

## AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF SLEDDOG SPORTS

### SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

<b><u>OBJECTIVE</u></b>	To enhance and promote professional animal and human behaviour at all AFSS Affiliated sled dog races and events.
<b><u>DEFINITION – ABUSE REFERS TO:</u></b>	Any person who is found to have been verbally and or physically abusive to Dog/s, Mushers, Sponsors, Spectators or Officials.
<b><u>MUSHER SPORTSMANSHIP REGISTER</u></b>	If a Complaint is proven, the name and address of the person concerned will be entered into the AFSS Sportsmanship Register.
<b><u>PROCEDURE</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A complaint is made in writing to the RACE MARSHALL at an AFSS affiliated race or event, reporting the Abusive behaviour. The complaint must identify the alleged abusive person, the event date, time and circumstances.</li> <li>2. The Race Marshall and/or Race Club official will forward this written complaint to the AFSS Secretary and the Race Marshall shall be invited to make comment on the complaint but this is not mandatory.</li> <li>3. The alleged person involved will receive notification of the complaint and will be asked if there are any extenuating circumstances.</li> <li>4. If the person does not provide sufficient information or is unable to justify their behaviour, AFSS may issue the ‘first written warning’. The name of the person will be listed in the AFSS Sportsmanship Register as ‘received first written warning’. This decision will be made by the AFSS National Council Executive and the relevant AFSS State Representative (which shall then be called ‘the Tribunal’)</li> <li>5. If the same person is reported a second time at an AFSS affiliated race or event Procedures 1 to 3 shall be followed. AFSS may then if it sees fit issue a ‘second written warning’ to the person. The name of the person will be listed in the AFSS Sportsmanship Register as ‘received second written warning’.</li> <li>6. If two written notices are sent, the person may be refused entry at any AFSS affiliated race or event.</li> <li>7. The person may appeal this decision – refer to ‘Right of Appeal’ below.</li> <li>8. The person is entitled at any time following six months from the second written warning to make a submission to AFSS showing ‘Just Cause’ for future entry to AFSS Affiliated Club races or event.</li> </ol>

<p><b><u>RIGHT OF APPEAL</u></b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. After receiving the second warning notice, the person is entitled to appeal the decision by writing to AFSS and setting out the grounds for appeal.</li> <li>2. AFSS will hold a meeting at a time nominated by AFSS. In attendance will be the National Council and the relevant AFSS State Representative ('the Tribunal').</li> <li>3. The Tribunal may seek further information from any party and adjourn the appeal meeting if necessary.</li> <li>4. If it is proven that the person did not verbally or physically abuse a Dog/s, Musher, Spectator or Official, the person's name shall be removed from the AFSS Sportsmanship Register'.</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>COMMENTS</u></b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information stored in the AFSS database will be available to any Race Organising Committee, Australia-wide.</li> <li>2. Should an incident be proven that AFSS deems to be severe in its action, AFSS reserves the right to ban the person from any further AFSS events indefinitely or for a defined period of time, notify all other clubs and refer the matter to the relevant legal authorities.</li> <li>3. This Policy will not interfere or override any rules or obligations of the Race Marshall or Race Organising Committee who have complete control of any Mushers and/or spectators behaviour and the action taken on the day.</li> <li>4. The Policy is not to replace any decisions of an individual Race Organising Committee.</li> <li>5. <b>NOTE:</b> As this Policy has recently been drafted, amendments will be made as required.</li> </ol>