

## ANIMAL EXHIBITIONS

The Animal & Veterinary Service (“AVS”) is a cluster of the National Parks Board, a statutory board constituted under the National Parks Board Act (Cap. 198A).

No person shall use any premises for the exhibition of animals without a valid licence from the Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) issued in accordance with the Animals and Birds (Pet Shop and Exhibition) Rules 2004.

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### RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LICENSEE

The licensee shall:

1. **ensure** that the animals are healthy and in good condition;
2. **ensure** that the animals are exhibited in good living conditions that are clean and comfortable;
3. **ensure** that the animals are managed properly, given enough rest and not subjected to stress;
4. **ensure** that animals are safely confined;
5. **ensure** there is no sale or giving away of animals;
6. **ensure** that all exhibitors comply with the conditions;
7. **promote** animal welfare and responsible pet ownership.

The licensee shall fulfill the above responsibilities and comply with the licence condition(s) set down below (C.1 to C.13). Failure to fulfill the responsibilities or comply with any condition(s) shall render the licensee liable to composition(s), suspension or revocation of the licence or prosecution for cruelty to animals.

AVS reserves the right to suspend or revoke the licence at the discretion of the Director-General, Animal Health and Welfare.

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### CONDITIONS

#### ANIMAL HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

- C.1 All animal housing must provide sufficient space for the animals to move freely and comfortably and to rest. There must be space for food and water utensils.
- C.2 There must be no overcrowding for animals housed together.
- C.3 Adequate shelter must be provided.

### ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & HEALTHCARE

C.4 Animals exhibited must be healthy and in good condition. Sick, diseased or injured animals must be removed from the exhibition and treated by a licensed practising veterinarian.

C.5 Animals exhibited must be of a suitable age and have been properly weaned.

C.6 Animals that are pregnant or nursing young must not be exhibited.

C.7 Dogs and cats exhibited must have received at least 2 appropriate vaccinations. The first vaccination must be given not earlier than 6 weeks of age, the second not less than 2 weeks before display / sale. The vaccination cards must be available for inspection.

C.8 Clean drinking water must be provided at all times, as appropriate.

### PUBLIC EDUCATION

C.9 The exhibition must have a public education theme and purpose and a programme that emphasises issues such as animal welfare and responsible pet ownership.

### OTHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

C.10 Only the types and numbers of animals specified on the licence are to be at the exhibition venue.

C.11 No CITES animals are to be exhibited without the proper documents.

C.12 There must be no sale or giving away of animals either during the exhibition or as part of the exhibition.

C.13 If animals are used in a performance or act, the “Conditions for Animal Performances” must be followed. The animals must not be forced to perform acts considered unnatural for the animal.

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### GUIDELINES

Licensees are encouraged to adopt the following guidelines which will enhance animal welfare and the professional standard of exhibitions.

G.1 Puppies should be vaccinated against canine distemper, infectious hepatitis and parvovirus.

G.2 Kittens should be vaccinated against feline rhinotracheitis virus, calicivirus, panleukopenia virus and chlamydia.

G.3 Only compatible animals from the same litter should be kept together.

G.4 Incompatible types of animals should not be kept in close proximity.

G.5 Animals should be allowed to exercise.

G.6 The following breeds should not be exhibited:

- (a) Pit Bull which includes the American Pit Bull Terrier (also known as the American Pit Bull and Pit Bull Terrier), American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier and the American Bulldog
- (b) Akita
- (c) Neapolitan Mastiff
- (d) Tosa
- (e) Crosses of (a) to (d).

G.7 The display area should be suitably ventilated and kept clean and dry. It should have a washing point nearby.

G.8 The exhibits should be properly and professionally done so that they are in tune with the educational theme and purpose of the exhibition.

G.9 The licensee should not change the set up of the display without first notifying AVS.

G.10 Where cages are used, they should be in good condition and properly secured. Collapsible and flimsy cages should not be used except temporarily such as for holding animals when display cages are being washed, and the cages should be placed directly on the floor or on a stable structure.

G.11 Solid flooring is preferred but where the flooring is made of wire, floorboards or mats should be used.

G.12 Appropriate food should be given in the appropriate amount and frequency according to the species and age of the animal.

G.13 Litter boxes and dust baths should be provided for cats and chinchillas respectively.

G.14 Water bowls are preferred over water bottles for dispensing water to dogs, particularly for the large breeds.

G.15 All items used for the animals should be clean. Drinking and feeding receptacles should be non-toxic and corrosion-resistant.

G.16 Food remnants, animal waste and wastewater should be properly disposed of.

G.17 The display of pet products should be neat and tidy and not cause congestion at the exhibition venue.

G.18 In the case of exhibitions where pets are displayed, posters promoting responsible pet ownership should be put up and literature on pet care should be available for distribution or sale.

G.19 The licensee and exhibition attendants should be knowledgeable about the animals being exhibited and be able to handle them properly.

G.20 Signs with the words "ANIMALS ARE NOT FOR SALE" should be prominently displayed. The words should be in capital letters and at least 1 inch or 2.5 cm in height. There should be at least 1 sign for every 3 cages / enclosures. If the cages / enclosures are not adjacent, each cage / enclosure should have a sign. The signs should be displayed at the exhibition venue until the animals have been removed.

G.21 The licensee should ensure proper evacuation procedures in case of an emergency.

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