

## **Final Model Draft Dog breeding, marketing and sale rules**

### **PREAMBLE**

Breeding, marketing and sale of dogs has come to stay as a high-level commercial venture in India, involving thousands of breeders and pet shops in the multi-crore industry. Parallely, an enormous need has emerged for lakhs of pups of specific breeds or half breeds from pet owners, most of whom are ignorant of the basics of healthcare and management of dogs. This has resulted in unscrupulous breeders and pet shops selling pups that are poor in breed standards, unhealthy and diseased resulting in heavy mortality or weaklings that are ill-treated. This unethical trade also has high zoonotic potential which is a public health concern. Besides all this there is an immediate need to discipline the process of dog breeding, marketing and sale addressing animal welfare concerns.

The Dog Breeding and Sales Rules are formulated to be enforced under the PCA Act 1960.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Breeders:** Any individual or group of persons owning dogs of specific breeds (registered with kennel club or unregistered) for breeding and sale of pups.

**Traders:** Any individual or group of persons selling pups either from their own breeding or acquired from other breeders through pet shops or from any other premises/establishment.

**Boarding Kennel Operators:** Who keep pet dogs for temporary boarding in their kennels/shelters.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- a. To regulate the welfare of dogs kept in breeding premises/establishments;
- b. To extend powers of inspection of such premises/establishments;
- c. To establish records kept at such premises/establishments; and for connected purposes;
- d. To regulate the sale of dogs and pups.

### **GENERAL RULES FOR COMMERCIAL BREEDING AND SALE OF DOGS AND PUPS**

Note: In common practice, adult dogs are rarely sold. For the purpose of this document, sale of pups is generally considered as important and relevant.

- (i) Dog owners keeping dogs for breeding must obtain the (annual) license from Local Civic Authority and Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) in accordance with the provisions of these rules.
- (ii) Applicants must obtain necessary license from the Local Civic Authority for the breeding dogs as well as the premises/establishment as a precondition for license from the AWBI.
- (iii) The licensing charges will be specified category wise by AWBI.
- (iv) All the licensees shall display that the premises/establishment has been licensed for the breeding/sale of dogs.
- (v) All licensed pet shops should source/procure pups from licensed breeders only with proof of records.
- (vi) All the licensed premises/establishments can be inspected by persons (Inspectors) authorized by the AWBI.
- (vii) The Kennel Club in India and other registered kennel clubs must insist that the breeding kennels are licensed by local civic authority and by AWBI, while they seek puppy registration certificates.

### **1) Licensing Procedure**

- 1) An individual must be at least eighteen (18) years of age to be issued a valid license.
- 2) An application for breeding and selling will have to be made to the AWBI in the prescribed format (Website: [www.awbi.org](http://www.awbi.org))
- 3) The grant of a license to a person to keep a breeding establishment for dogs at such premises in his area will be subject to license from the local authority.
- 4) The format to apply for license from the Local Civic Authority and criteria for certification is appended
- 5) The applicant shall provide all information requested on the application form, including a valid mailing (postal) address through which the applicant or the licensee can always be reached, and a valid address for the premises/establishment where animals, facilities, equipment and records shall be inspected for compliance. Locations of all premises/establishments, facilities or sites where a person operates from, has an interest in, or keeps animals shall be provided on the application form or on a separate sheet attached to it. The applicant shall file the completed application form with the Secretary of the AWBI. Applications must be accompanied with the appropriate fee as required.
- 6) The license under this Rule can only be given after the Local Civic Authority arranges for the inspection of the premises/establishment by veterinary surgeon affiliated to? Veterinary Council of India and by an officer of the local authority.
- 7) Where an inspection is arranged, the Local Civic Authority shall arrange to write a report about the premises/establishment, the applicant and any other relevant matter. The authority shall consider the report before determining whether to grant a license.

- 8) The Local Civic Authority shall inform the AWBI of their decision to grant a license or otherwise.
- 9) The license will be for one-year duration only, subject to renewal after inspection. Each animal in the premises will be identified and licensed separately.
- 10) The license will be dependant on:
  - a. Registration procedures
  - b. Record keeping
  - c. Identification of breeding animals
  - d. State of the establishment/premises including facilities /infrastructure
  - e. Record of staff
  - f. Details of breeding operations/activity
  - g. General care and upkeep of the animals
  - h. Health of the animals
  - i. Affiliation to a Veterinary Surgeon recognized by the Veterinary Council of India.
- 11) A Local Civic Authority may authorize in writing any of its officers or any veterinary surgeon to inspect any premises in its area in respect to which a license has been granted in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and any person authorized under this rules may, on producing his authority if so required, enter any such premises and inspect them and any animals found thereon or anything therein, for the purpose of ascertaining whether an offence has been or is being committed against this Rule.
- 12) Any person who willfully obstructs or delays any person in the exercise of his/her powers of entry or inspection under this Rule shall be guilty of an offence.
- 13) Operation of a commercial kennel/ pet shop as a commercial breeder, dealer/intermediate handler or exhibitor without a valid license is a violation of the Rules.
- 14) All premises/establishments licensed under the AWBI shall be inspected at least once each year, or upon a complaint to the department about misuse of any particular facility (
- 15) All licensees or applicants for new license/renewal of license must make his/her facilities, animals, area, premises/establishment, equipment, vehicles and records available for inspection to the animal welfare official designated by the AWBI. The licensee or applicant shall also provide the inspector with suitable workspace and facilities such as a room, a table and a chair to use in examining records and writing his/her report.
- 16) A license shall be issued to specific persons for specific premises/establishment, facilities and operations, and is not transferable upon change of ownership or any other significant change in business or operations, nor is it valid at a different location.
- 17) All licenses will expire on January 31st of each year and will automatically terminate at midnight on that date unless the properly

completed application with the appropriate fee has been received by the AWBI. A person whose license has been automatically terminated shall not conduct any activity for which a license is required by the AWBI until all requirements for issuing the license have been met and a valid license has been duly issued.

- 18) Any person who seeks the reinstatement of a license that has been automatically terminated must follow the procedure applicable to new applications for a license.

## **2) Refusal of License**

The AWBI may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may revoke or suspend a license on any one or more of the following grounds.

- 1) Material and deliberate misstatement on the application for original license or for renewal of license.
- 2) Conviction for violation of any state or central law on the disposition or treatment of animals.
- 3) Failure of any person to comply with any provision of the AWBI, or any of the standards laid down by the AWBI.
- 4) Refusal to allow the inspector free and unrestricted access to inspect any AWBI required records, or any animal premises/establishment, facility, area, equipment or vehicle.
- 5) Nonpayment of fees will result in denial of license. Payment of fees must then be made by bank draft, cashier's cheque or money order. An applicant shall not receive a license until payment has cleared normal banking procedures. A delay of up to thirty (30) days or more may be expected if a personal out-station cheque is used for payment of fees.

