

Wu, Connie <connie.wu@accc.gov.au>

Hello Connie, Thanks for your email below - I have tried to response to each of your queries- I have done this in blue to make it easier to keep the explanations etc close to the query. Regarding our Overseas members who use their dogs for stock work and want to compete in Obedience/ Agility etc they appear to have no problems because the ANKC here accepts our registrations for all but Conformation classes. Let me know I can be of any further help.

I have copied [REDACTED] on this email, as she was the person who provided your contact details to us. Based on our conversation last week, I also understand that she may be able to assist us with some of the information we are seeking.

As I mentioned on the phone, the ACCC is currently considering an authorisation application <<https://www.accc.gov.au/public-registers/authorisations-and-notifications-registers/authorisations-register/australian-national-kennel-council-limited>> from the Australian National Kennel Council Limited (ANKC) to amend its National Code of Ethics. The proposed amendment mandates members of ANKC Member Bodies to register dogs bred or owned by them with canine registration bodies which are recognised by ANKC. At this time, we are gathering information to enable us to better understand the background to the application and assess the impact and implications (if any) on the industry and breeders. Could you, or [REDACTED], please kindly provide a response to the following questions?

1. You mentioned that the Working Kelpie Council of Australia (WKC) has approximately 1,000 breeder members, some of which are located overseas. How many breeders are located in Australia, and are they in all States and Territories of Australia?

[2323 recorded prefixes\(Stud names\) 2018/19 Australia all states 960 activated by membership 2018/9. 235 Overseas 127 currently active.](#)

2. What is the total number of Kelpies currently on the WKC's registers (the National Stud Book register and the Appendix register)?

[Total 158819 65764 Main, 35832 Appendix, plus 2 supplementary registers. 5082 S/bred with caters for Station bred dogs of merit bred by non or unknown breeders and 1541 Historical which cater for the recording the breeding of dog which are part of the foundation of the breed. Historical dogs](#)

3. How does the size of WKC's registers or membership of breeders compare to that of other registries for working dogs in Australia (e.g. Australian Working Border Collie, the Koolie Club of Australia)? Are you able to provide us with information about the identity and size of these other registries?

[As far as we know we would be by far the largest and the only constituted Breed Society. We have no idea of the actual size of the other Association. I understand they record/ register dog mainly as requirement for competition in livestock working Trials. I will endeavour to compile a list of Associations and contacts for you.](#)

4. Could you please provide an approximate number of the current breeder members of the WKC who are also breeder members of the various State Member Bodies of the ANKC?

[Sorry but we do not have this sort of information. We occasionally receive requests from members for registration of their dogs so that they can compete in ANKC events but we do not record them as ANKC or dual members. \(There is information on](#)

[the WKC's website<<http://www.wkc.org.au/Who-We-Are/AboutUs.php>>, which suggests that the WKC stud registers contain annotations that indicate whether a particular breeder is registered with "one or other of the State canine bodies catering for the exhibition of dogs".\)](#)

[In the last 18 months we have added a coding system which is designed to identifies companion dogs not being used for livestock management- at this time it is a voluntary requirement - The introduction is to enable us to control a situation which resulted in a split in the breed - genetically there are now two varieties- working Kelpies and Show or Conformation Kelpies. Which has happened through lack of selection for inherited ability \(desire\) to work. The progeny of dogs so coded have to perform satisfactorily in a WKC approved test for inherited working ability. The owner of the coded dogs are recorded but not indexed nor are the owners of any of the WKC registered dogs..](#)

5. Are you aware of any breeders of the WKC who are non-breeder members of the various State Member Bodies of the ANKC? If so, how many of these breeders are there? [We may have but do not records](#)

6. What are the main points of difference between the dog sport competitions organised by or with the approval/authority of the Member Bodies of the ANKC (or the ANKC), and competitions organised by the WKC; for instance in terms of entry requirements, frequency and size of competitions and recognition?

The WKC only hosts one competition a year- The National Kelpie Field Trial Championship - the dogs have to be registered to A2 grade appendix or higher- the handler/worker does not have to be a member. The trial usually spans 2 days with heats and a final of 7. It is recognised for what it is - an annual Championship trial for Working Kelpies it usually attracts media coverage and sometimes video coverage

There are in numeral numbers of Trial organisers who are affiliates of one of their State bodies. They only cater for the trial of dogs working either sheep or cattle in an open or arena area like a Show ground or as a yard trial where the dogs are judged working sheep through drenching or drafting races etc. The testing is to display the dogs value and ability to handle livestock management. In all instances the emphasis is on the dogs value to the Pastoral Industries.

The ANKC'S affiliates host a large number of Conformation; Obedience, Agility, Tracking, Gundog Retrieving , Basic herding etc events. They are basically Companion dog competitions - as far as I know they are only eligible for entry by members of ANKC state bodies and ANKC state body registered dogs. I understand that WKC registered dogs are eligible for all but Conformation classes- I am unsure whether the WKC dogs have to be dual registered.

We are also interested in seeking information from the other registries for working dogs in relation to some of the questions above. To the extent that you are able to provide any information about the other registries, that would greatly assist us in our process.

The following are some of the Livestock Working dog Associations However

Federation of Livestock Working Dog, would be able to supply a more complete list

Victorian Working Sheep Dog Association Inc
NSW Working Sheep Dog Association Inc.

Queensland Working Sheepdog Association www.qwsdai.org.au
South Australian Working Sheepdog Association www.sasheepdogtrials.com.au
Tasmanian Sheepdog Association www.twsda.org
WA Working Sheepdog Association www.westaustrianworkingsheepdogs.com.au
National Sheep Dog Trials, Australia www.nationalsheepdogtrials.org

NSW Yard Dog Association
NSW Working Stockdog Assoc. Contact:
Victorian Utility, yard & Farm Dog Association
S A Yard Dog Association.

Kinds Regards,