



## WASSA BY-LAWS

October 2021

### **1. Committee**

#### 1.1 Term

Following the WASSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) the incoming Committee's term shall commence from the first Committee Meeting held following the AGM. If a Committee meeting is not called or held within one month of the AGM, then the incoming Committee's term shall commence from one month after the AGM. The outgoing Committee's term shall expire at the time the incoming Committee's term commences.

#### 1.2 Meetings

A Quorum must be met within 1 hour of the scheduled Committee meeting time for the meeting to be a recognised official meeting. Committee members may attend meetings in person, via the internet, via the phone or via social media, at the discretion of the Committee and with allowance for the location, caring and other responsibilities of the Committee members.

#### 1.3 Voting

Voting to approve spending, and/or make day to day decisions may be done at a formally convened Committee meeting, but also later in person, via the internet, phone or social media. This may be done following discussion of the issue at a Committee meeting, with Committee agreeing the matter will be finalised via another forum/medium, such as social media.

### **2. Behaviour and complaints**

#### 2.1 Code of Conduct

In the event of an alleged breach of the WASSA Code of Conduct occurring during Club training or event, the Training Coordinator, an Executive Committee member, or the Committee member running the event, may take immediate action to exclude a person from taking part in the training or event. This may only be done where there are reasonable grounds for suspicion that a breach has occurred, or the nature of the breach is serious, and the decision maker decides exclusion is warranted.

The person being excluded must be given sufficient information at the time of exclusion as to why they are being excluded. The person making the decision to exclude the member must provide a written report to the WASSA Committee within 48 hours. The matter will then be dealt with appropriately under the appropriate defined procedures within the WASSA Constitution.

If the event is a race, the Race Marshall must agree to the person being excluded, and relevant race rules must be followed.

#### 2.2 Sanctions

Complaints may be made to the Training Coordinator (person appointed by Committee to run official club training) or a Committee member, concerning a potential breach of rules. Where there is no sanction listed in ASSA Race Rules, WASSA Constitution, WASSA By-Laws or the WASSA Event, Race or Training Rules, the sanction may be one or more of the following, as decided by WASSA Committee:

- i. Exclusion from WASSA training, events or races, including immediate exclusion, for a period of one day, up to an entire season.
- ii. Loss of eligibility to win WASSA end of year awards for the relevant season. If an offence comes to light and is proven after receiving an end of year award, that award may be removed.
- iii. Suspension of membership without refund for a period of one week up to an entire season.
- iv. Refusal of membership application.
- v. Cancellation of membership without refund.

Any sanctions must be reasonable and applied in accordance with the WASSA Constitution Complaints process, ensuring procedural fairness throughout. Any sanction imposed must be subject to appeal as per the WASSA Constitution.

### 3. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

#### 3.1 Agenda

The agenda for an AGM shall be the following.

- Attendance
- Opening of meeting
- Confirmation of minutes of previous AGM and business arising
- President’s report
- Treasurer’s report
- Determination of annual membership fee
- Election of the new Committee
- Vote of thanks to outgoing Committee
- Notice of motions
- Urgent general business
- Meeting close

### 4. Miscellaneous

#### 4.1 Awards

Event competitors can only accumulate points towards WASSA’s end of year awards from the date they become a fully paid member of WASSA. Any race entered prior to becoming a WASSA Member will not be included in the end of year award point score system. Members will be eligible for end of year WASSA awards upon participation in a minimum of three WASSA races in the one season. A member’s best four results (not including one day events) for the year will be used for the calculation.

**Examples of Point Score method calculations following;**

Driver 1

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	
1st	NPW	1st	2nd	1st Place Point Score

Driver 2

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	
2nd	NPW	2nd	1st	2nd Place Point Score

*Driver 1 wins 2 and Driver 2 wins 1, therefore Driver 1 is the Point Score winner.*

**Based on 4 races over a full season the new Point Score would be calculated as following - 2 scenarios with a tie placing result.**

### Scenario 1

Driver 1

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	
1st	1st	1st	2nd	1st Place Point Score

Driver 2

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	
2nd	2nd	2nd	1st	2nd Place Point Score

Driver 1 wins based on 1<sup>st</sup> place winnings.

### Scenario 2

Driver 1

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4		
1st	2nd	1st	2nd	Total	2nd Place Point Score
22.22	25.23	24.80	28.26	100.51 / 4	25.127

Driver 2

Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4		
2nd	1st	2nd	1st	Total	1st Place Point Score
22.13	25.21	24.70	30.46	102.50 / 4	25.625

As both competitors have placed first in 2 events each, this then falls to the second calculation method of best average speed over all races. Total average speed over 4 events. In this scenario Driver 2 has the fastest average speed and is the Point Score winner.