## **3) Annual Report by Licensee**

- 1) Each year, thirty (30) days prior to the expiry date of the license, the licensee shall file an application for license renewal with the Local Civic Authority and AWBI with an annual report.
- 2) Each licensee shall submit information on the total number of animals sold, traded, bartered, brokered, given away, boarded or exhibited during the previous year (January through December) and any other information required on the form. (Website: [www.awbi.org](http://www.awbi.org))

## **4) In the Case of the Licensee Having Expired**

In the event of the death of a person (the licensee) who is keeping a breeding establishment for dogs under the authority of a license granted under this Act, that license shall be deemed to have been granted to his/her personal representatives in respect of those premises, and shall remain in force until the end of the period of three months beginning with the death of the original licensee and shall then expire.

## **5) Facilities (including housing) to be Provided by the Licensee**

In determining whether to grant a license for breeding establishments/premises for dogs by any person, the AWBI and Local Civic

Authority shall in particular (but without prejudice to their discretion to withhold a license on these grounds) have regard to the need for securing the following.

- a) That the dogs will at all times be kept in kennels/ accommodation suitable in all respects of construction, size, number of dogs, exercising facilities, proper temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- b) Adequate housing means continuous provision of a sanitary facility, protection from the extremes of weather conditions, proper ventilation and appropriate space. All housing to be made of impervious materials that can be sanitized (wood is not acceptable).
- c) Indoor housing facility means any structure or building with environmental controls, housing or intended to house animals and meeting the following requirements.
  - i) A sheltered housing facility may consist of runs or pens totally enclosed in a barn or building, or of connecting inside/outside runs or pens within a totally enclosed building.
  - ii) It must be capable of controlling the temperature within the building or structure within the limits set forth for that species and age of animal, of maintaining humidity levels and of rapidly eliminating odors from within the building.
  - iii) It must have an impervious floor. Impervious surface means a surface that does not permit the absorption of fluids.
  - iv) It must be an enclosure created by the continuous connection of a roof, floor and walls.
  - v) It must have at least one (1) door for entry and exit that can be opened and closed. Any windows or openings which provide natural light must be covered with a transparent material such as glass or hard plastic.
- d) That the dogs will be adequately supplied with suitable food, water and bedding material, adequately exercised, and visited at suitable intervals.
  - i) Adequate food means the provision, at suitable intervals of not more than eight (8) hours of a quantity of wholesome food suitable for that species and age and, enough to maintain a reasonable level of nutrition in each animal. All food must be served in a safe receptacle, dish or container.
  - ii) Adequate water means the provision of a supply of fresh, clean drinking water in a safe receptacle, dish or container. Water shall be provided at all times.
  - iii) Adequate exercise either in a fenced area or on a leash.

## **6) Requirements for Breeding**

1. No breeder will breed more than one kind of dog. Multi-species breeding disqualifies the breeder.
2. The breeder should be knowledgeable about reproduction, nutrition, wellness and care, early behavioral development, and breeding ethics.

3. Only normal healthy, mature bitches after have reached their 18<sup>th</sup> month will be bred. They must be deemed healthy by a licensed veterinarian within ten (10) days before being bred.
4. No bitch will produce litters in two (2) consecutive breeding seasons. Bitches will not give birth to puppies before the end of the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which they last give birth to puppies. That means only one litter in one year.
5. No bitch will give birth to more than four (4) litters of puppies during her lifespan.
6. No stud dog will be bred unless he is a healthy, mature dog after he has reached his 18<sup>th</sup> month. He must be deemed healthy by a licensed veterinarian within ten (10) days before being mated.

### **7) Common Breeding Techniques**

1. Breeders utilize four common breeding techniques: a) Out breeding; b) Line breeding; c) In breeding; and d) Incest breeding.
2. Out of these, the following two are ALLOWED
  - a) Out breeding: the mating of dogs, which are not at all related to one another.
  - b) Line breeding: the mating between slightly related dogs. In this case dogs are chosen for their special attributes to obtain certain types.
3. The following are NOT ALLOWED
  - a) In breeding: the mating between dogs which are related. That means that at least one ancestor is present on the side of both sire and dam. Inbreeding is breeding between relatives of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade in straight or side line within the first four generations e.g. uncle to niece, nephew to aunt, cousin to cousin, grandparents to grandchildren. This is strictly forbidden.
  - b) Incest breeding: the mating between parents and children or between brother and sister, i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> grade relatives. Incest breeding as well as continued inbreeding and line breeding is risky, since it increases the danger of hereditary diseases. This is strictly forbidden.
4. Bitches will not be mated after the age of 8 years.
5. All breeders will furnish the age proof of their breeding bitches (by a licensed veterinarian).
6. All breeders will keep a full detail of what the dog or bitch has previously produced and details of the litter.
7. The bitch should have been up-to-date with her vaccination boosters and de-worming prior to mating.
8. There will be no tail docking, ear cropping or any kind of mutilating of the puppy. Any change of appearance by artificial means is strictly forbidden.

### **8) Health Rules for Breeding**

1. The dogs shall be kept in a clean, healthy and safe environment. Dogs will be provided with all socialization opportunities, vaccinations, and deworming necessary to provide maximum mental and physical well-being.
2. Proper veterinary care should be available. Each breeder should have a licensed veterinarian employed on the premises/establishment if the premises/establishment has more than six (6) breeding dogs. If the number of dogs is less, the licensed veterinarian should be on call, and records should be kept of his/her visits.
3. No licensed breeder shall keep more than 10 dogs and puppies at any one time per employee.

#### **9) Attending Veterinarian and Adequate Veterinary Care**

1. Each licensee shall have an attending licensed veterinarian who shall provide adequate veterinary care to animals covered under the rules.
2. In the case of a part-time attending veterinarian or consultant arrangement, the formal arrangements shall include a written programme of veterinary health care and regularly scheduled visits to the premises of the licensee.
  - (i) Individual health records shall be maintained on all animals above the age of eight (8) weeks, or that have been weaned, or that have been treated with a medical procedure, whichever occurs first. Litter health records may be kept on litters when litter-mates are treated with the same medication or procedure. Health records (or a copy) should accompany all animals upon the transfer of ownership.
  - (ii) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being is required. However, daily observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian, provided that a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is established so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.
  - (iii) Adequate training and guidance to personnel involved in the care of animals is required. The employer must be certain his/her employees can perform at the level required by these rules.
3. If the veterinarian finds that an animal or group of animals from a breeding kennel is/are suffering from contagious, communicable or infectious disease or exposure to a disease, a quarantine to that premises/establishment may be issued until the animals are
  - a) recovered and no longer capable of transmitting the disease; or
  - b) isolated; or
  - c) humanely euthanized and properly disposed of; or
  - d) tested, vaccinated or otherwise treated.
4. A quarantine issued by the veterinarian shall remain in effect until released in writing by the veterinarian.

5. All animals will be fed a properly balanced nutritional diet as recommended by the veterinarian. There will be separate diets for adult dogs, pregnant bitches and weaning puppies.
6. All puppies will be vaccinated. Puppy vaccinations can start at 7-8 weeks of age, and are usually completed at 18 weeks.
7. The dogs should have been tested for genetic defects such as (but not limited to) hip dysplasia, progressive retinal atrophy, night blindness, hypothyroidism, entropion, ectropion, overshot, undershot (when incisors do not touch or mesh), wry mouth, two or more missing teeth, unilateral cryptorchid or full cryptorchid males.

