

Kennel Club Regulation Booklets

This is one of a series of booklets designed to present the Regulations in a more accessible form. The complete set of Rules & Regulations is of course still available within the Kennel Club Year Book.

There are booklets available for Breed Shows, Obedience Shows, Agility Shows, Working Trials and Bloodhound Trials, Heelwork to Music, Field Trials and Rally. Whilst including all the relevant regulations also included is an extract from the B Regulations on the requirements of dog registration.

GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR CANICROSS COMPETITIONS

As at 1st January 2018

1. Welfare of Dogs.

An exhibitor (or competitor) whose dog is entered at a Kennel Club licensed event should take all reasonable steps to ensure the needs of their dog(s) are met, and should not knowingly put their dogs' health and welfare at risk by any action, default, omission or otherwise. A breach of this Regulation may be referred to the Board for disciplinary action under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations. The use of pinch collars, electronic shock collars, or prong collars, is not permitted at any Canicross event licensed by the Kennel Club. This shall apply at the venue and within the precincts of the competition.

2. Eligibility.

- a. Dogs entered for these competitions must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration [B].
- b. Only dogs 12 calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition are eligible to take part in Canicross races. Only dogs 18 calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition are eligible to take part in races exceeding 5km (3 miles) in length. Dogs aged over 10 years are not eligible to take part in races exceeding 10km (6 miles) in length.
- c. Competition organisers may accept entries not for competition at their discretion. Dogs of four calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition are eligible to enter not for competition.
- d. If, in the opinion of the Board, a dog is of a savage disposition, it shall be ineligible for entry in any event held under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.
- e. Persons disqualified or suspended under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations are not permitted to take part in any event recognised by the Kennel Club.
- f. No activity shall be conducted which permits, encourages or develops aggression in a dog.

3. Canicross Competitions.

- a. A Canicross competition shall comprise of one or more Canicross races each of which shall be conducted in accordance with these Regulations. Courses, course lengths and starting and finishing points may be different for different races but all races in a competition must be conducted within the same venue and on the same day or on successive days.

- b. Canicross competitions may be run in conjunction with races for humans or in conjunction with other human or dog sports events but may not be run in conjunction with Canicross events not licensed by the Kennel Club.

4. Permission to hold Events.

The Board shall have the power to grant, withhold or cancel permission to hold any competition held under these Regulations.

5. Guarantors.

- a. Licensed Canicross competitions require Guarantors who shall undertake jointly and severally to hold and conduct the competition under and in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Kennel Club, to guarantee the due payment of any prize money, and to abide by and adopt any decision of the Board or any authority to whom the Board may delegate its powers.
- b. Such undertaking shall also be taken as an agreement by such guarantors and each of them, that any decision given against them or any of them, under Rule A11 of the Kennel Club Rules may be communicated by the Secretary of the Kennel Club to the secretaries of Registered Societies and Societies affiliated with the Kennel Club, and may also be published in the Kennel Club Journal, the official publication of the Kennel Club together with a report of any proceeding in the matter, including names, addresses and descriptions.
- c. Any notice sent by registered post to any such Guarantors at the addresses given by them on the licence application shall be deemed full and sufficient notice on the part of the Kennel Club to them or any of them, of any proceedings, matters or decisions of the Board, or any authority to whom the Board may delegate its powers, or in regard to anything arising out of the licence or to the conduct of the competition, or in respect of any other matter whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the same.

6. Undertaking of Guarantors.

- a. The application form for a Canicross Competition licence must be signed by the Guarantors who must give their full addresses in the spaces provided on the form. The signed application shall be a binding undertaking.
- b. Should changed circumstances affect the status of any of the original signatories as Guarantors, then notice of replacement(s) must be forwarded to the Kennel Club. Such notice shall be accompanied by a signed declaration from the replacement Guarantor(s) agreeing to the conditions of the guarantee.
- c. Notice of such change(s) must be made in the Schedule, if possible, or by notice in the Canine Press.
- d. The Guarantors for Canicross Competitions shall be as follows:-
 - (1) For competitions organised by Kennel Club Registered Clubs and Societies, a minimum of three members of the Committee which must include the Society Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

- (2) For competitions organised by other organisations approved by the Board of the Kennel Club – one or more person(s) named on the licence of the competition.

