

## Proposed Regulation Changes / Additions

For the first time in a long time the Agility Committee had its first properly contested election with a large number of high calibre candidates. While this showed how healthy the sport was, and how passionate people felt about our sport, it also put huge pressure on our regulations, and their ability to cope with a contested election.

The Agility Committee received a huge amount of correspondence from people dissatisfied about what went on and the outcomes it delivered. This has led the AC to look at the election regulations and to propose changes that they believe will deliver better outcomes. It also gave the AC the opportunity to look at regulations around governance that they felt were out of date or needed changing.

The attached document outlines these changes and invites feedback from the Agility community about whether we are on the right track with our thinking. Feedback will close on Feb 28 to give you time to read the proposal, and give us feedback before we propose the final regulation.

**Changes/Additions have been written in red.**

### 3.1.1 Members

The Dogs NZ Agility Committee consists of a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and six representatives, of which two must reside in each of the North and South Islands of New Zealand. Only persons that are currently registered as Agility Voters **and are members of a registered agility society** with the Dogs NZ are eligible to stand for membership of the Agility Committee.

### 3.1.8 Venue of Meetings

~~Save in exceptional circumstances the Agility Committee will meet in Wellington.~~ **The Agility Committee shall decide the Venue of its meetings considering suitability and location of members.**

### 3.1.16 Committee Minutes

The minutes of all Committee meetings and subcommittee meetings shall be circulated to the Chairperson of the Agility Committee, members of the Agility committee and the Director Secretary of Dogs NZ within one calendar month of the meeting. A report on all meetings shall be ~~circulated to all club secretaries~~ published on the Agility Committee website as soon as is practicable.

3.2.6.1.1 Any Dogs NZ member can register as an Agility voter **as long as they are also a member of a registered agility society.**

3.2.6.2.1.1 The Agility Committee will be elected from nominations received by Dogs NZ by ~~28th February~~ **1<sup>st</sup> October** from the Agility registered membership. **In the event that this date falls on a weekend it will be by 5pm on the preceding Friday.** The election will take place over a two-week period, concluding as close as practicable to ~~30th April~~ **20<sup>th</sup> November**. The term of office of any member of the Agility Committee shall be for two years and will commence from the time notification of election results are given.

3.2.6.3.1 Dogs NZ will call for nominations for the NZ Agility Committee in ~~Dec/Jan~~ **August** NZ Dog World, via Notice to Clubs and on Dogs NZ official Web site. Nominations to be received by Dogs NZ by the ~~28th February~~ **1<sup>st</sup> October** and be accompanied by a full biography of the candidate. **The biography of the candidate will appear on the Dog Agility website, Dogs NZ website, the November edition of the NZ Dog World, and will be emailed to all Registered Agility Societies. Biographies received after the above date will not be published.** The person must be nominated and seconded by financial Dogs NZ members who are also registered as Agility voters.

3.2.6.3.2 **Only one person from the same household may be a member of the Agility Committee at one time.**

3.2.6.3.3 **A person shall not be eligible for election or appointment to the AC if:**

- (i) Their membership of the New Zealand Kennel Club has been suspended for a period of more than one year.**
- (ii) They have been disqualified by the Kennel Club (UK), any member society of the Federation Cynologique Internationale or any other overseas club which the Dogs NZ shall have arranged a reciprocal agreement pursuant to Rule 22 of the Dogs NZ for a period of more than one year.**
- (iii) They have been convicted of any serious offence in the last 10 years, e.g.: those involving but not limited to violence, dishonesty, of a sexual nature, any form of cruelty or neglect involving an animal.**

3.2.6.3.4 **A person may only be eligible to hold a position on the AC for three (3) consecutive terms. At the end of their third term they must stand down for one (1) term before being considered for election again**

#### 3.2.6.4 Voting

Voting will be permitted by a variety of methods including postal. ~~The NZKC will advertise the methods available.~~ **The accepted method of voting is by either postal or electronic. Any votes that are not cast using the approved method will be considered invalid.**

3.2.6.4.1.2 Notice calling the election will be published in ~~February~~ **November** by a variety of methods including the NZ Dog World and website. Voting forms will be included to be filled in by the member and sent to the Dogs NZ where the Returning officers will enter the details into the system.

3.2.6.4.3 Casual Vacancy of Agility Committee Member In the event of a casual vacancy in any position of the Agility Committee, ~~the next highest polling candidate must be given first opportunity to join the Committee, whilst maintaining the representational requirements. In the event of that person no longer being available, the Committee may appoint a replacement from the Agility Registered voting membership~~ **nominations will be called for people to fill that vacancy. In the event of there being more than one nomination an election will be held. In the case of a casual vacancy only the election will be advertised using the AC normal methods of communication. In the event of no nominations being received, the Committee may appoint a replacement from the Agility Registered voting membership. If a resignation of a committee member occurs within three (3) months of a normally scheduled election, a by election will not be held and the position will be vacant until after the scheduled election.**

Please send all submissions to [secretary@dnzac.nz](mailto:secretary@dnzac.nz). Close off date for submissions: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.