#### **10) Conditions for Sale**

1. A Kennel Club Registration Certificate with all details will ensure the breed standards together with full written name of the breed, its standard and other requirements.
2. The breeder shall furnish the buyer with written details on feedings, dates of inoculations and de-worming of the puppy and the name and address of the licensed veterinarian who has examined the puppy.
3. All breeders shall screen prospective buyers to ascertain their potential to properly take care for the breed, especially if it is a large one; training, grooming, socializing, veterinary expenses, equipments needs, spatial needs, and exercise.
4. The breeder shall, either singly or in litter lots, consign, donate or sell dogs to commercial dog wholesalers, franchised commercial facilities, or pet shops licensed by AWBI.
5. All pups sold shall be in good health and condition, have had the required medical inoculations, free from communicable diseases, and minimum eight (8) weeks of age. No adult or puppy shall be sold without adequate disease protection irrespective of its age.
6. The breeder will keep track of all puppies produced and sold, whether pet or for show, to know how the breeding program is working. The buyer of the pup / dog will be liable to furnish information with regard to health problems, physical abnormalities or death of the animal on yearly basis (All conditions of sale agreed upon by the buyer and breeder must be in writing).
7. Puppies will not be displayed in public places for purpose of immediate sale.
8. A breeder will not breed a litter unless he has pre-screened candidates on a waiting list for the puppies.
9. Dogs cannot be sold without first being sterilized, unless they are being sold to another licensed breeding establishment.
10. Dogs and pups cannot be sold to be used in experiments.

#### **11) Records**

1. Accurate records in a form prescribed by regulations will be kept at the premises/establishment and made available for inspection there

- by any officer of the Local Civic Authority or AWBI inspector, or any veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorized by the Local Civic Authority or AWBI to inspect the premises.
2. All breeders will use clear concise contracts to document the sale, the use of stud dogs and lease arrangements, spaying/neutering contracts.
  3. Accurate records will be retained of individual dogs and bitches, stock stud service contracts, pedigrees, all litters of puppies for sale, and all dogs/puppies sold.
  4. The following information on each dog/bitch will be kept:
    - a) Breed
    - b) Registered name and number (or litter number if not registered)
    - c) Sex, colour and markings
    - d) Date of birth
    - e) Name or numbers of sire and dam
    - f) Name of breeder
    - g) Name and address of person from whom directly acquired
    - h) Date of acquisition
    - i) Date and duration of lease, if any
  5. The owner of a dog/bitch, which is bred, must record:
    - a) Date and place of mating
    - b) Names of persons handling mating
    - c) Registered name and number of dog to which mated
    - d) Name and address of its owner
  6. The owner of a litter must record:
    - a) Date of whelping
    - b) Number of puppies whelped by sex, colour and markings
    - c) Litter registration number if any
    - d) Date of sale, gift or death of each puppy so described
    - e) Name and address of person acquiring each puppy so described
    - f) Kinds of papers and date supplied
    - g) Registered name and number of each puppy registered by the Kennel Club.
    - h) Cause of death as determined by a veterinary doctor of all animals who die in the facility

## **12) Records to be kept by Commercial Breeders**

1. Each commercial breeder, dealer, intermediate handler, and exhibitor shall create, keep and maintain records or forms which fully and correctly disclose the following information concerning each dog purchased or otherwise received/acquired, owned, held or otherwise in his/her possession or control which is transported, euthanized, sold or otherwise disposed of by the licensee. The records shall include:

- i. Any offspring born of any animal while in his/her possession or under his/her control.
  - ii. The name and complete mailing address of the person from whom a dog was purchased or otherwise received/acquired.
  - iii. The name and complete mailing address of the person to whom a dog was sold, given or delivered.
  - iv. The date a dog was received/acquired or disposed of, or both, and the method of disposal, including by death or euthanasia. No dog can be killed in any way other than being humanely euthanized via injection by a licensed veterinarian.
  - v. The official tag number assigned to a dog by the Local Civic Authority.
  - vi. Individual medical records shall be maintained on all animals purchased/bought, raised, or otherwise received/acquired, held, kept, maintained, sold, donated or otherwise disposed of, including by death or euthanasia, which shall specify all treatments and medications given and all procedures performed on the animal, to include reasons for or the condition requiring the treatment, medication or procedure, and the results of the treatment, medication or procedure will be included in this record. Litter health records may be kept on litters when all litter mates are treated with same medication or procedure. Medical records (or a copy) may accompany the animal when sold.
2. All records shall be maintained for a period of one (1) year, unless the AWBI requests in writing that they be maintained for a longer period, for the purpose of investigation.

### **13) Penalties**

Penalty for breaking license conditions is cancellation of the license and permanent disqualification from keeping such an establishment/premises, the keeping of which is required to be licensed under this rule.

Closure of the establishment, fine and imprisonment. Under this rule, Disqualification from having custody of any dog of a description specified in the order.

Any dog which was in the offender's custody at the time when the offence was committed; or has been in his/her custody at any time since that time. May require any person who has custody of the dog to deliver it up to a specified person; and also require the offender to pay specified amounts to specified persons for the care of the dog from the time when it is delivered in pursuance of this rule until permanent arrangements are made for its care or disposal.

### **14) Identification of Animals**

1. All licensees shall identify all dogs held on the premises, bought/purchased, raised, otherwise received/acquired, boarded, sheltered, sold, released, donated or otherwise disposed off or removed

from the premises for any reason to or through any person by one (1) or more of the appropriate methods as follows:

- a. By an official tag affixed to the animal's neck by means of a collar made of a material generally considered acceptable to pet owners. The use of materials such as wire, elastic or any other material which may cause discomfort to the animal shall not be used.
  - b. Tags must be sequentially numbered, used in a sequential order, and must be referenced to record(s) which completely and accurately identify the source of the animal and any number used by that source to identify the animal, all medical treatments or procedures, and disposition of the animal. A record of the number used to identify the animal shall accompany the animal on sale/disposal.
2. Commercial kennels will use distinctive cards. Cards must be placed in an area which will prevent animals, water or cleaning solutions from contacting or damaging the cards. Cards must provide a brief description of the animal including name, breed or type, age, sex, colour and any distinctive markings. Cage cards must also specify any medications with directions for administering, any special needs or instructions and emergency instructions stating veterinarian of choice and telephone number. All of the information listed in this paragraph should immediately available to the animal caretaker and inspector.

### **15) Activity of Persons/Organizations Whose Licenses Have Been Suspended or Revoked**

1. Any person who has been an officer, agent, direct family member or employee of a licensee whose license has been suspended or revoked and who was responsible for or participated in the violation upon which the license was suspended or revoked will not be licensed within the same period during which the suspension or revocation is in effect.
2. Any facility involved in an order of license suspension or revocation shall not be used for licensed activity.
3. Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked for any reason shall not be licensed under his/her name, or in any other manner within the period during which the suspension or revocation is in effect. No partnership, firm, corporation or other legal entity in which any such person has substantial interest, financial or otherwise, will be licensed during that period.
4. Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked shall not buy, sell, trade, barter, broker, transport, board, exhibit or deliver for transportation, any animal during the period of license suspension or revocation.

