ALA Rules and Regulations

1 – Community and affiliation

In order to abide by the constitution, rules and policies of the Australian Labradoodle Association (ALA) and any disciplinary action as well as be responsible for accurately representing, promoting and protecting the Australian Labradoodle breed, members will:

Previous reference: 1.01, 2.01

Rule Number[1]		***Previous reference***[2]	***Level of fine***[3]
1.1.0	Uphold the values of the ALA and notify the Executive of any changes to their standing that are relevant to participation in the ALA including those relevant to animal welfare or affiliation with the dogs and the broader canine industry.	*1.03* *1.04*	*Low*
1.2.0	Represent the Australian Labradoodle and its qualities accurately including but not limited to any guarantee of allergy friendliness or non-shedding coat.	*1.15*	*Low*
1.3.0	Disclose affiliations with other canine related clubs and/ or associations before nominating to serve on the ALA Executive and any relevant misconduct.	*1.20*	*Low*
1.4.0	Agree to an ALA kennel inspection and audit if requested by the ALA Executive Committee.	*1.05*	*Not Negotiable*
1.5.0	Obtain written approval of the ALA Executive Committee for any variation to the Rules and Regulations – there are a limited number of rules where an exemption may be granted. Refer to ALA Executive Exemptions	*2.27*	*Fine level according to R/R breached*
1.6.0	Not provide promotional communications or publications in verbal, print, or electronic formats representing the opinions of the ALA and its membership without written permission from the ALA Executive Committee.	*2.19*	*High*
1.7.2015	Treat the access and content of the ALA Register with confidentiality - this includes but is not limited to downloading and sharing health test results belonging to others, with non-ALA members.	*2.32*	*Mid*
1.8.0	Only use ALA logo while a current and financial member of the Association.	*2.25*	*Low*

[1] Rule numbering comprises of three parts:
- the first number relates to the aspect of the Code of Ethics (COE) the rule falls under (1-5)
- the second number is the rule number (within that element of the Code of Ethics) (1-∞)
- the third number relates to the year of revision with zero indicating the rule originated in initial Rules and Regulations (RRs) or COE document.

[2] The original ALA COE and RRs have in some instances been used verbatim and in other cases modified slightly. Previous documentation is referenced with 1 number series relating to the original COE and the 2 number series relating to the RRs. Copies of archived documentation is available via the members area of the ALA website or from the ALA Secretary| secretary@laa.org.au

[3] Refer to the ALA Fine Structure – reviewed 2015

2 - Welfare

In order to adopt a high standard of care and welfare of dogs that meets or exceeds legislated requirements, members will

Previous reference: 1.02, 2.16

Rule Number		*Previous reference*	*Level of fine*
2a	**Breeding**		
2a.1.0	Ensure a bitch is not bred or in whelp prior to 12 months of age.	*1.06*	*High*
2a.2.0	Ensure a bitch will not have more than 2 litters in an 18 month period unless local regulations require a higher standard.	*1.21*	*High*
2a.3.0	Ensure a bitch will not be bred for more than 4 litters without veterinary certification for fitness and not more than 5 litters in total.	*1.22*	*High*
2a.4.0	Not breed a bitch beyond her 6th birthday - she may whelp after her 6th birthday as long as she is not mated after this time.	*1.23*	*High*
2a.5.2014	Notify the ALA Registrar in writing of any dogs bred by the day of whelping.		*Low*
2a.6.2014	Verify parentage through DNA profiling before issuing a pedigree for any offspring where more than one sire covers or may have covered a bitch unless DNA for colour excludes a particular sire.	*2.33*	*High*
2a.7.0	Notify the ALA Executive in writing on becoming aware of a pairing that produces a puppy/dog with a **life inhibiting genetic defect** in a program and ensure that this pairing is not repeated[4]. The information to be provided to the ALA includes: Sire, Dam, affected pup name/s and date of birth.	*2.23* *2.24*	*Mid*
2a.8.2014	Limit breeding programs to a maximum of 18 litters in a financial year (July 1 - June 30) and at no time have more than 5 litters on the ground (i.e. from the day of whelping to 8 weeks of age).	*2.30*	*High*
2a.9.0	Use Australian Labradoodles, Origin Labradoodles, parent breeds and parent breed infusions consistent with the current membership approved ALA Breed Infusion Guidelines and ALA Grading Schemes.	*2.3*	*High*
2b	**Selling**		
2b.1.0	Provide written details of dietary, training, general and veterinary care required for the Australian Labradoodle that is given to purchasers as well as the puppy Health Guarantee: • A copy will be lodged with the ALA New Breeder Coordinator prior to releasing puppies to new homes from the first litter as an ALA member and where major revisions are made; • A copy of the Health Guarantee will be available to purchasers prior to taking any payment.	*2.02* *2.03*	*Mid*
2b.2.0	Offer a Health Guarantee that covers puppies against any life inhibiting genetic defects for a minimum of 2 years from the date of birth. The guarantee will not require the return of a dog **nor depend on unverifiable conditions** to be met. It will outline the undertaking to either replace, refund all or part of the initial purchase price within 30 days and to provide moral support.	*1.16*	*High*
2b.3.0	Retain puppies within care for a minimum of 8 weeks (56 days) before they transition to a new home.	*1.09*	*High*
2b.4.0	Never sell, trade or raffle a dog/ puppy to any commercial animal wholesalers or retail pet dealers/traders.	*1.07*	*High*
2b.5.0	Desex pet quality puppies before they leave care, except in instances where this surgery is not advisable, in which case a spay/neuter contract or contract that prohibits the mating of this dog will be issued.	*1.10*	*High*

[4] Notifications and management of future pairings are the responsibility of the breeder who has been involved in the pairing resulting in a life inhibiting genetic defect – specifically the stud and /or bitch owner and/or leasee/s. Breeders may report to the Executive other defects they are aware of if they believe this information has not yet been provided.