7. Application to Host a Canicross Competition.

- a. The application to hold a Canicross competition must be submitted to the Secretary of the Kennel Club, and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.
- b. A competition organiser's initial application to hold an event under these Regulations must be received at least six months before the proposed date of the competition. Once an initial application has been approved, subsequent applications by that competition organiser should be received at least six weeks before the proposed date of the competition.
- c. The application must provide full details of the proposed competition and include a declaration that the event will meet the requirements of these Regulations, including the provision of suitable facilities and adequate numbers of race marshals, and that the event will have in place satisfactory procedures and policies in respect of health and safety for dogs, competitors and spectators. The Kennel Club may, at its discretion, require further financial and other relevant information from an organisation before approving it for the first time to host a Canicross competition.
- d. Competition organisers must indicate on the application if the competition is being held in conjunction with another race for humans or other human or dog sports event and, if so, must describe the event(s).

8. Schedules.

- a. A schedule, incorporating an entry form, must be published for each competition at least one month before the date of the competition.
- b. Schedules and entry forms should follow the layout and content of the current Canicross specimen schedule and entry form published by the Kennel Club. No modifications may be made to the schedule except by permission of the Kennel Club and such modifications must be advertised.
- c. A copy of the Schedule issued for each show must be retained by the organisations for at least one year from the date of the show and must be forwarded to the Kennel Club if requested, together with any other documents.

9. Cancellation of Competition.

- a. Where the competition organiser(s) cancel a competition after publication of the schedule they shall refund on demand all entry fees received, subject to a deduction for costs necessarily and unavoidably incurred and paid out by the organisers. Such deduction shall be reduced by the amount of the proceeds of any insurance payments, grants, refunds or other income received by the organisers in relation to the organising or cancellation of the competition.

- b. Competition organisers must immediately notify the Secretary of the Kennel Club of any decision to cancel a competition and provide such information and explanations as may be required.

10. Entry for Competition.

- a. A dog must at the time of entry for a Canicross competition be registered as required by Kennel Club Rules and Regulations in the owner's name (or registration or transfer applied for). In the case of joint registered owners the full name of every registered owner must be given on the entry form. Where an owner makes an entry on behalf of another joint registered owner(s) or where an agent enters on behalf of a single or joint registered owner(s) such person must have the authority and consent from the single or joint registered owner(s) to sign the entry form on their behalf thereby binding them all to Kennel Club Rules and Regulations. In the event of any dispute, evidence of such authority and consent will be required. A dog acquired subsequent to entry having been made at a competition may be validly entered by the new owner provided that an application for the transfer has been forwarded to the Kennel Club before the competition, and the new owner has undertaken to abide by the Regulations and conditions of the original entry form (and in accordance with the conditions set out above).
- b. A separate application for entry must be made by each owner and acceptance of the entry declaration must be given in accordance with the provisions specified thereon - whether in writing or via the internet. Entries cannot be accepted without the appropriate fees or acceptance of the entry declaration.
- c. A dog may be handled in any race for which it is eligible by a person other than the owner, provided the handler is eligible for that race. Details of handlers (where they are not the owners) must be included on entry forms.

11. Acceptance of Entries.

- a. Entries must close at the time indicated in the Schedule, which must be no later than seven days before the first day of the competition.
- b. Entries received by post bearing the postmark of the date for closing of entries or before must be accepted subject to any proviso included in the Schedule.
- c. Entries from competitors claiming that missing entries have been correctly posted must be accepted on the day of the competition. Such claims will have to be substantiated to the Kennel Club which will request documentary evidence subsequent to the competition.
- d. Entry forms with missing or incomplete information or insufficient entry fees do not constitute valid entries.
- e. The competition organiser(s) must send out confirmations by post or email for all accepted entries, either immediately following processing or after the closing date. Confirmations should include directions to the venue and specify the required attendance time. This sub-paragraph shall not apply to entries for substitute dogs (sub-paragraph 11.g. below).