### **16) Denial of Initial License Application**

1. A license will not be issued to any applicant who is not in total compliance with the rules and the standards set forth including the payment of fees.
2. An initial applicant for license will be allowed a maximum of three (3) chances of inspections and a maximum period of up to ninety (90) days from the date of the first inspection in which to attain total compliance with the rules and standards of these rules prior to denial of license.
3. An initial applicant shall not conduct any activity for which an AWBI license is required until the license has been issued.
4. No partnership, firm, corporation or other legal entity in which a person whose license application has been denied / revoked and has a substantial interest, financial or otherwise, will be licensed.

**17) Access and Inspection of Records and Property**

Each licensee shall allow, upon request and during business hours, Local Civic Authority/AWBI inspecting officials to:

1. Enter its place of business.
2. Examine records required to be kept in accordance with the AWBI and this rule.
3. Make copies of the records.
4. Inspect and photograph the facilities, property and animals as the department officials consider necessary to enforce the provisions of the AWBI and this rule.
5. Document, by the taking of photographs and other means, conditions and areas of noncompliance.

**18) Inspection for Tracing Missing Animals**

1. Each licensee shall allow, upon request and during business hours, police or officers of other law enforcement agencies with general law enforcement authority to enter his/her place of business to inspect animals and records for the purpose of tracing missing animals under the following conditions
  - a. The police or other law enforcement officer shall furnish to the licensee a written description of the missing animal and the name and address of its owner before making a search; and
  - b. The police or other law enforcement officer shall abide by all security measures required by the licensee to prevent the spread of disease, including the use of sterile clothing, footwear and masks where required, or to prevent the escape of an animal.

**19) Handling of Animals**

1. Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm or unnecessary discomfort.
2. Physical abuse shall not be used to handle animals.

3. Deprivation of food or water shall not be used to train, work or otherwise handle animals.

## **20) Transport**

This section applies to movement of a dog from primary conveyance, within a primary conveyance or terminal facility, and to or from a terminal facility or a primary conveyance.

“Carrier” means the operator of any airline, aircraft, railroad, motor carrier, shipping line or other enterprise which is engaged in the business of transporting any animals for hire.

“Inspector” means any person employed by the department who is authorized to perform a function under the AWBI and these rules, or any animal welfare official as defined in this rule.

“Intermediate handler” means any person engaged in any business in which she/he receives custody of animals through boarding, ownership or brokering in connection with their transportation in commerce. Intermediate handlers shall be licensed under authority of the AWBI. Persons licensed under the AWBI who are transporting animals only in the normal course of conducting their licensed business shall not be required to be licensed as an intermediate handler, but shall be subject to all transportation regulations and standards of commercial kennel, contract kennel, dealer, intermediate handler, pet shop, pound or dog pound licensed according to the provisions of the AWBI.

## **21) Health Certificate**

1. One (1) copy of the health record shall accompany each shipment of any dog sold or otherwise disposed of by a commercial breeder. The health record shall contain observations, medications and treatments given.
2. A copy of the health certificate for each animal shipped interstate.
3. The name and complete mailing address of the person to whom the animal was sold or given.
4. The vehicle license number and state, and the driving license number of the person delivering the animal.
5. A complete description of the animal including breed or type, sex, size, approximate weight, approximate age, color and any distinctive marking.
6. In connection with all live dogs delivered for transportation, in commerce to any carrier or intermediate handler, by any commercial breeder, dealer, research facility, exhibitor, pet shop or any other person licensed by the AWBI, the accepting carrier or intermediate handler shall keep and maintain a copy of the health certificate tendered with each live dog.

7. No commercial breeder, dealer, exhibitor, pet shop, research facility or any other person licensed by the AWBI shall deliver to any intermediate handler or carrier for transportation in interstate commerce or shall transport in commerce any dog unless the dog is accompanied by a health certificate executed and issued by a licensed veterinarian
8. The health certificate shall state that
  - (i) the licensed veterinarian inspected the dog on a specified date which shall not be more 72 hours prior to the delivery of the dog for transportation; and
  - (ii) when so inspected, the dog appeared to the licensed veterinarian to be free of any infectious disease or physical abnormality which would endanger the animal(s) or endanger public health.
9. The owner/shipper statement must specify the date of shipment, name, address, phone number and license numbers of consignor and consignee of the shipment, specify species and list each animal in the shipment by its individual number, breed or type, age, sex, color, approximate weight and distinctive markings, vaccination history and certify. The statement should also certify that "To the best of my knowledge, all animals in this shipment are healthy and have not been exposed to an infectious or contagious disease". The statement must contain the signature, name, mailing address and phone number of the certifying veterinarian.
10. It is the responsibility of carrier or intermediate handler to hold, feed and take care for any animal accepted for transportation in commerce until the consignee accepts shipment at destination or until returned to the consignor should the consignee fail to accept delivery of the animal.

## **22) Minimum Age Requirements**

No dog shall be delivered by any person to any carrier or intermediate handler for transportation, in commerce, or shall be transported in commerce by any person unless that dog is at least eight (8) weeks of age and has been weaned.

## **23) Food and Water**

1. The consignor must certify that each dog was offered food and potable water within the four (4) hours preceding the delivery of the dog to a carrier or intermediate handler for transportation in commerce, and must certify the date and time the food and potable water was offered in accordance with this rule.
2. Any person licensed under the AWBI offering any dog to a carrier or intermediate handler for transportation in commerce must securely attach to the outside to the primary enclosure cage/portable kennel used for transporting the dog, written instructions for in-transit food and water requirements for a twenty-four (24) hour period for the dogs contained in the enclosure/kennel. The instructions must be attached in a manner that makes them easily noticed and read.

3. Food and water receptacles must be securely attached inside the primary enclosure and placed so that the receptacles can be filled from outside the enclosure without opening the door. Food and water containers must be designed, constructed and installed so that a dog cannot leave the primary enclosure through the food or water opening

#### **24) Care in Transit**

1. Surface transportation (ground and water). Any person transporting dogs in commerce must ensure that the operator of the conveyance or a person accompanying the operator observes the dogs as often as circumstances allow, but not less than once every four (4) hours, to make sure they have sufficient air for normal breathing, that the ambient temperature is within the limits set forth in this rule and that all applicable transportation standards are complied with. The regulated person must ensure that the operator or person accompanying the operator determines whether any of the dogs are in obvious physical distress and obtains any veterinary care needed for the dogs at the closest available veterinary facility.

2. Air transportation. During air transportation of dogs it is the responsibility of the carrier to observe the dogs as frequently as circumstances allow, but not less than once every four(4) hours, if the animal cargo area is accessible during flight. If the animal cargo area is not accessible during flight, the carrier must observe the dogs whenever they are loaded and unloaded and whenever the animal cargo space is otherwise accessible to make sure they have sufficient air for normal breathing, that the ambient temperature is within the limits set forth in this rule and that all applicable transportation standards are being complied with. The carrier must determine whether any of the dogs are in obvious physical distress and arrange for any veterinary care needed for the dogs at the closest available veterinary facility.

