



# ***ASSOCIATION RULES FOR COMPETITION CHAMPIONSHIPS***

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Committee on 21 May 2021*

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## 1. BACKGROUND:

This document describes;

- the protocols and conditions associated with state Championships.

## 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.

#### General 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.
- 4) 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.
- 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 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 runs will use sheep that have been around the same number of times. This will avoid

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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 most 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 day's 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 (or Utility) Dog Championship", plus venue, year and placing.

## **2.2 Guidelines for running Yard Championships**

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

- The event will comprise three (3) rounds, a preliminary event and two championship rounds.
- That all dogs entered in the Yard Dog Championship be of Improver - Open status levels, except in the case of the novice event having been run the day before. The winner of the novice having the option of running in the 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 (known as a Pre-qualified dog).
- That a preliminary event be held, and the highest scoring unqualified dogs together with those prequalified 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.
- The final round of the championship shall comprise the ten (10) highest scoring dogs.
- If dogs are tied on the cut off score for any round, the extra dog(s) will be included in the following round.

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- 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).
  - The winner of the Open event shall be the highest scoring dog over the first two (2) rounds.

### **2.3 Guidelines for running Utility Championships**

The following guidelines be set for those wishing to host the Victorian Utility Championship.

- The event shall comprise two (2) rounds, a preliminary round and final round.
- The winner of two affiliated Open Utility Trials, held since the previous year's Victorian Utility Dog Championship gains automatic entry into the final round of the Victorian Utility Dog Championship.
- The highest scoring unqualified dogs from the preliminary round gain entry into the final round of the Victorian Utility Dog Championships, to comprise a minimum of ten (10) dogs for the final round.
- If dogs are tied on the cut off score, the extra dog(s) will be included.
- The Winner of the Championship Trial is the dog that has the highest aggregate score over two rounds.
- The winner of the Open event shall be the highest scoring dog from the first round.

### **2.4 Guidelines for running Farm Dog Championships**

The following guidelines be set for those wishing to host the Victorian Farm Dog Championship.

- The event will comprise three (3) rounds, a preliminary event and two championship rounds.
- That a preliminary event be held, and the highest scoring dogs gain entry into the first round of the Victorian Farm Dog Championships, to make up a field of twenty (20) dogs for the first round of the Farm dog Championship.
- The final round of the championship shall comprise the six (6) highest scoring dogs.
- If dogs are tied on the cut off score, the extra dog(s) will be included.
- The Winner of the Championship Trial is the dog that has the highest aggregate score over the three rounds.
- The winner of the Open event shall be the highest scoring dog over the first two (2) rounds.

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

- a) 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.
- b) There must be two Judges for Victorian State Yard Championship, preferably one of them from interstate.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.
- f) The Secretary must then notify the next eligible dog's handler as well as the organizing committee of the Australian Championship.
- g) If the highest placed Victorian at the State Yard championship is unable to attend the Australian Yard Championship, eligibility will be determined by the next highest placed Victorian at the State Championship.

## Appendix: Event suggested checklist.

	ACTIONS	Who	Due Date	Completed
1	Select venue			
2	Confirm dates with venue organisers			
3	Notify VYUFDA executives of proposed venue & dates			
4	Secure sponsorship as early as possible.			
5	Select trial committee			
6	Select & invite judges			
7	Forward rules & guidelines to judges			
8	Determine Entry fees charge			
9	Draft budget			
10	Prize money allocation			
11	Arrange accommodation for judges if required			
12	Arrange gate passes & refreshments for judges			
13	Complete nomination forms			
14	Send Entry form to VYUFDA Secretary to update to VYUFDA website and publish notifications.			
16	Publicise event (media, Facebook, website, flyer)			
17	Secure required number of sheep & keep in touch with donor of sheep			
18	Arrange cartage of sheep			
19	Contact donors of portable yards, ramps & trailers			
20	Arrange time keepers & recorders tables, chairs, shelters & PA			
21	Select team leaders for yards, time keeping, commentating & score board updates			
22	Organise yardmen & time keepers			
23	Organise sponsors & Yard dog banners, bunting & safety mesh			
24	Arrange water, feed & shelter for sheep.			
25	Check off competitors have paid fee by closing date			
26	Confirm all competitors are members or reciprocal members			
27	Conduct draw			
28	Are you using a livesheet ? Provide draw to VYUFDA Secretary to convert to livesheet			
29	VYUFDA Secretary to publish draw			
30	Provide judges note books			
31	Score boards/white board markers/score sheets/pens/bells/stopwatches/batteries/calculators			
32	Folders/judges clickers/copy of rules & code of conduct			
33	Laminate all rules & Code of Conduct for display			
34	Order & purchase sashes			
35	Organise trial trophies & mementos for judges			
36	Design & print programs			
37	Organise prize money/ prize slips for winner account details into envelopes prior to day of trial			
38	Daily review meeting each evening during trial			

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39	Submit trial results to VYUFDA Secretary via online submission form or live sheets in the event it was used.			
40	Write thank you notes to sponsors etc			
41	Organise dinner			
42	Organise PA commentators			
43	Organise live streaming & video of championship			
44	Organise person or persons to keep score cards up to date			
45	Organise gate passes, dinner tickets & camping receipts			
46	Organise members to inspect vaccination records & bitches			
47	Tidy up course with assistance from competitors			
48	Enjoy yourself!			