- f. Competition organisers will not delay race starts to accommodate late-arriving competitors, and are not required to refund any entry fees for competitors unable to compete with their dogs under these circumstances, whether or not the competitor was responsible for the late arrival.
- g. **Substitute dogs:** If a dog which has been correctly entered for a race is unable or unfit to compete, the handler named on the entry form may, subject to the agreement of the Race Director, compete in that race with a substitute dog. The substitute dog must be eligible for the race concerned. If the substitute dog has not already been entered in the competition, the owner(s) must complete an entry form for the substitute dog in accordance with Regulation 10 (Entry for Competition). The form must clearly state that it is for a substitution and must identify the dog which is being substituted. Entry forms for substitute dogs may be accepted after the date for closing of entries, including on the day of the competition, at the discretion of the Race Director. If a substitute dog has been entered for a different race on the same day, it must be withdrawn from that race.

12. Competition of Dogs Suffering from Contagious or Infectious Disease.

No dogs suffering from any contagious or infectious disease or having been exposed to such disease during the period of 21 days prior to the competition may compete. Competitors infringing this Regulation will be liable to be fined and/or to be dealt with under Kennel Club Rule A11.

13. Free Passes.

The competition organiser(s) shall where necessary provide all competitors with a free pass enabling them to enter the competition venue at any time of the day on which their competition is scheduled, but in the case of a dog owned in a partnership only one such free pass need be issued. Additional free passes may be issued at the discretion of the competition organiser(s).

14. Documentation.

At every competition the following documents must be available:-

- a. The licence for the competition, which must be clearly displayed.
- b. A current Public Liability Insurance Document, which must be clearly displayed.
- c. A copy of Kennel Club Rules and relevant Regulations.
- d. A copy of the Competition Schedule.
- e. The completed entry forms for the competition.
All entry forms must be preserved by the Committee for at least 12 months from the closing date of entries and must be forwarded to the Kennel Club if requested, together with any other documents. A list of results for each class must be retained by the Society for at least 12 months from the date of the Competition.
- f. A Kennel Club Incident Book, containing details of all incidents occurring at the show, a copy of which must be submitted to the Kennel Club within 14 days.
- g. A copy of the course route for each race.
- h. A copy of the risk assessment for each race route.

15. Veterinary and First Aid Support.

The Secretary of a licensed Canicross competition is required to arrange veterinary support compatible with the arrangements for the Competition and anticipated entries. The name, address and telephone number of the Veterinary Surgeon, Practitioner or Practice supporting the Competition is to be available.

16. Dog Fouling.

- a. Any owner, competitor, handler or other person in charge of a dog is required to remove, as soon as possible any fouling caused by their dog(s) at any Kennel Club licensed event within the licensed venue and within the environs of that event including car and caravan parks and approaches.
- b. Any organisation holding a Kennel Club licensed event is required to provide an adequate number of receptacles for the disposal of such fouling.

17. Awards.

Rosettes, trophies, medals, place cards, prizes or other awards may be offered at the discretion of the competition organiser(s). Details of prizes and awards offered must be specified in the competition schedule.

18. Race Director.

- a. The competition organiser(s) shall appoint for each competition a Race Director, who shall be responsible for ensuring that the competition is conducted in accordance with these Regulations.
- b. Competition organisers shall ensure that the Race Director appointed has sufficient knowledge and experience of Canicross and of these Regulations to fulfil the role of Race Director with full competence.
- c. The Race Director shall be authorised by the competition organiser(s) to make the final decision, after consultation with the competition organiser(s) where appropriate, in any matter relating to the conduct of the competition, including but not restricted to the following:
 - (1) Postponement or cancellation of any race or shortening of the length of a race which may be necessitated by climatic conditions, terrain conditions, factors relating to the welfare and safety of competitors and dogs, or any other valid reason.
 - (2) The elimination and/or withdrawal from a race or from the competition venue of any dog in accordance with Regulation 21 ('Removal of Dogs'), or where equipment does not meet the requirements of the Regulations, or for any other valid reason.
 - (3) The Race Director shall investigate and where possible resolve on the day any Objections under Regulation 22 ('Objections') or other reported incidents or disputes and shall record such matters (whether or not resolved on the day) in the competition's official Kennel Club Incident Book, with details of dogs and handlers involved and details of witnesses where relevant.
 - (4) Any decision or action taken under this Regulation shall be recorded in the official Kennel Club Incident Book. All matters

recorded in the Incident Book must be notified to the Secretary of the Kennel Club within two weeks of the date of the competition.