3. If a dog is obviously ill, injured or in physical distress, it must not be transported, except to receive veterinary care for the condition.

4. Except during the cleaning of primary enclosures as required in this rule, during transportation in commerce, a dog must not be removed from its primary enclosure, unless it is placed in another primary enclosure or facility that meets the requirements of this rule.

5. The transportation standards in this rule must be complied with until a consignee takes physical delivery of the dog if the animal is consigned for transportation or until the animal is returned to the consignor.

#### **25) Terminal Facilities**

1. Placement: Any person subject to these rules must not mix shipments of dogs with inanimate cargo in animal holding areas of terminal facilities.

2. Cleaning, Sanitization and Pest Control: All animal holding areas of terminal facilities must be cleaned and sanitized in a manner prescribed in this rule, as often as necessary to prevent an accumulation of debris or excreta and to minimize vermin infestation and disease hazards. Terminal facilities must follow an effective program in all animal holding areas for the control of insects, pests, vermin infestation and ectoparasites.
3. Ventilation: Ventilation must be provided in any animal holding area in a terminal facility containing dogs by means of windows, doors, vents or air conditioning. The air must be circulated by fans, blowers or air conditioning so as to minimize drafts, odors and moisture condensation. Auxiliary ventilation, such as exhaust fans, vents, fans, blowers or air conditioning must be used in any animal holding area containing dogs when the ambient temperature is eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty-nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) or higher.
4. Temperature: The ambient temperature in any animal holding area must not fall below forty-five degrees Fahrenheit (45 F) or seven point two degrees Celsius (7.2 C) or rise above eighty five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours at any time dogs are present. The ambient temperature must be measured in the animal holding area by the carrier, intermediate handler or a person transporting dogs who is subject to the AWBI rules, in any primary enclosure containing a dog at a point not more than three feet (3') or zero point ninety one meters (0.91 m) away from an outside wall of the primary enclosure and approximately midway up the side of the enclosure.
5. Shelter: Any person holding a live dog in any animal holding area of a terminal facility must provide the following:
  - (i) Shelter from sunlight and extreme heat. Shade must be provided that is sufficient to protect the dog from the direct rays of the sun; and
  - (ii) Shelter from rain or snow. Sufficient protection must be provided to allow the dogs to remain dry during rain, snow and other precipitation.
6. Duration: The length of time any person can hold dogs in animal holding areas of terminal facilities upon arrival is the same as that provided in this rule.
7. Handling: Any person who moves (including loading and unloading) dogs within, to or from the animal holding area of a terminal facility or a primary conveyance must do as quickly and efficiently as possible and must provide the following during movement of the dog:
  - (i) Shelter from sunlight and extreme heat. Sufficient shade must be provided to protect the dog from the direct rays of the sun. The dog must not be exposed to an ambient air temperature above eighty five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) for a period of

more than forty five (45) minutes while being moved to or from a primary conveyance or a terminal facility. The temperature must be measured in the manner provided in this rule.

- (ii) Shelter from rain and snow. Sufficient protection must be provided to allow the dogs to remain dry during rain, snow and other precipitation. Transporting devices on which live dogs are placed to move them must be covered to protect the animals when outdoor temperature falls below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C). Dogs must not be exposed to an ambient temperature below forty five degrees Fahrenheit (45 F) or seven point two degrees Celsius (7.2 C) for a period of more than forty-five (45) minutes unless they are accompanied by a certificate or acclimation to lower temperatures as provided in this rule. The temperature must be measured in the manner provided in this rule.

Any person handling a primary enclosure containing a dog must use care and must avoid causing physical harm or distress to the dog. A primary enclosure containing a dog must not be tossed, dropped or needlessly tilted and must not be stacked in a manner that may reasonably be expected to result in its falling. It must be handled and positioned in a manner that written instructions and arrows on the outside of the primary enclosure indicate.

## **26) Euthanasia**

All euthanasia of animals shall be accomplished by a method approved by the Veterinary Council of India/AWBI

## **27) Housing Facilities, General**

Structure and Construction. Housing facilities for dogs must be designed and constructed so that they are structurally sound. They must be kept in good repair, and they must protect the animals from injury, contain the animals securely and restrict other animals from entering.

Condition and Site. Housing facilities used for storing animal food or bedding must be free of any accumulation of trash, waste material, junk, weeds and other discarded materials. Animal areas inside of housing facilities must be kept neat and free of clutter, including equipment, furniture and stored material, but may contain materials actually used and necessary for cleaning the area, and fixtures or equipment necessary for proper husbandry practices. Housing facilities must be physically separated from any other business.

General Requirements. The surfaces of housing facilities, including houses, dens and other furniture type fixtures and objects within the

facility, must be constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled. Interior surfaces and any surfaces that come in contact with dogs must be free of:

- a) Excessive rust that prevents the required cleaning and sanitization or that affects the structural strength of the surface; and
- b) Jagged edges or sharp points that might injure the animals.

Maintenance and Replacement of Surfaces. All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis. Surfaces of housing facilities, including houses, dens and other furniture-type fixtures and objects within the facility, that cannot be readily cleaned and sanitized, must be replaced when worn or soiled.

Cleaning. Hard surfaces with which the dogs come in contact must be spot-cleaned daily and sanitized in accordance with this section to prevent accumulation of excreta and reduce disease hazards. Floors made of dirt, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel, grass or other similar material must be raked or spot-cleaned with sufficient frequency to ensure all animals the freedom to avoid contact with excreta. Contaminated material must be replaced whenever this raking and spot-cleaning is not sufficient to prevent or eliminate odors, insects, pests or vermin infestation. All other surfaces of housing facilities must be cleaned and sanitized when necessary to satisfy generally accepted husbandry standards and practices. Sanitization may be done using any of the methods provided in this rule for primary enclosures.

Water and Electric Power. The housing facility must have reliable electric power adequate for heating, cooling, ventilation and lighting, and for carrying out other husbandry requirements. The housing facility must provide adequate potable running water for the animals' drinking needs, for cleaning, and for carrying out other husbandry requirements.

## **28) Storage Facilities**

Food and Clothes. Supplies of food and bedding must be stored outside the animal area and in a manner that protects the supplies from spoilage, contaminations and vermin infestation. The supplies must be stored off the floor and away from the walls, to allow cleaning underneath and around and supplies. Foods requiring refrigeration must be stored accordingly, and all food must be stored in a manner that prevents contamination and deterioration of its nutritive value. All open supplies of food and bedding must be kept in leak-proof containers with tightly fitting lids to prevent contamination and spoilage. Only food and bedding that is currently being used may be kept in the animal areas.

Chemicals. Chemicals used for normal husbandry practices, cleaning, disinfecting, and the like, that may be toxic to the animals must not be

stored in food storage or food preparation areas, but may be stored in adjacent rooms or in secure cabinets in the animal areas. All chemicals and mixing containers must be clearly labeled.

