



**Submission to
Australian Competition & Consumer
Commission
on**

**Application for Authorisation
AA1000442
June 2019**





ABN 68 580 241 497

**The Canine Association
of Western Australia (Inc)
t/as Dogs West**

602 Warton Road
Southern River WA 6100

Phone (08) 9455 1188

Email k9@dogswest.com

Web www.dogswest.com

Who is Dogs West?

Our Origins

Our origins trace back to late 1800's with the formation of the WA Kennel Club which was incorporated in 1912 and was the original 'canine association' for Western Australia.

After World War II the association formally adopted the name of Canine Association and came under the auspices of the Royal Agricultural Society, with the WA Kennel Club becoming an affiliated club. The Canine Association became an affiliate of the Australian National Kennel Club.

In 1977 the Canine Association of WA became an independent Association from the Royal Agricultural Society, and four years later purchased our grounds in Southern River. The Canine Association of WA now trades as Dog West.

Our Objectives

The first three Objectives under our Constitution clearly state our purpose:

- To promote and encourage the breeding of pedigreed dogs
- To foster promote and protect the interests of the Association relative to dogs
- To promote foster and encourage the welfare and care of dogs

The protection of the pure breed dog, their welfare, care and future, is at the core of our Association.

The Association has a Constitution, Code of Ethics and Regulations which apply to all Members and which are policed and enforced by a proven governance framework.

The responsibility of breeding quality dogs that are sound in mind and body is one that breeders take very seriously. Many hours are spent, reviewing pedigrees and assessing dogs for health, structure and temperament before breeding decisions are made, and then over selection of puppies for future potential canine activities and breeding.



Part of a worldwide pure-bred dog community

Dogs West is a Member Body of the Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC), which provides overarching governance of the pure bred dog register for each of the State and Territory Member Bodies in Australia. The Dogs West President is a Director of the ANKC.



The total membership of all ANKC Affiliates is around 33,000. The ANKC is recognised in other countries as the peak body for the pure bred dog in Australia. This includes The Kennel Club (UK), the American Kennel Club, The Canadian Kennel Club, the New Zealand Kennel Club and the Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) – the largest canine association in the world with 95 Affiliated Countries and 1.7 million members.

Support for application for authorisation

As a member body of the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd, our association fully supports the application for authorisation to include the new clause in the Code of Ethics.

The new clause to read:

A member must register all dogs bred or owned by them with a registration body recognised by ANKC Ltd.

Our members voluntarily join the state member bodies knowing that they are required to comply with the regulations of both the ANKC Ltd and the relevant state body.

The status of being a registered breeder with an ANKC member body is important as it carries weight in that dogs are bred following stringent regulations in relation to pedigree verification and health guidelines.

Unfortunately, there are some breeders that are looking to bypass the stringent breeding regulations and code of ethics imposed by only registering puppies that comply with the regulations with their ANKC member bodies. Other puppies that have been bred that may breach the breeding regulations are not registered to avoid the governance procedures and possible penalties being imposed.

This clause will ensure that all members of ANKC member bodies will register all the puppies that they have bred with an ANKC recognised registry. This will give the dog buying public confidence that the puppy or dog that they purchase is as described in the breed standard, has been raised in accordance with the applicable regulations and is fit for the purpose that it was purchased.

The inclusion of this clause only impacts on ANKC Ltd member bodies and their members who have signed a declaration agreeing to be bound by the regulations.

This clause does not prevent non-members of the ANKC Ltd member bodies from breeding dogs, advertising and selling them.