- d. The Race Director is expected to maintain and abide by the highest standards in accordance with Kennel Club Rules and Regulations and appropriate Codes of Best Practice as published from time to time.
- e. The Race Director of a competition is expected to devote their full attention to the conduct of the competition. Accordingly, they may not compete in any race at that competition, nor enter any dog in their ownership in any race at that competition.

19. Timekeeper and Race Marshals.

- a. The competition organiser(s) shall appoint an official timekeeper and sufficient experienced race marshals to supervise the start and finish of each race and to monitor the race at suitable points around the course. The timekeeper shall personally record, or supervise the recording of, all start and finish times in any race.
- b. Race marshals shall assist the Race Director in the conduct of the competition according to the Regulations, and in particular marshals shall
 - (1) Assist competitors as necessary.
 - (2) Direct competitors round the correct course if needed.
 - (3) Stop any competitor where there are reasonable grounds to believe that they are in breach of any part of the Regulations to request compliance and warn that they may be subject to elimination from the race if they do not comply.
 - (4) Instruct a competitor that they must immediately withdraw a dog from the race if in the marshal's reasonable opinion the dog is refusing to advance or has become unfit, or the handler is unable to exercise sufficient control over the dog.
 - (5) Report to the Race Director the facts of any case where a dog has been withdrawn, or in the marshal's reasonable opinion a dog should be withdrawn or eliminated in accordance with Regulation 21 (Removal of Dogs).

20. Facilities and Equipment.

It is the responsibility of the competition organiser(s) to provide the following:

- a. Stopwatches, electronic timing, or other appropriate equipment to establish and record the run time for each competitor who completes the course together with an official timekeeper who shall have sufficient expertise to accurately record all competitors' run times.
- b. A board or other means for posting notices, maps or plans, running orders and results information.
- c. A course plan or map for each race.
- d. Bibs, armbands, adhesive labels or other adequate methods to identify competitors by means of their race number.
- e. Score sheets and/or timing sheets and other forms and stationery as required.
- f. Direction markers and signs along each course, including public warning signs where necessary.

- g. A sufficient number of race marshals at the start/finish point and distributed along each course.
- h. Sufficient two-way radios to enable race marshals to contact the Race Director and/or competition organiser(s) from any part of the course of the race in case of emergencies; mobile telephones may be used for this purpose provided the cellular signal has been checked and found to be consistent and of adequate strength on all parts of the race course.
- i. Access to appropriate transport for the conveyance of injured handlers or dogs from the course in case of emergencies.
- j. Rosettes, trophies, medals, place cards, prizes and/or awards (if any) as specified in the competition schedule.
- k. Sufficient watering points for dogs along each course where the length of the course exceeds 5km.
- l. Contact information and driving directions for the vet on call.
- m. Sufficient suitable space for handlers to exercise and/or warm up their dogs before the start of a race.
- n. Suitable and adequate clean up materials and dog waste bins.
- o. Adequate toilet facilities.
- p. A source of fresh drinking water at or near to the start/finish point.
- q. Adequate car parking arrangements.

21. Control of Dogs.

- a. No person shall carry out punitive correction or harsh handling of a dog during a race or at any time whilst at the competition venue, including its environs, car and caravan parks and approaches.
- b. The owner, competitor, handler or other person in charge of a dog at Kennel Club events must at all times ensure that the dog is kept under proper control whilst at the venue, including its environs, car and caravan parks and approaches. This Regulation applies before the event (at any time during the set up period at the venue), during the event and afterwards (at any time during the breakdown of the event).
- c. Competitors must use their best endeavours to prevent their dogs from becoming stressed or over-excited at any point preceding, during or after completion of a race, and to avoid excessive barking by their dog(s).
- d. No person attending a competition may allow a bitch in season to be on the competition ground or to foul any ground used as part of the course of any race. The mating of bitches within the precincts of the competition is forbidden.

