

JERSEY CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE WELFARE OF

DOGS DURING TRAINING

THE CODE

The Code of recommendations for the welfare of dogs under instructional training is intended to encourage those responsible for looking after these animals to adopt the highest standards of husbandry. It takes account of five basic needs, known as the "Five Freedoms".

The Five Freedoms are:

1. FREEDOM FROM HUNGER AND THIRST

- by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour;

2. FREEDOM FROM DISCOMFORT

- by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area;

3. FREEDOM FROM PAIN, INJURY OR DISEASE

- by prevention or by rapid diagnosis and treatment;

4. FREEDOM TO EXPRESS NORMAL BEHAVIOUR

- by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animals' own kind;

5. FREEDOM FROM FEAR AND DISTRESS

- by ensuring conditions and treatment to avoid mental suffering.

PRACTICE

1. The training methods employed and advised shall be consistent with the Five Freedoms. The use of coercive or punitive techniques and equipment should not be used, including pinch collars, electric shock collars and any other equipment which may cause physical or psychological damage.

2. The training techniques employed and advised should be modern, reward based, non-compulsive methods.

3. Assistants must be supervised by an experienced instructor until fully competent.

4. Trainers and Instructors should be fully conversant with modern reward based training methods such as those put into practice by recognised organisations such as the Association of Pet Dog Trainers and the Kennel Club.

5. Where possible all instructors should achieve a relevant qualification.

LEGISLATION

6. The following legislation is of relevance:

- Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004
- Diseases of Animals (Jersey) Law 1958
- Veterinary Surgeons (Jersey) Law 1999