instructors, and Parents, that the sport of dog agility must be administered, taught and provided, for the good of those young people who wish to participate.

From : MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT

PADS' Code of Conduct applies to all Members and ADAA Members (to the fullest extent possible) who are in attendance on PADS' grounds or at any event organised by PADS, and who must:

1. not bring PADS, ADAA or the sport of dog agility into disrepute, including through discriminatory behaviour, offensive behaviour and incitement of hatred or violence;
2. be ethical, fair and honest in all their dealings with other people associated with PADS and ADAA;
3. only use positive methods when handling and training their dog and must not use any form of harsh handling;
4. report in accordance with the requirements of PADS and/or ADAA that their dog has been diagnosed by a veterinary with kennel cough or it is reasonably suspected by the Member or ADAA Member, that the dog has kennel cough;
5. keep their dog quarantined from all other dogs apart from other dogs within their own residence;
6. respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin;
7. always place the safety and welfare of children above other considerations;
8. comply with PADS' Rules and policies including the Child Protection Policy and Child Risk Management Policy;
9. operate within the rules, regulations and spirit of the sport of dog agility;
10. respect the decisions of judges and any other officials at competitions;
11. comply with all relevant Australian laws (Federal and State), particularly anti-discrimination and child protection laws;
12. be responsible and accountable for their conduct;
13. recognise that many PADS and ADAA members, eg Management Committee members, board members, judges, stewards, scorekeepers, marshals, instructors are volunteers who give up their time to provide services.
14. not make disparaging public or media statements.

15. understand that the sport is part of a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the outcome of an event or competition, a class held at an affiliated club, training camp or seminar

SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

- A spectator and any Invitees at a training session, competition, open day, seminar or any activity sanctioned or staged by PADS must:
 - a) respect the decisions any PADS' Management Committee member or official and teach children to do the same;
 - b) never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake;
 - c) condemn any form of harsh handling of a dog;
 - d) respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin;
 - e) not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form, including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting;
 - f) comply with any terms of entry in to the PADS' grounds, and/or any ground or facility hired or being used by PADS, including bag inspections, prohibited and restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to cause injury (including to a dog), or public nuisance;
 - g) not throw missiles (including on to the training and/or competition areas or at other spectators) and must not enter PADS' grounds without lawful authority; and
 - h) conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of PADS and the sport of dog agility generally.
- Any person who does not comply with the Spectator and Invitees Code of Conduct or who otherwise causes a disturbance may be evicted from the grounds or any grounds or facility being used by PADS and banned from attending in the future.

From : CHILD PROTECTION RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S CODE

1. Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in agility are made available to all irrespective of ability.
2. Equipment and facilities must be appropriate to the maturity level of the junior handlers.
3. Remember that a dog should always be trained by the use of positive handling and training methods. Play down the importance of clear rounds and awards.
4. Ensure that all members, parents of children, children and wherever possible spectators and/or invitees are aware of PADS' codes of conduct.
5. Offer training sessions to instructors to improve the standards of instructing with emphasis on positive handling of their dog, good sportsmanship and the development of good technical skills.
6. Ensure adequate supervision is maintained at all club training sessions and events.
7. Behave in a manner to set an example for all participants.
8. Encourage parents to take an active interest in what their child or children is doing and in PADS.

INSTRUCTOR'S CODE

1. You have responsibility for the handler and his or her dog. EXERCISE IT.
2. Be reasonable in your demands on junior handlers', energy and enthusiasm. Remember that they have other interests and demands.
3. Teach all handlers that the rules of agility as designated by the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd and which are amended from time to time are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
4. Equipment must be appropriate to the maturity level of the junior handlers.
5. Ensure that all handlers have equal opportunity to participate in a class.
6. Remember that young people participate in agility for fun and enjoyment. Never ridicule or yell at any handler, especially a junior handler, for making mistakes.
7. Ensure that all handlers, including children, use positive training and handling methods.
8. Ensure that all handlers, including children, do not subject their dog or dogs to any form of harsh handling.
9. Develop respect for the judgment of other instructors as well as the ability of handlers.
10. Remember that young people need an instructor they can respect. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved and set a good example.
11. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed on sound instructing principles and the principles of growth and development of young people.
12. Encourage young people to develop basic skills and avoid over extending themselves during their formative years.
13. Create opportunities to teach sportsmanship, just as you would in teaching the basic skills.
14. Ensure that efforts for both skill improvement and good sportsmanship are rewarded by praise.
15. Set a good example by personal good behaviour.