22. Removal of Dogs.

Where required by the competition organiser(s) and/or the Race Director, a dog shall cease competing and be immediately removed from the competition venue if it is:

- a. A bitch which is in season
- b. Suffering from any infectious or contagious disease
- c. Interfering with the safety or chance of winning of an opponent
- d. Of such temperament or so much out of control as to be a danger to the safety or well-being of any person or other animal
- e. Likely to cause suffering to the dog if it continues competing.

The circumstances of such a removal shall be recorded in the competition Incident Book and submitted to the Kennel Club within two weeks after the end of the competition.

23. Objections.

- a. An objection to a breach of Kennel Club Regulation(s) may be made direct to the competition organiser(s) or Race Director before the end of the competition. As an alternative, an objection may be lodged directly with the Kennel Club within seven days after the last day of the competition and under these circumstances a copy of the objection must be sent to the competition organiser(s).
- b. When an objection is lodged the following information must be given:
 - (1) A statement detailing the objection, quoting the relevant regulation(s).
 - (2) The objection fee of £35, or such amount as may from time to time be decided by the Board.
 - (3) The name and address of the objector.
 - (4) The name and address of the owner of the dog (if relevant).
 - (5) All relevant evidence.
- c. The objection fee may be returned after consideration of the objection.
- d. With the exception of objections made under Regulation 21 ('Removal of Dogs') the dog should be allowed to compete and a full report made to the Kennel Club.
- e. The right to lodge an objection to a dog or any action taken at a competition is limited to anyone in attendance at the competition not under a term of suspension imposed by the Kennel Club, or the owner of a dog competing or his accredited representative.
- f. No objection shall be invalidated solely on the grounds that it was incorrectly lodged.
- g. Objections or alleged breaches of Kennel Club Regulations shall be referred to the Board who shall have the power to delegate the hearing of the objection or breach of regulation to the relevant Committee or may decide to refer the matter for disciplinary action under Kennel Club Rule A11.
- h. Any appeal against the relevant Committee decision must be lodged within fourteen days of the decision being given and will be subject to the prescribed appeals procedure.

24. Disqualification and Forfeit of Awards.

- a. A dog may be disqualified by the Board from any award whether an objection has been lodged or not, if proved amongst other things to have been;
 - (1) Competing at an unrecognised Competition.
 - (2) Handled by a person disqualified or suspended under Rule A11 as from the date of the complaint having been lodged at the Kennel Club and for the period of disqualification or suspension.
 - (3) Not entered on a Kennel Club approved entry form in the name and with the details which are recorded with the Kennel Club.

- (4) Entered after the date announced for closing of entries, subject to the condition of Regulation 11 ('Acceptance of Entries') or contrary to Kennel Club Rules and Regulations.
 - (5) Suffering from an infectious or contagious disease.
 - (6) In a competition for which it was not entered.
 - (7) Not correctly registered and recorded in the name of the owner at the Kennel Club or as provided in Regulation 10 ('Entry for Competition')
 - (8) Entered for competition or handled by a Race Marshal or Time Keeper at that Competition. This shall not apply to dogs owned by a Race Marshal appointed in an emergency.
 - (9) To have been the subject of any other default, omission, action or incident occurring at or in connection with the Competition rendering it unfair that the award should be allowed to stand.
- b. A dog shall be disqualified by the Board from any awards gained whether an objection has been lodged or not if entered in a competition for which it is ineligible and not withdrawn from competition and the competitor may be fined at the discretion of the Board.
 - c. The owner of a dog disqualified for any of the above reasons is liable to forfeit all entry fees paid, and all prize money won by such dog.

25. Penalties.

The Board shall have power to impose any of the following penalties upon any person for any breach of Kennel Club Regulations subject to a right of appeal, notice of intention of which must be lodged within 14 days from the date on which the decision is given and subject to the prescribed appeals process as shall be determined by the Board from time to time;

- a. Warn
- b. Censure/Reprimand
- c. Apology directive (Conduct Regulation or the Control of Dogs Regulation)
- d. Fine
- e. Award disqualified
- f. A dog's registration record may be marked 'incident recorded'
- g. A dog's registration record may be endorsed 'not eligible for entry in any event held under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations, nor any unlicensed event recognised by the Kennel Club'.

