



DOG OBEDIENCE CLUBS OF FLORIDA



DOCOF

Standard Operating Procedure

Title	Notification of Contagious Diseases Prior to the Tournament				
Number	15003	Date Approved	9/15/15	Date Active	9/15/15
Rescinds		Review Date		Pages	2
Purpose To create a standard method for managing local outbreaks of contagious canine diseases prior to the annual tournament.					
Policy Numerous canine diseases are contagious but few have any lasting effects or represent extreme danger to a healthy dog. Since a dog can be exposed to any of these diseases at any obedience trial DOCOF will not generally provide a warning of these diseases prior to the Event.					
Practice It should be the practice of all DOCOF exhibitors to maintain their dog in a healthy state. It is further expected that, should a dog have a contagious disease, that the handler pull that dog from the competition. Should a DOCOF representative become aware that a dog is ill, the Board will ask the dog be pulled. Should DOCOF be advised that a dog is ill, as when the handler pulls the dog prior to the Event, DOCOF will not make any announcement of that or any other dog's illness.					
Exception Should DOCOF become aware of a wide spread canine disease that represents extreme danger to the dogs attending the annual event and if DOCOF can verify that this disease threatens dogs that will attend, DOCOF will notify attendees of the hazard present. An example of this might be a vaccine resistant strain of Parvo or Canine Influenza.					
Procedure Upon hearing of such a disease DOCOF officials will contact local veterinarians in order to determine the projected health threat. Based upon the threat level the Board of Trustees will make a decision as to whether or not to provide a threat notice and how that notice will be communicated. Upon notification of an extreme canine outbreak impacting the Event, DOCOF Officials will contact three veterinarians in each of the predesignated Emergency Management areas. These vets are to be selected from a sample of vets listed in premiums for obedience trials in the EM Areas. Once contacted, the caller will identify him or herself and indicate the reason for the call. The vets will be asked one question. Are you experiencing a greater than average number of canine patients diagnosed with { fill in } disease in your area. The caller will then move on to the next call. After gathering the data, the Board of Trustees will make a determination as to the risk factor. If the risk factor is high, DOCOF will release an electronic notification as to its findings.					

Data Analysis

In the event that two of the three vets in an area confirm higher than average numbers of exposure, that area will be considered at risk. If three non-adjacent areas are listed as at risk, DOCOF shall notify club delegates of the finding.

If 5/7 of the EM areas are at risk the Board will consider cancellation of the Event. Cancellation shall be done according to SOP.