

VYUFDA: State Yard Championships – Association Expectations.

Approved by Committee 6th of March 2019

Ownership:

Who “owns” Victorian State Championships?

There can be only one answer – “the VYUFDA”, otherwise they would not be titled “State Championships”.

Historically, the Association has played a lowkey role in State Championships, but now there is significant corporate support and livestreaming, it is appropriate for guidelines regarding the conduct of these events be established in order that standards are set and maintained.

Furthermore, there should be some degree of consistency in the structure of these events irrespective of where they are held. This will provide competitors and those negotiating with corporate partners, a degree of certainty.

The following guidelines/expectations are for prospective convenors to consider before being allocated a Championship. Convenors must either agree to comply with the guidelines or, at the very least, negotiate variations otherwise they will not be allocated the event on the Association’s behalf.

Guidelines:

1. A member of the VYUFDA Executive, or its appointed representative, will become an “ex officio” member of the organising committee and be involved in all decisions.
2. Championship sponsors will be recognised and acknowledged in all communications/publicity and at the event. They will not be overshadowed by local sponsors and neither will any of their competition be involved.
3. Proposed judges of all classes will be approved by the VYUFDA.
There must be 2 Championship judges, preferably, one of whom will be from another State.
The schedule of judge fees is:
Championship Judges - \$500 plus accommodation and meals;
Support Classes – fee by negotiation, [depending upon workload] and accommodation and meals.
4. Proposed entry fees will be approved by the VYUFDA.
5. Dogs are to be restricted to class.
The Championship, which comprises 3 rounds, may only be contested by Open/Improver dogs. If the Novice trial has finished prior to the conclusion of Round 1 of the Championship, the Novice winner may enter the Championship.
6. If there are 2 courses, only dogs which are eligible to contest the Championship be allowed to run on the Championship course.
7. Ideally fresh sheep be provided for all 3 Championship rounds. If this is impractical, the same sheep should be used for each completed round. For example: Round 1 must have sufficient fresh sheep for all dogs. Round 2 – if recycled sheep need to be used, all 25 runs will use sheep that have been around the same number of times. This will avoid accusations of some having used sheep or sheep which have been around twice while others had sheep which have only been around once.
8. There must be sufficient volunteers to manage stock handling and Championship competitors must not be involved with moving sheep or working the let out, unless they are no longer part of the competition.
9. The Convenor and Judges must run sheep through the No 1 course prior to the commencement and be mindful that the majority of competitors should be able to complete the course within the

allocated time in Round 1. Rounds 2 & 3 can be made more challenging at the discretion of the Convenor, the VYUFDA representative and Judges.

10. At the commencement of each day there must be a meeting of the Convenor, Judges, Head Scorer and VYUFDA representative. At this meeting key issues such as the timing of lunch, the number of runs to be conducted for the day will be discussed in order that everyone is fully informed.
11. Signage will be placed to maximise exposure on livestreaming. The final arbiters of sign placement will be the person in charge of livestreaming and the VYUFDA representative.
12. In order to set a standard on livestreaming, the Assn may provide a commentator if the convenor does not have anyone suited to the role.
13. The convenor will receive a minimum \$2200 and a pallet of CopRice dogfood from the Association and its corporate partners. The dogfood is not to be sold but distributed amongst competitors and volunteers. Additional support from the Association will depend upon the recruitment of more corporate partners.
14. Prizes for the Championship are to include ribbons and prizemoney to 9th place. Ribbons are to be titled "CopRice Victorian Yard Dog Championship", plus venue, year and placing.