Medicine All medications must be stored in clean, dust restricting cabinets with well-fitting doors or other suitable container with well-fitting lid or top. All medications must be clearly marked, or labeled with patient's name and directions if issued for a specific animal. Manufactures, labels, including expiration date, shall not be removed or defaced. Medications such as dips, and rinses and those marked for external use only may be stored in the same cabinet but must be physically separated from other medications.

Drainage and Waste Disposal. Housing facility operators must provide for regular and frequent collection, removal and disposal of animal and food waste, bedding, debris, garbage, water, other fluids and wastes, and dead animals, in a manner that minimizes contamination and disease risks. Housing facilities must be equipped with disposal facilities and drainage systems that are constructed and operated so that animal waste and water are rapidly eliminated and animals stay dry. Disposal and drainage systems must minimize vermin and pest infestation, insects, odors and disease hazards. All drains must be properly constructed, installed and maintained. If closed drainage systems are used they must be equipped with traps and prevent the backflow of gases and the backup of sewage onto the floor. If the facility uses sump or settlement ponds, or other similar systems for drainage and animal waste disposal, the system must be located far enough away from the animal area of the housing facility to prevent odors, diseases, pests and vermin infestation. Standing puddles of water in animal enclosures and adjacent areas must be drained or mopped up so that the animals stay dry. Trash containers in housing facilities, food storage and food preparation areas must be leak-proof and must have tightly fitted lids on them at all times. Dead animals, animal parts and animal waste must not be kept in food storage or food preparation areas, food freezers, food refrigerators or animal areas.

Washrooms and Sinks. Washing facilities such as washrooms, basins, sinks or showers (as needed) must be provided for animal caretakers and must be readily accessible.

Fire Detection and Extinguishers. All indoor housing facilities and the indoor portion of sheltered housing facilities shall be equipped with properly maintained smoke or heat detection devices and extinguishers. Type, number and location of the detectors and extinguishers shall be in accordance with the National Fire Code and Local fire codes.

## **29) Indoor Housing Facilities**

Heating, Cooling and Temperature Control. Indoor housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the animals from temperature extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. When animals are present, the ambient temperature in the facility must not fall below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C) for animals not acclimated to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress or discomfort (such as short-haired breeds) and for sick, aged, young or infirm animals, except as approved by the attending veterinarian. Dry bedding, solid resting boards or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C). The ambient temperature must not fall below forty-five degrees Fahrenheit (45 F) or seven point two degrees Celsius (7.2 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present, and must not rise above eighty five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present.

Ventilation. Indoor housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently ventilated at all times when animals are present to provide for their health and well-being, and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels and moisture condensation. Ventilation must be provided by windows, vents, fans or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers or air conditioning must be provided when the ambient temperature is eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty-nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) or higher. The relative humidity must be maintained in accordance with the directions of the attending veterinarian and generally accepted professional and husbandry practices.

Lighting. Indoor housing facilities for animals must be lighted well enough to permit routine inspection, cleaning of the facility and observation of the animals. Animals areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals and for the well-being of the animals. Primary enclosures must be placed so as to protect the animals from excessive light.

Interior Surfaces. The floors and walls of indoor housing facilities and any other surfaces in contact with the animals, must be impervious to moisture. The ceilings of indoor housing facilities must be impervious to moisture or be replaceable, for example, a suspended ceiling with replaceable panels.

### **30) Sheltered Housing Facilities**

Heating, Cooling and Temperature Control. The sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the dogs from temperature extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. The ambient temperature in the sheltered part of the facility must not fall below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C) for animals not acclimated to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress and discomfort (such as short-haired breeds) and for sick, aged, young or infirm animals, except as approved by the attending veterinarian. Dry bedding, solid resting boards, or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C). The ambient temperature must not fall below forty-five degrees Fahrenheit (45 F) or seven point two degrees Celsius (7.2 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present, and must not rise above eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty-nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present.

Ventilation. The enclosed or sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently ventilated when animals are present to provide for their health and well-being, and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels and moisture condensation. Ventilation must be provided by windows, doors, vents, fans or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers or air conditioning must be provided when the ambient temperature is eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) or higher.

Lighting. Sheltered housing facilities for animals must be lighted well enough to permit routine inspection and cleaning of the facility and observation of the animals. Animal areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals and for the well-being of the animals. Primary enclosures must be placed so as to protect the animals from excessive light.

Surfaces - Sheltered Floor Areas. The following areas in sheltered housing facilities must be impervious to moisture:

- a. Indoor floor areas in contact with the animals;
- b. Outdoor floor areas in contact with the animals, when the floor areas are not exposed to the direct sun, or are made from hard material such as wire, wood, metal or concrete; and
- c. All walls, boxes, houses, dens and other surfaces in contact with the animals.

Surfaces - Outside Floor Areas. Outside floor areas in contact with the animals and exposed to the direct sun may consist of compacted earth, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel or grass.

### **31) Outdoor Housing Facilities**

Restrictions The following categories of dogs/pups must not be kept in outdoor facilities, unless that practice is specifically approved by the attending veterinarian.

1. Dogs that are not acclimated to the temperatures prevalent in the area or region where they are maintained;
2. Dog breeds that cannot tolerate the prevalent temperature of the area without stress or discomfort (such as short-haired breeds in cold climates);
3. Sick, infirm, aged or young animals; and
4. When their acclimation status is unknown, dogs must not be kept in outdoor facilities when the ambient temperature is less than fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C)

Outdoor facilities for dogs must include one (1) or more shelter structures that are accessible to each animal in each outdoor facility, and that are large enough to allow each animal in the shelter structure to sit, stand and lie in a normal manner, and to turn about freely. In addition to the shelter structures, one (1) or more separate outside areas of shade must be provided, large enough to contain all the animals at once and protect them from the direct rays of the sun. Shelters in outdoor facilities for animals must contain a roof, four (4) sides and a floor, and must:

- (i) Provide the animals with adequate protection and shelter from the cold and heat;
- (ii) Provide the animals with protection from the direct rays of the sun and the direct effect of wind, rain, snow or other precipitation;
- (iii) Be provided with a wind break and rain break at the entrance;
- (iv) Contain clean, dry bedding material if the ambient temperature is below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C). Additional clean, dry bedding is required when the temperature is thirty-five degrees Fahrenheit (35 F) or one point seven degrees Celsius (1.7 C) or lower.

Building surfaces in contact with animals in outdoor housing facilities must be impervious to moisture. Metal barrels, cars, refrigerators or freezers, and the like must not be used as shelter structures. The floors of outdoor housing facilities may be of compacted earth, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel or grass, and must be replaced if there are any prevalent odors, diseases, insects, pests or vermin. All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis. Surfaces of outdoor housing facilities, including

houses, dens and the like that cannot be readily cleaned and sanitized, must be replaced when worn or soiled.

