



# ***ASSOCIATION RULES FOR COMPETITION CHAMPIONSHIPS & ANNUAL AWARDS***

*This VYUFDA document has been reviewed and approved by the  
Committee on 21 May 2021*

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## 1. BACKGROUND:

This document describes;

- the protocols and conditions associated with state Championships and;
- the process under which points are allocated towards annual awards recognised by the Association.

## 2 CHAMPIONSHIPS:

### 2.1 VYUFDA: State Yard Championships – Association Expectations.

#### 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 have involvement in the organisation of the event to ensure that the interests of the Assoc and sponsors are upheld.
- 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) 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.

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- 5) If there are 2 courses, only dogs which are eligible to contest the Championship be allowed to run on the Championship course.
  - 6) 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.
  - 7) 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.
  - 8) 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.
  - 9) At the commencement of the days activities, the convenor in conjunction with the judges will inform competitors and officials of the expected timing of the lunch break and proposed number of runs for the day.
  - 10) 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.
  - 11) 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.
  - 12) 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.
  - 13) Prizes for the Championship are to include ribbons and prizemoney to 6th place. Ribbons are to be titled "CopRice Victorian Yard Dog Championship", plus venue, year and placing.

## **2.2 Guidelines for running Championships**

The following guidelines be set for those wishing to host Victorian Yard or Utility Championships;

- That a preliminary event be held and the highest scoring unqualified dogs gain entry into the first round of the Victorian Yard Dog Championships, to make up a field of twenty-five (25) dogs for the first round of the Yard Championship and twenty (20) dogs for the first round of the Utility Championship.
- If dogs are tied on the cut off score, the extra dog(s) will be included.
- A minimum final of ten (10) dogs must be run in the Yard Championship and a minimum of six (6) for the Victorian Utility Championship.
- That all dogs' entries in the Yard Dog Championship be of Improver -Open status levels, except in the case of the novice having been run the day before, only the winner of the novice have the option of running in the

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championship. If this dog places high enough to be state rep it has automatically broken status & would take up the status of Open.

- That the winner of two affiliated Open Yard Trial, held since the previous year's Victorian Yard Dog Championship gains entry into the first round of the Victorian Yard Dog Championship.
- That the winner of two affiliated Open Utility Trial, held since the previous year's Victorian Utility Dog Championship gains entry into the first round of the Victorian Utility Dog championships.
- The Winner of a State Championship Trial, be the dog that has the highest aggregate score over three rounds. (Open 1st round, 1st round of the Championship, and Final round of the Championship)

### **2.3 VYUFDA representatives for the Australian Yard dog Championships**

- a) The Victorian Championships determine which dogs and handlers to represent Victoria at Australian, National, Olympic or any other occasion where the VYUFDA is to provide representatives.
- b) In accordance with 2.1a), representation will be determined by the highest place-getters.
- c) Should they be unable to attend the representative trial, the next place-getter(s) shall be offered the position.
- d) Victorian representative honours will only be granted to resident Victorian handlers who are members of the VYUFDA at the time of them being successful at the qualifying trial.
- e) There must be two Judges for Victorian State Yard Championship, preferably one of them from interstate.
- f) That the VYUFDA representatives for the Australian Yard Dog Championships be High Point Dog of the Year and the highest place Victorian at the VYUFDA Yard Dog Championships in the first instance. If the highest place Victorian of the Victorian State Yard Dog Championship is also the High Point Dog of the Year the second place Victorian at the Victorian State Yard Dog Championship will be the second representative. If the timing of these events does not allow this to occur, top placings of the High Point will decide representatives
- g) If a dog cannot fulfill its commitment as a VYUFDA State Representative, its handler must notify the secretary of the VYUFDA as soon as possible.
- h) The Secretary must then notify the next eligible dog's handler as well as the organizing committee of the Australian Championship.

## **3 VYUFDA ANNUAL AWARDS**

- a) All trial convenors must provide results to the VYUFDA Secretary via the on-line Trial Results Form within seven (7) days of their trial.

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- b) Convenors are to advise the VYUFDA Secretary of Open placings down to sixth (6th) place regardless of the number of actual placings offered.
  - c) Points will be allocated only from results submitted via the on-line Trial Results Form.

The on-line results submission form can be found under the 'Trial Results' button on the Trial Conveners page – the link can be found below:  
<https://www.vyufda.com.au/vyufda01/trial-conveners/>

### **3.1 High Point Dog of the Year**

Points will be awarded, to placegetters of affiliated Championship & Open trials as follows;

<b>Place</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5
4 <sup>th</sup>	3
5 <sup>th</sup>	2
6 <sup>th</sup>	1

The same dog can be run by more than one person.

NB: NO POINTS ARE AWARDED FOR WOMEN'S ONLY TRIALS.

### **3.2 High Point Bitch of the Year**

Handlers are requested to nominate eligible female dogs with the Secretary each year. Candidates for Bitch of the Year may also be eligible for Dog of the Year.

Bitches must be nomination each year and all nomination made by 30th April will be eligible for points for the full year. Any nomination made past this date will only be eligible for points from the date the nomination is received.

Points will be awarded, to placegetters of affiliated Championship & Open trials as follows;

<b>Place</b>	<b>Points</b>
1st	10
2nd	7
3rd	5
4th	3
5th	2
6th	1

### **3.3 Encourage Handler of the Year**

Points can be earned in any affiliated trial in Encourage, Maiden, Novice, Improver or Open by a member who is at Encourage status at the start of the year.

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Points awarded for a win or place in a level above Encourage are the same as that placing in Encourage.

<b>ENC</b>	
<b>Place</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	4
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2
4 <sup>th</sup>	1