



## **Far South Coast Dressage Association Inc. Dog Policy at Club Events**

**The Far South Coast Dressage Association Inc. *discourages* dogs at club events.**

Should dogs be brought to an event the owner is reminded of their responsibilities under the "Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87" current version January 2012.

***Specifically the club requires that the following guidelines are adhered to:***

1. Dogs shall be safely restrained within the confines of the owners vehicle, truck or float. Long leads in excess of 2 meters attached to the outside of vehicles is not acceptable.
2. Dogs are not permitted in any designated horse areas at any time, under any circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to; the lunging area, warm up area, gear check and all riding arena areas of the show ground.
3. Dogs are not permitted in the canteen, lunch room or office areas.
4. Owners are to actively discourage other people's children from playing with or petting their dog. Parents and club members are encouraged to advise children to keep away from dogs they do not own.
5. Dog owners are required by law to remove any faeces from the grounds before leaving. You are reminded that there is a \$275 (currently) council fine for failure to do so.
6. Your attention is drawn to the section 16 of the Companion Animals Act 1998 which states in part that rushing, barking or lunging at any person or animal by a dog is an offence.
7. The use of a dog harness is preferred to a collar and lead.

Below are some specific sections of the Companion Animals Act 1998 for your information:

### **13. Responsibilities while dog in public place:**

- (1). A dog that is in a public place must be under the effective control of some competent person by means of adequate chain, cord or leash that is attached to the dog and that is being held by (or secured to) the person.
- (2). If this section is contravened:
  - (a) the owner of the dog, or,
  - (b) if the owner is not present at the time of the offence and another person who is of, or above the age of **16 years of age**, is in charge of the dog at that time - that other person is guilty of the offence.



#### 14. **Dogs prohibited in some public places.**

(1). Dogs are prohibited in the following places (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled):

(a) **Children's play areas;** (meaning any public place, or part of a public place, that is within 10 meters of any playing apparatus provided in that public place or part for the use of children).

(b) **Food preparation/consumption areas;** (meaning any public place, or part of a public place that is within 10 meters of any apparatus provided in that public place or part for the preparation of food for human consumption or for the consumption of food by humans).

(c) **Recreation areas where dogs are prohibited;** (meaning any public place, or part of a public place, provided or set apart by local authority for public recreation or the playing of organised games and in which the "local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited and in which, or near the boundaries of which, there are conspicuously exhibited by the local authority at reasonable intervals notes to the effect that dogs are prohibited in or on that public place or part).

#### 16. **Offences where dog attacks person or animal**

- 1) If a dog rushes at, attacks, bites or chases any person or animal (other than vermin), whether or not any injury is caused to the person or animal.
  - (a.) The owner of the dog, or
  - (b.) If the owner is not present at the time of the offence and another person who is of or above the age of 16 years is in charge of the dog at that time - that other person, Is guilty of an offence.
- 2) It is NOT an offence under this section if the incident occurred:
  - (a.) As a result of the dog being teased, mistreated, attacked or otherwise provoked, or
  - (b.) As a result of the person or animal trespassing on the property on which the dog was being kept, or
  - (c.) As a result of the dog acting in a responsible defence of a person or property. Etc.

#### **Failure to comply with the FSDCA Dog Policy at Club Events may result in:**

- First Offence - a written warning;
- Second Offence - loss of right to bring the dog to future FSDCA events;
- Third Offence - possible future refusal of entry to FSDCA events.