### **32) Mobile or Traveling Facilities**

Heating, cooling and temperature control. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the animals from temperature extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. The ambient temperature in the mobile or traveling housing facility must not fall below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C) for animals not acclimatized to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress and discomfort (such as short-haired breeds) and for sick, aged, young or infirm animals, except as approved by the attending veterinarian. Dry bedding, solid resting boards, or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below fifty degrees Fahrenheit (50 F) or ten degrees Celsius (10 C). The ambient temperature must not fall below forty-five degrees Fahrenheit (45 F) or seven point two degrees Celsius (7.2 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present, and must not rise above eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty-nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) for more than four (4) consecutive hours when animals are present.

Ventilation. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for animals must be sufficiently ventilated when animals are present to provide for their health and well-being of the animals and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels and moisture condensation, and exhaust fumes. Ventilation must be provided by windows, doors, vents, fans or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers or air conditioning must be provided when the ambient temperature is eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85 F) or twenty nine point five degrees Celsius (29.5 C) or higher.

Lighting. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for animals must be lighted well enough to permit proper cleaning and inspection of the facility and observation of the animals. Animal areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals and for the well-being of the animals.

### **33) Primary Enclosures**

Primary enclosures for animals must meet the following minimum requirements:

- (1) General requirements.

- (i) Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound. The primary enclosure must be kept in good repair.
- (ii) Primary enclosures must be constructed and maintained so that they:
  - a) Have no sharp points or edges that could injure the animals;
  - b) Protect the animals from injury;
  - c) Contain the animals securely;
  - d) Keep other animals from entering the enclosure;
  - e) Enable the animals to remain dry and clean;
  - f) Provide shelter and protection from extreme temperatures and weather conditions that may be uncomfortable or hazardous to the animals;
  - g) Provide sufficient shade to shelter all the animals housed in the primary enclosure at one time;
  - h) Provide all the animals with easy and convenient access to clean food and water;
  - i) Enable all surfaces in contact with the animals to be readily cleaned and sanitized in accordance with this rule, or be replaceable when worn or soiled;
  - j) Have floors that are constructed in a manner that protects the animal's feet and legs from injury and that, if mesh or slatted construction, it must be constructed of materials strong enough to prevent sagging and with a mesh small enough that will not allow the animal's feet to pass through any openings in the floor. If the floor of the primary enclosure is constructed of wire, a solid resting surface(s) that, in the aggregate, is large enough to hold all the occupants of the primary enclosure at the same time comfortably must be provided; and
  - k) Provide sufficient space to allow each animal to turn about freely, to stand, sit and lie in a comfortable, normal position and to walk in a normal manner;

Each dog housed in a primary enclosure (including weaned puppies) must be provided a minimum amount of floor space, calculated as follows: Find the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog in inches (measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail) plus six (6) inches then divide the product by one hundred forty-four (144). The calculation is: (length of dog in inches plus six (6)) times (length of dog in inches plus six (6)) equals required floor space in square inches. Required floor space in inches divided by one hundred forty-four (144) equals required floor space in square feet.

Each bitch with nursing puppies must be provided with an additional amount of floor space, based on her breed and behavioral characteristics, and in accordance with generally accepted husbandry practices as determined by the attending veterinarian. If the additional amount of floor space for each nursing puppy is less than five percent (5%) of the minimum requirement for the bitch, this housing must be approved by the Veterinary Council of India Veterinarian.

The interior height of a primary enclosure must be at least six (6) inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.

### **34) Dogs on Tethers**

Dogs may be kept on tethers only in outside housing facilities that meet the requirements of this rule, and then only when the tether meets the requirements of this paragraph. The tether must be attached to the front of the dog's shelter structure or to a post in front of the shelter structure and must be at least three (3) times the length of the dog, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail. The tether must allow the dog convenient access to the shelter structure and, to food and water containers. The tether must be of the type and strength commonly used for the size of dog involved and must be attached to the dog by a well-fitted collar that will not cause trauma or injury to the dog. Collars made of materials such as wire, flat chains, chains with sharp edges, or chains with rusty or non-uniform links are prohibited. The tether must be attached so that the dog cannot become entangled with other objects or come into physical contact with other dogs in the outside housing facility, and so that the dog can roam to the full range of the tether.

A perimeter fence that is of sufficient height to keep unwanted animals out must enclose dog housing areas where dogs are on tethers. Fences less than six (6) feet high must be approved by the State Veterinary Council Veterinarian. The fence must be constructed so that it protects the dogs by preventing other dogs of equal or greater size from going through it or under it and having contact with the dogs inside.

### **35) Compatibility**

All dogs housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible, as determined by observation. Not more than twelve (12) adult non-conditioned dogs may be housed in the same primary enclosure. Bitches in heat must not be housed in the same primary enclosure with sexually mature males, except for breeding. Except when maintained in breeding colonies, bitches with litters must not be housed in the same primary enclosure with other adult dogs, and puppies less than four (4) months of age may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs

other than their dam or foster dam. Dogs with a vicious or aggressive disposition must be housed separately.

Dogs that have or are suspected of having a contagious disease must be isolated from healthy animals in the colony, as directed by the attending veterinarian. When an entire group or room of animals is known to have or believed to be exposed to an infectious or contagious agent, the group may be kept intact during the process of diagnosis, treatment and control.

### **36) Exercise for Dogs and Socializing**

Commercial kennels, commercial breeders, dealers, and exhibitors must develop, document and follow an appropriate plan to provide dogs with an opportunity for exercise. In addition, the plan must be approved and signed by the licensee and the attending veterinarian. The plan must include written standard procedures to be followed in providing the opportunity for exercise. The plan must be made available to the state veterinarian or his/her designated representative upon request. The plan, at a minimum, must comply with each of the following:

- (i) Dogs housed individually. Dogs over twelve (12) weeks of age, except bitches with litters, housed, held or maintained by any animal shelter, boarding kennel, commercial kennel, commercial breeder, dealer, exhibitor or voluntary licensee must be provided the opportunity for exercise regularly.
- (ii) The frequency, method and duration of the opportunity for exercise shall be determined by the attending veterinarian.

Licensees, in developing their plan, should consider providing positive physical contact with humans that encourages exercise through play or other similar activities. If a dog is housed, held or maintained at a facility without sensory contact with another dog, it must be provided with positive physical contact with human at least daily.

### **37) Exercising/Socialising**

The opportunity for exercise may be provided in a number of ways, such as,

- (i) Group housing in cages, pens or runs that provide at least one hundred percent (100%) of the required space for each dog if maintained separately under the minimum floor space requirements of this rule;
- (ii) Providing access to a run or open area at the frequency and duration prescribed by the attending veterinarian;
- (iii) Adequate exercise either in a fenced area or on a leash with a person on the other end;
- (iv) Exercising for at least 30 minutes twice per day;
- (v) Socializing with people at suitable intervals equaling at least three (3) hours per day for adult and five (5) hours per day for puppies less than four months of age;

- (vi) Other similar activities;
- (vii) Establishments will keep checklists documenting the time and the name of the caretakers who complete these tasks. Checklists will be made available to the Local Civic Authority and the AWBI during each inspection visit.

