

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS ASSOCIATION**

### **STATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **POLICY POSITION - DOGS AT ENDURANCE RIDES**

The presence of unrestrained dogs at SAERA events can have serious consequences for horses, riders and property. Some rides will not allow dogs on ride base at all, but all other rides must enforce the Australian Endurance Riders Association Rule Book which states the following;

- ***26.5 Dogs must be secured in a structure or on a leash at all times that is attached to a solid structure or a responsible human handler when at an endurance event***

At rides where dogs are allowed the SAERA State Management Committee (SMC) will, through its on-site officials including Chief Stewards (CS), veterinarians and ride secretaries, strictly enforce this rule.

Please note the following;

1. If a dog is seen to be off leash in contravention of the above rule, this is to be reported to the Chief Steward for that ride
  - 1.1. The CS will contact the owner/supervisor of the dog and provide a verbal warning that this cannot be allowed to happen again
  - 1.2. If the same dog is off leash again at the same ride, the Chief Steward will include this fact in their formal report to the SMC
2. Formal reports to the SMC regarding a dog off its leash can also be provided by the following;
  - 2.1. A written report by a single senior official, including the chief steward, ride secretary, a veterinarian working at the ride or a member of the SMC
  - 2.2. A written report by a single SAERA member (Ordinary or Life) with photographic evidence of the dog off leash
  - 2.3. Separate written reports by two SAERA Members (Ordinary or Life) about the same incident
3. Once a report has been received by the SMC, it will be discussed at the next meeting with the following possible consequences;
  - 3.1. If this is considered to be a first offence, the SMC will contact the dog's owner with a written first warning
  - 3.2. If this is considered to be serial offending, the SMC will contact the dog's owner with a written final warning

- 3.3. If the report is received via the Chief Steward's report because of two or more separate off leash events at the same ride, this will always trigger a written final warning to the dog's owner
4. Once a final written warning has been issued, if a further report is received by the SMC (via the above channels) within two (2) years of the date on the written warning, the owner of the dog will be banned from bringing their dog to rides for the remainder of that calendar year.
  - 4.1. If a dog owner that has had their dog banned brings their dog to a ride in contravention of that ruling, the dog owner will be expelled from the ride and referred to the SAERA Disciplinary Panel for consideration of further penalty(ies)
  - 4.2. Any dog owner who has had their dog banned from rides at any time in the past as per the above rules, who is then the subject of a further formal report at any time in the future, will be referred to the SAERA Disciplinary Panel for consideration of further penalty(ies)