AUSTRALIAN SLEDDOG SPORTS ASSOCIATION INC
AGGRESSIVE DOG POLICY

OBJECTIVE	To enhance and promote professional animal and human behaviour for any of ASSA's affiliated sled dog races and events
DEFINITION – AGGRESSIVE DOG	Any dog that is found to be aggressive. Aggression includes any unprovoked attack that makes contact with another Dog, Dog Team, Driver, and Spectator or Official
AGGRESSIVE DOG REGISTER	The Owner of the Dog, Dog and Musher will be published in the ASSA Aggressive Dog Register. Details to include photo of Dog if possible and/or microchip number if available
PROCEDURE	1. A complaint is made in writing to event officials at an ASSA affiliated race or event, reporting the aggressive Dog behaviour. The complaint must identify the Dog, the Owner / Musher, the event date, time and circumstances. The complaint must be made within 12 hours of the incident, including details of witnesses, information on photos of injuries sustained forthcoming. 2. The Race Marshall and/or Race Club official will forward this written complaint to the ASSA Secretary and the Race Marshall shall be invited to make comment on the complaint but this is not mandatory. 3. The Owner / Musher will receive notification of the complaint and will be asked if there are any extenuating circumstances. 4. If the Owner / Musher does not provide sufficient information or is unable to justify their Dog's aggression, ASSA may issue the 'first written warning'. The name of the dog will be listed in the Aggressive Dog Register as 'received first written warning'. This decision will be made by the ASSA National Council Executive and the relevant ASSA State Representative (which shall then be called 'the tribunal') 5. If the same dog is reported a second time at an ASSA affiliated race or event Procedures 1 to 3 shall be followed. ASSA may then if it sees fit issue a 'second written warning' to the Owner / Musher. The name of the dog will be listed in the Aggressive Dog Register as 'received second written warning'. 6. If two written notices are sent, the dog may be refused entry at any ASSA affiliated race or event. 7. The Owner / Musher is entitled at any time following six months from the second written warning to make a submission to ASSA showing that the dog no longer exhibits aggressive tendencies (refer to Right of Appeal procedures).
RIGHT OF APPEAL	1. After receiving the second warning notice, the Owner of the Dog is entitled to appeal the decision by writing to ASSA and setting out the grounds for appeal. 2. ASSA will hold a meeting at a time nominated by ASSA. In attendance will be the National Council and the relevant ASSA State Representative ('the Tribunal'). 3. The Tribunal may seek further information from any party and

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	adjourn the appeal meeting if necessary. 4. If it is proven that the Dog no longer exhibits aggressive tendencies, the Dog shall be removed from the 'Aggressive Dog Register'.
GROUNDS FOR APPEAL	1. The Owner and/or Musher must prove that the dog no longer has aggressive tendencies. For example, Dog obedience, workshops, signed Document from other Mushers stating 'Dog is no longer aggressive' or 'is under control'
COMMENTS	1. Information stored in the ASSA database will be available to any Race Organising Committee, Australia-wide. 2. Should an incident be proven that ASSA deems to be severe in its action, ASSA reserves the right to ban the dog from any further ASSA races indefinitely or for a defined period of time, notify all other clubs and refer the matter to the relevant legal 3. authorities. 4. This Policy will not interfere or override any rules or obligations of the Race Marshall's that have complete control of any aggressive Dog behaviour and the action taken on the day. 5. The Policy is not to replace any decisions of an individual Race Organising Committee. 6. NOTE: As this Policy has recently been drafted, amendments will be made as required. 7. All communication sent to the ASSA Secretary, committee.assa@gmail.com