MEMBER'S CODE

- 1 You have a responsibility for your own dog and its behavior.
- 2 Comply with the Rules of PADS and treat all other PADS' members with respect.
- 3 The rules of agility as designated by the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd and which are amended from time to time are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
- 4 Do not argue with any instructor and follow the directions of the instructors to the best of your ability.
- 5 Only train your dog by the use of positive training and handling methods and that you do not use any form of harsh handling,
- 6 Be a good sport. Applaud other handlers' efforts and achievements, especially junior handlers.
- 7 Treat all PADS' members, as you yourself would like to be treated.
- 8 Remember that the goals of the sport of dog agility are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good.
- 9 Co-operate with your committee members and instructors, as without them you do NOT have a club.
- 10 Report in accordance with the requirements of PADS and/or ADAA that their dog has been diagnosed by a veterinary with kennel cough or it is reasonably suspected by the Member or ADAA Member, that the dog has kennel cough.
- 11 Keep their dog quarantined from all other dogs apart from other dogs within your own residence.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CODE

- 1 Participate in agility for the 'enjoyment', not just to please your parents or instructor(s).
- 2 Comply with all the Rules of PADS and treat all other PADS' members with respect.
- 3 Do not argue with any instructor and follow the directions of the instructors to the best of your ability
- 4 Be a good sport. Applaud other handler's efforts and achievements.
- 5 Treat all PADS' members, as you yourself would like to be treated.
- 6 Remember that the goals of the sport of dog agility are to have fun and to use positive training and handling methods.
- 7 Improve your skills and feel good.
- 8 Co-operate with your instructors and committee members as without them you do NOT have a Club.

PARENTS' CODE

- 1 Do not force an unwilling youngster to participate in the sport of dog agility.
- 2 Remember, young people are involved in the sport of dog agility for their enjoyment, not yours.
- 3 Encourage your child to always participate in accordance with the rules and regulations.
- 4 Teach young people that an honest effort and settling the dog up for success is as important as achieving a clear round or completion of any obstacles.
- 5 Turn defeat into victory by helping young people work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or not succeeding.
- 6 Remember that young people learn best by example.
- 7 Do not publicly question an instructor's or judge's judgment and never his/her honesty.
- 8 Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the sport of dog agility.
- 9 Recognise the value and importance of all volunteers, including instructors and committee members. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for young people.
- 10 If you drop your child at the Pads' ground prior to training or any other activity conducted by PADS, you must not leave until at least two Committee Members and/or Instructors have arrived at the grounds and if at night, the field lights have been turned on.
- 11 If you do not stay with your child at a training session, open day or any other activity conducted by PADS, you must ensure that you are at the grounds to collect your child 10 minutes before the designated finish time at the very latest.
- 12 **You must be contactable by telephone at all times and must be in a position to come and collect your child from the PADS' grounds straight away if requested by a Committee member or an Instructor.**
- 13 **You must provide both an appropriate home and mobile phone numbers to PADS.**
- 14 **You must comply with any requirement of the Australian Dog Association of Australia in respect to your child or children if he, she or they participate in any ADAA activity or sanctioned activity.**

SPECTATORS' and INVITEES' CODE

- 1 Remember that young people play organised sports for their own fun.
- 2 Be on your best behaviour. Don't use profane language, or harass committee members, instructors, judges, or any other person assisting in the running of any event, competition or seminar.
- 3 Never ridicule or scold a handler for making a mistake while handling his or her dog.
- 4 Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
- 5 Respect all instructions, advice and opinion of the instructors and the judge's decisions at any competition.
- 6 Encourage handlers to participate in the sport of dog agility in accordance with the rules and regulations as laid down by the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd and PADS..
- 7 Remember PADS' Committee has the power to site Handlers, Spectators and/or Invitees for behaviour that may bring PADS and/or the sport of dog agility into disrepute.