In the event of any fine not being paid, or non compliance with any apology directive issued within the time stipulated by the Board, be dealt with as if a complaint under Kennel Club Rule A11 had been lodged and proved to the satisfaction of the Board.

26. Fraudulent or Discreditable Conduct at the Competition.

The competition organiser(s) and/or Race Director must immediately report in writing to the Secretary of the Kennel Club any case of alleged fraudulent or discreditable conduct, or any default, omission or incident at or in connection with the event which may come to their notice, even where the parties concerned have indicated that they intend taking no action, and at the same time forward to the Secretary of the Kennel Club all documents and information in connection

therewith which may be in their possession or power. If evidence is placed before the Board to its satisfaction that undue influence has been exercised by any person(s), or that any improper means have been used to interfere with the participation of a dog at any event held under Kennel Club Rules and Regulations, the Board may require all correspondence and evidence in connection with the case to be produced in order that it may deal with the offender(s) under Kennel Club Rule A11.

27. Race Procedures, Rules of Competition and Equipment.

Detailed regulations relating to race procedures, rules of competition and equipment specifications are set out in Annex A which forms a part of these Regulations.

28. Delegated Powers of the Scottish Kennel Club.

- a. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 4 of these Regulations the power to grant, withhold or cancel permission to hold any licensed Canicross Competition in Scotland shall be delegated to the Scottish Kennel Club.
- b. For the purposes of these Regulations, all powers of the Board relative to events in Scotland and licensed by the Scottish Kennel Club. Applications for licences, objections and allegations of fraudulent or discreditable conduct relative to Canicross Competitions licensed by the Scottish Kennel Club must be made to the Secretary General of the Scottish Kennel Club, Paterson House, Eskmills Park, Station Road, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ

RACE PROCEDURES, RULES OF COMPETITION AND EQUIPMENT

These Regulations must be read in conjunction with Kennel Club General Canicross Regulations E.

1. Race Procedures.

- a. Canicross races shall take place along a course of the stated length which has been inspected and designated by the competition organiser(s), who shall give priority to the safety and welfare of the dogs and competitors taking part.
- b. The competition organiser(s) shall hold a safety briefing for competitors before every race the time of which should be stated in the Schedule.
- c. Each competitor in a race shall be assigned a unique identification number and issued with an identification bib, badge, armband, label or other means of identification, which must be displayed at all times while on the competition venue.
- d. Before issuing an identification number the race organiser(s) shall check leads, collars, harnesses and other equipment and ensure the dog displays no obvious signs of being unfit.
- e. The identification number assigned to each competitor and displayed on the bib or other means of identification will be that competitor's running order number.
- f. Competitors in a race may start individually at timed intervals ('individual start') or as a group comprising two or more competitors starting together ('group start'). The type of start to be used should be noted in the competition schedule.
- g. Where an 'individual start' is used, the competitor with the lowest running order will start at the time set for the commencement of the race. All remaining competitors will start at set intervals of not less than thirty seconds in their running order sequence. Any deviation from the running order must be authorised by the Race Director.
- h. Where a 'group start' is used competitors must keep their dogs under close control until the start signal is given. The official timekeeper, Race Director or a race marshal may require any competitor to withdraw from the start line and wait until the other dogs have started before commencing the race, if in their reasonable opinion the competitor's dog(s) are not under close control.
- i. The official timekeeper shall record the start time and finishing time of each competitor. All races shall start from and finish at the same point. Timing shall start and finish when the first part of the dog/handler team crosses the line. Where a 'group start' is used, each competitor in the group shall be deemed to have started at the time the start signal is given.
- j. Any dog/competitor team which fails to complete the set course shall be eliminated.