Forced exercise methods or devices such as swimming, treadmills or carousel-type devices are unacceptable.

Exemptions If, in the opinion of the attending veterinarian, it is inappropriate for certain dogs to exercise because of their health, condition or well-being, the licensee may be exempted from meeting the requirements of this section for those specific dogs only. This exemption must be documented by the attending veterinarian and, unless the basis for exemption is a permanent condition, must be reviewed and signed at least every thirty (30) days by the attending veterinarian.

### **38) Feeding**

Animals must be fed as per prescribed standards. The food must be uncontaminated, wholesome, palatable and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain the normal condition and weight of the animal. The diet must be appropriate for the individual animal's age and condition.

Food receptacles used for animals must be readily accessible to all animals and must be located so as to minimize contamination by excreta and pests and be protected from rain. Feeding pans must either be made of a durable material that can be easily cleaned and sanitized or disposable. If the food receptacles are not disposable, they must be kept clean and must be sanitized in accordance with this rule. If the food receptacles are disposable, they must be discarded after one (1) use.

#### Water

Potable water should be continually available to the animals to ensure their health and well-being. Water receptacles must be kept clean and sanitized before being used to water a different animal or social grouping of animals.

### **39) Cleaning, Sanitization, Housekeeping and Pest Control**

Cleaning of Primary Enclosures Excreta and food waste must be removed from primary enclosures daily and from under primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent an excessive accumulation of feces and food waste, to prevent soiling of the animals contained in the primary enclosures, and to reduce disease hazards, insects, pests and odors. When water is used to clean the primary enclosure, whether by hosing, flushing or other

methods, animals must be removed, unless the enclosure is large enough to ensure the animals would not be harmed, wetted or distressed in the process. Standing water must be removed from the primary enclosure and adjacent areas. Animals in other primary enclosures must be protected from being contaminated with water and other wastes during the cleaning.

Sanitization of Primary Enclosures and Food and Water receptacles.

- a) Used primary enclosures and food and water receptacles must be cleaned and sanitized in accordance with this section before they can be used to house, feed or water another animal, or social grouping of animals.
- b) Hard surfaces of primary enclosures and food and water receptacles must be sanitized using one (1) of the following methods;
  - (i) Live steam under pressure;
  - (ii) Washing with hot water at least one hundred eighty degrees Fahrenheit (180 F) or eighty-two point two degrees Celsius (82.2 C) and soap or detergent, as with a mechanical cage washer; or
  - (iii) Washing all soiled surfaces with appropriate detergent solutions and disinfectants, or by using a combination detergent/disinfectant product that accomplishes the same purpose, with a thorough cleaning of the surfaces to remove organic materials, so as to remove all organic material and mineral build-up, and to provide sanitization followed by a clean water rinse.
- c) Pens, runs and outdoor housing areas using material that cannot be sanitized using the methods previously stated, such as gravel, sand, grass, earth or absorbent bedding, must be sanitized by removing the contaminated material as necessary to prevent odors, diseases, pests, insects and vermin infestation.

**40) Housekeeping for Premises**

Premises where housing facilities are located, including buildings and surrounding grounds, must be kept clean and in good repair to protect the animals from injury, to facilitate the husbandry practices required in this rule and to reduce or eliminate breeding and living areas from rodents and vermin. Premises must be kept free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste products and discarded matter. Weeds, grasses and bushes must be controlled so as to facilitate cleaning of the premises and pest control such as fleas and ticks, and to protect the health and well-being of the animals.

Pest Control An effective program for the control of insects, external parasites affecting dogs must be established and maintained so as to promote the health and well-being of the animals and reduce contamination by pests in animal areas. Regular de-ticking must be practiced at the time of grooming.

Employees Each breeder/pet shop/boarding kennel licensed under the provisions of the AWBI and who is maintaining dogs must have enough employees to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required by this rule. The employees who provide for husbandry and care or handle animals must be properly trained in these activities to the degree that their work performance ensures all standards are met in maintaining of the animals. These employees shall be supervised by an individual who has the knowledge, background and experience in proper husbandry and care of dogs to supervise others. The employer must be certain that the supervisor and other employees can perform to these standards.

#### **41) Primary Enclosures when Homes are Used as Animal Facilities**

##### General requirements

Homes used as an animal housing facility must be the homes normally occupied by the human inhabitant responsible for care of the animal(s) and, must be adequate and suitable for reasonable prudent humans to live in without health or injury risks above those expected in a well-managed home. Houses shall not be compartmentalized except to restrict entry into areas which may be hazardous to the animals. Areas compartmentalized from the main living area occupied by the human inhabitants shall not be used as animal areas unless they meet the standards of indoor housing facilities. The temperature in home housing facilities must be maintained between sixty degrees and eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (60 F - 85 F) or between fifteen point five degrees and twenty nine point four degrees Celsius (15.5-29.4 C) at all times when animals are present.

Homes must be equipped with smoke or heat detectors.

Homes must be kept free of fleas and ticks.

##### Space and additional requirements.

- a. Cages or crates used to contain animals for short periods of time within the home must be large enough to permit the animal to stand, sit, lie and turn around in a normal manner and, must additionally meet the standards of primary enclosures used to transport live dogs as specified in this rule.
- b. Dogs shall not be caged except:
  - (I) At night when the Caregiver retires;
  - (II) When necessary for medical reasons.
- c. Dogs shall not be tethered inside or outside the house. They shall be on a hand-held leash anytime they are outside the house except that dogs may be unleashed for short periods of time inside a properly fenced yard when under the supervision of the caregiver.

#### **42) Annual Vaccination and Licensing of Dogs**

All the owned dogs must be annually vaccinated against rabies (and preferably against canine distemper, parvo-virus, leptospirosis and viral hepatitis), and licensed by the Local Civic Authority (panchayat, municipality, corporation) to ensure that the dogs are protected against common infectious diseases. A suitable fee can be fixed by the Local Civic Authorities and anti-rabies vaccination/registration token issued to vaccinated dogs.

**43)** All the licensed dogs must be prevented from straying in public areas and from littering in public areas/on footpaths. Pet owners must be made responsible for removing the dog. The owners must ensure that their dogs are held on secure leash in public areas.

**44)** The Local Civic/Municipal Authorities may regularly patrol and roundup all the straying owned dogs and impound them. The dogs must be under good care in individual kennels for a minimum of seven (7) days. The owners may claim their pet from the pound after paying a penalty of Rs. 150/- per day. Unclaimed dogs may be handed over to any animal welfare organization for further care.

**45)** In the event of habitual irresponsible ownership evidenced by the straying of pet dogs in public areas, animal welfare organizations may initiate legal action for dereliction of duties to the pet.

**46)** Provisions for Emergency Veterinary First Aid: Registered dog breeders, pet shop owners/traders, and boarding kennels should have 24 hours services of a well-trained Para Vet who can administer treatment in case of emergencies *after* consulting the Visiting Veterinary/On-call Veterinary Surgeon. A well-equipped Veterinary first aid/treatment room should be provided to cater for regular veterinary treatment and for attending emergencies.