#### 4.2 Non-Membership Fee for Training

Any non-members attending official WASSA Club training on more than two separate occasions are required to pay a non-membership fee, so they are temporary members for that training session. A non-member fee will need to be paid for every subsequent WASSA Club training session whilst they remain a non-member.

#### 4.3 Smoking

All club events are smoke free except in the following circumstances:

- i. At camps or events with buildings/structures, if event attendees are at least 20 metres away from people and building/structures entrances.
- ii. Training/Race events without buildings, if event attendees are at least 20 metres away from main areas with other attendees.

#### 4.4 Drugs and/or alcohol

If members or non-members are showing any signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol then they will not be allowed to train/race with any dogs and may be asked to leave an event if the Training Co-ordinator/their substitute/Committee deems it the safest course of action for all.

#### 4.5 Club property

Any member or non-member who damages or causes loss or breakage to any of WASSA's property/equipment or any property/equipment in the Club's care (equipment lent by members for instance) may be liable to replace/repair as the Committee may direct. This does not include normal wear and tear.

#### 4.6 Training with Muzzles

- 4.6.1 The WASSA Committee may decide that a dog must be muzzled if deemed for the safety of other members, people, or other dogs whilst participating in official WASSA training. The WASSA Committee will discuss the concerns with the dog's owner(s) who, if they wish, may appeal the decision to the Executive Committee if they do not think the requirement necessary.
- 4.6.2 Any muzzle worn by a dog during official WASSA training must allow the dog to pant freely. Any musher wishing to train their dog in a muzzle must have the muzzle approved by a vet to ensure it is safe for the intended use. The musher must have a letter from the vet stating the make and size of the muzzle approved and provide a copy to the WASSA Committee.
- 4.6.3 All behaviour rules still apply when a muzzle is worn.

#### 4.7 Dog Medication

Any dog prescribed a substance by a veterinarian listed on the Prohibited or Controlled Lists (refer to ASSA Race Rules) must inform the RGO and RM upon entry to the event, or as soon as possible if prescribed after entry. Entry to the event is at the RGO and RM's discretion. Supporting documentation for the prescribing veterinarian must be provided.

#### 4.8 Safety Car

The Safety car will contain the driver and a competent passenger with the understanding and capacity to assist when required. The safety car must travel at a slow consistent speed, maintain a sufficient and unobtrusive distance between themselves and the final musher in a class, ensuring the final musher is not impeded in any way.

### 5. Race Classes

#### 5.1 Novice Class

- 5.1.1 Novice class entrants are to compete on a scooter as it is far easier to control your dog.
- 5.1.2 However, as a Novice musher, you may apply to the WASSA committee to compete in a non-competitive class on a bike. This will be counted as one of your novice races which, upon completion of three without incident, will allow you to move up into open classes.
- 5.1.3 The novice musher must attend at least four separate official WASSA training sessions and prearrange a WASSA Committee member (must be at least two different committee members to ensure no bias or favouritism) to assess their competency at running their dog on a bike prior to being deemed competent to race in a non-competitive class on a Bike. The WASSA Committees decision is final whether the novice musher is competent to handle their dog on a bike in a race environment.
- 5.1.4 If the musher rides a scooter in heat one, they must ride a scooter in heat 2. If the musher rides a bike in heat 1, they must ride a bike in heat 2.

Please see 4.1 regarding qualifying for club Point Score.

#### 5.2 Touring Class

- 5.2.1 Touring class entrants may ride a scooter or bike. If the musher rides a scooter in heat one, they must ride a scooter in heat 2. If the musher rides a bike in heat 1, they must ride a bike in heat 2. The musher may not switch from bike to scooter or scooter to bike in heats 1 and 2.

### 5.3 Novice Mushers

- 5.3.1 Novice mushers must have participated without incident in at least three touring/novice class races in separate events before they can move into open (non-rig) classes. These are normally single dog class entries.

### 5.4 Moving to a Rig Class (3 or more dogs)

- 5.4.1 Mushers wishing to move from a Scooter or Bike class up to a Rig classes (3 and more dogs) must have completed one full season (or minimum of five races over the course of two seasons) in an open class using a scooter or bike prior to moving to Rig class.

### 5.5 Canicross

- 5.5.1 If deemed safe, based on the number of entries for a race, a mass start without 1.5m space rule is allowed.