2. Competing.

- a. Competitors may only compete in any race with one dog, except that where approved by the competition organiser(s) and stated in the competition schedule, competitors aged 18 or over may race with a maximum of two dogs. Where a competitor racing with two dogs is required to withdraw one of them from a race after they have started racing, the other dog must also be withdrawn from the race, unless with the express permission of the Race Director in multi-stage races only.
- b. No dog may be entered in more than three races per day, the total distance of which must not exceed 10km per day.
- c. Competitors may enter in more than one race on the same day with different dogs.
- d. After a dog has commenced competing in a race, no substitution of competitor is permitted in that race.
- e. A competitor may race with a substitute dog which has been correctly entered and approved by the Race Director in accordance with Regulation 11.g. ('Acceptance of Entries – Substitute Dogs').
- f. Any dog which is not presented for competition when its running order is due will be deemed to have been withdrawn from the race.
- g. Dogs must be on a lead attached to a well-fitted running harness worn by the dog at all times while competing in a race. Leads may be held in the hand or attached to a competitor's waist belt.
- h. In general dogs must run ahead of or alongside the competitor throughout a race. At no time may dogs be dragged forward by their lead. However it is acceptable for a dog to follow a competitor on a steep downhill or slow technical section, provided that the dog is not at any time being dragged forward by the competitor.
- i. Competitors must do their utmost to ensure that their dogs do not interfere with other runners or dogs. When hailed by an overtaking competitor, they must give way to allow the competitor to overtake as soon as it is safe to do so. Overtaking competitors must give due warning before attempting to pass.
- j. The use during a race of mobile phones, personal stereos, MP3 players or any similar device that impairs concentration or the ability to hear marshals or other runners is strictly forbidden. Anyone using such a device shall be liable to be eliminated from the race.
- k. If any dog shall foul the ground while competing in a race, the competitor shall immediately remove the fouling, in accordance with the venue's policies, from any area where it is likely to be trodden on before continuing with the race. Where required to completely remove fouling, competitors shall pick it up, and must carry it to and dispose of it responsibly in the receptacles provided. In such cases competitors must carry with them whilst racing a means of removing dog fouling.
- l. Only dogs entered for competition are allowed on the course whilst the race is taking place.
- m. Those taking part in a competition held under these Regulations shall not openly impugn the decision of the appointed Race Director or openly criticise the race marshals, event officials or helpers.

3. Competitors' Equipment.

- a. Leads which are attached to a competitor's waist belt must be no more than 2 metres in length and must incorporate a bungee or elasticated section or be made from an elastic material. Leads held in the hand must be no more than 1.7 metres in length. Leads should be measured at full extension.
- b. Dogs must compete in a flat buckle or snap collar, which must bear the name and address of the dog's owner inscribed on the collar or on a tag or plate attached to it.
- c. Harnesses worn by dogs when taking part in a race must be well-fitted, must not constrict breathing, and must have the lead attachment on the upper back. Harnesses designed to deter dogs from pulling must not be used.
- d. Competitors may not wear footwear with spikes, hard studs or similar projections on the soles which could injure the dog.

4. Distances and Race Categories.

- a. The distance of each Canicross race shall be stated in the competition schedule.
- b. Competition organisers may state eligibility for a race by reference to the age and gender of the human competitor, subject to the following restrictions on eligibility:
 - (1) Competitors must be aged at least 6 years on the day of the competition to take part in a Canicross race.
 - (2) Competitors between 8 and 14 years of age on the day of the competition are not eligible to enter races of more than 5km in length.
 - (3) Competitors under 8 years of age on the day of the competition are not eligible to enter races of more than 3km in length and must be accompanied throughout the race by a responsible adult (who may run or use a bicycle).
 - (4) Competitors below 17 years of age on the day of the competition are not eligible to enter races of more than 8 km (5 miles) in length.
 - (5) Competitors below 18 years of age on the day of the competition are not eligible to enter races of more than 21km (13 miles) in length.
 - (6) Competitors entering a race of more than 16 km (10 miles) must have successfully completed at least one race of at least 10km (6 miles) with the same dog in the six months prior to the day of the race. Proof will be required.
- c. Competition organisers may state eligibility for a race by reference to the age of the dog, subject to the restrictions in Regulation 2 ('Eligibility').
- d. Special races - Competition organisers may request the approval of the Kennel Club for other definitions of eligibility and special rules for other types of race including team and relay races. No such race shall be included in the schedule for a competition until approval has been given by the Kennel Club.

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