Rule Number		*Previous reference*	*Level of fine*
2.14.0	To the best of their ability, ensure that all persons acquiring dogs clearly understand their responsibility for the care and welfare of the animal and have made the necessary preparations for keeping the dog.	*1.12*	*High*
2b.6.0	Offer to take back or assist in re-homing any puppy or dog if advised that the dog becomes unwanted or unable to be cared for by the purchaser, for any reason and at any time.	*1.14*	*High*
2b.7.0	Obtain veterinary advice before euthanizing any puppy or dog.	*1.08*	*High*

3 - Health

In order to improve or at minimum maintain the standard of the breed in consideration of health, welfare and soundness of dogs, members will

Previous reference: 2.07

Rule Number		*Previous reference*	*Level of fine*
3.1.0	Permanently identify all breeding stock and their offspring by way of microchip	*2.05*	*High*

3.2.2013	Ensure all dogs used in their breeding program have successfully completed the required health screening tests before they are bred.
	• Hip assessment through a recognised scheme, specifically, AVA[5], PennHip[6] or OFA[7] and elbow assessment through AVA or OFA
	• Results must be provided by a relevant scheme accredited provider, specifically the oversighting body or for AVA, by a current AVA accredited radiologist.
	• Respective age requirements must be followed for each assessment method
	  ○ AVA screening is accepted in dogs 12 months and over
	  ○ OFA (preliminary) screening is accepted in dogs 4 months and over with finals being valid at 2 (TWO) years of age
	  ○ PennHip screening is accepted in dogs 16 weeks and over.
	• Full breed profile on all breeding dogs registered after 1 December 2013. Current mandatory disease testing includes:
	  1. Cystinuria
	  2. Centronuclear Myopathy
	  3. Exercise Induced Collapse
	  4. Myotubuular Myopathy X Linked
	  5. Neonatal Encephalopathy
	  6. Von Willebrands disease Type I,
	  7. Degenerative Myelopathy
	  8. Autosomal Hereditary Recessive Nephropathy
	  9. Phosphofructokinase Deficiency (Glycogen Storage disease)
	  10. PRCD
		2.08	*High*

3.3.2014	Ensure any dog that has carrier or affected status for any hereditary disease in the full breed profile list, or has an incomplete full breed profile is only permitted to breed to dogs that are clear for that particular disease.	*2.09*	*High*
3.4.0	Refrain from breeding with any dog diagnosed with dysplasia (hip and / or elbow)	*2.07*	*High*

[5] Australian Veterinary Association | http://www.ava.com.au/

[6] PennHip | http://info.antechimagingservices.com/pennhip/index.html

[7] Orthopedic Foundation For Animals | http://www.offa.org/index.html

4 – Records

In order to maintain and share when required, accurate breeding and health records, contracts and pedigrees, members will

Previous reference: 2.22

Rule Number		*Previous reference*	*Level of fine*
4.1.0	Identify dogs in the breeder's program by registered name, breed and generation on any pedigree and the breeder's official website.	*2.18*	*Low*
4.2.0	Supply microchip number on health screening, litter registrations, contracts and pedigrees.		*Mid*
4.3.0	Submit litter registrations to the ALA Registrar that detail microchip numbers and evidence of desexing where performed, no later than 12 weeks from the litter's date of birth.	*2.20* *2.21*	*Low*
4.4.2014	Submit accurate and true copies of all health screening results to the ALA when registering or upgrading a dog on the ALA Register prior to a litter being whelped.	*2.11* *2.15*	*High*

5 – Conduct

In order to act professionally, with integrity and competence, in dealings with others, members will:

Previous reference: 1.18

Rule Number		*Previous reference*	*Level of fine*
5.1.0	Act honourably and be truthful in communications regarding fellow breeders and their animals.	*1.18*	*Mid*
5.2.0	Respond to instances of disputes with customers or other breeders in a timely and professional manner, (i.e. within 7 days).	*1.17*	*Mid*
5.3.0	Provide payments to other breeders in accordance with contractual agreements and required paperwork /signatures in a timely manner (i.e. within 7 days), except in instances where payment has not been received for services provided or other arrangements are written into a signed contract.	*2.04*	*Mid*

Rescinded

	Rule	Rationale
1.11	I shall wean, give appropriate worming and vaccinations to all puppies while in my care.	Covered in Code (2) – refer to local level government / welfare requirements
2.17	I shall display the ALA's Accredited Breeders logo on *any promotional publications* including my website and will add a link to the ALA home page.	Difficult to monitor compliance (note italics)
2.12	Remain aware of current AVA hip score average for the Australian Labradoodle and acknowledge that it is considered a high risk to breed a dog with a score of 4 or more on either hip in any of the nine areas evaluated using this method.	Knowing scores does not improve breeding practices – 3.4.0 addresses desired practices
2.26	I shall return all ALA registrations, if I am lifetime suspended.	Not able to be effected as we no longer have jurisdiction over a suspended member
2.28	I shall not lease any dogs that belong to another ALA breeder who is under suspension or deactivation.	Relaxed position – there may be good reason to use a deactivated members dog providing it fulfills health and registration requirements
2.29	Grading can be altered by the registrar within the first 6 months of issuance or with the written permission of the breeder of the dog whose grading is in question, or by signed statement of 3 private parties who can provide valid proof of reason to alter.	Registrar confirms grading and has jurisdiction to alter in consultation with Breeder / Executive.
2.31	I am aware that the term "dog", when used, refers to either a female or male.	Definition is understood as standard convention / definition