



## Queensland Dog Breeder Register

### Frequently asked questions

#### What is the Queensland Dog Breeder Register?

The Queensland Government has introduced new laws to promote the responsible breeding of dogs. These new laws will provide the tools – including a new Dog Breeder Register – to help locate breeders who place profit before the welfare of their dogs.

#### When does the Queensland Dog Breeder Register begin?

The *Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016* comes into effect on 26 May 2017.

#### What do I do if my dog is already pregnant when the laws begin?

Once the law begins, you will need to register as a Breeder and get a Supply Number within 28 days of the litter being born.

#### What is a Supply Number?

A Supply Number can be any one of the following:

- A Breeder Identification Number (BIN)
- A membership number provided by an approved Breeder organisation that accredits dog Breeders, and is approved by the Minister as an “approved entity”.
- A Breeder permit number provided by a local government issuing permits/registrations to dog Breeders, and is approved by the Minister as an “approved entity”.
- A unique number that identifies a person as a recognised interstate Breeder, provided by their State Government.
- A Breeder Exemption Number (BEN) – applicable only if:
  - you are a primary producer breeding working dogs who wishes to give away, supply, advertise or sell the dog to a person who is **not** a primary producer, or the dog is **not** going to be kept as a working dog
  - OR
  - you are a person who is the owner of, or responsible for, the dog *and* you did not breed the dog, *and* you do not conduct a business activity that includes the supply of dogs

#### What organisations can provide a Supply Number?

To be approved, an organisation must meet certain criteria. If the Minister approves an organisation as an “approved entity”, that organisation’s membership, permit or registration numbers will be recognised as Supply Numbers.



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A number of organisations that have expressed interest in becoming an “approved entity” and are in the process of applying for this recognition.

### **Who is a Breeder? Do I need to register?**

A Breeder is any person who has, or is responsible for, any female dog that has a litter. It does not matter how many dogs are owned, and the breed of the dog is not relevant.

#### **I only have a litter or two of puppies each year as a hobby – am I considered a Breeder?**

Yes. You must register as a Breeder if you have, or are responsible for, a dog that has a litter.

#### **I don't make money from my dogs. I give them away to family, friends or neighbours – am I considered a Breeder?**

Yes. You must register as a Breeder if you have, or are responsible for, a dog that has a litter.

#### **My dog is pregnant by accident – an unplanned litter – am I considered a Breeder?**

Yes. You must register as a Breeder if you have, or are responsible for, a dog that has a litter.

#### **I operate a pound/shelter for homeless or lost dogs – do I need to register?**

Yes. Pounds and shelters, which are likely to come into possession of pregnant females or abandoned dogs or puppies, need to be registered.

#### **I am a primary producer breeding working dogs – am I considered a Breeder?**

Yes, you are considered a Breeder. However, you do not need to register as a Breeder if you are supplying working dogs to be kept on rural land for droving, protecting, tending or working stock. If any pups or dogs are to be supplied for any other purpose each dog must have a Breeder Exemption Number from the Queensland Dog Breeder Register.

#### **What if I have a dog I did not breed and I want to give it to another person?**

Before this dog is given away, supplied, advertised or sold you must create an account online and apply for a Breeder Exemption Number (BEN).

#### **If I temporarily supply my male dog for breeding purposes, do I need a Supply Number?**

No. The law only applies to a female dog that gives birth to a litter.



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### **I only want to breed one litter so I can keep one of the puppies – can I get an exemption?**

No. You must register as a Breeder if you have, or are responsible for, a dog that has a litter.

### **I own (or am responsible for) a dog which I want to sell or give away – what do I do?**

If you did not breed the dog, the dog does not have a Supply Number, and you do not qualify for a Breeder Exemption Number, you must apply for a Supply Number for each dog you give away, supply, sell or advertise.

If you did not breed the dog but the dog is microchipped and has a Supply Number, this number must be used when giving away, supplying, selling or advertising the dog.

If you did breed the dog, you should have registered as a Breeder within 28 days of the female dog giving birth.

## **Pet shops**

### **Will the sale of dogs through pet shops be banned?**

Provided pet shops comply with the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*, dogs and puppies can be sold through pet shops.

### **Will pet shops sell my puppies if I'm not registered?**

No. It is illegal for a pet shop to give away, supply, sell or advertise puppies without a Supply Number identifying you as the Breeder.

### **Can I still sell my puppies online, privately or through a pet shop?**

Yes. However, from 26 May 2017, if you sell a dog or puppy through a pet shop or retailer, they must use the Supply Number identifying you as the Breeder.

If someone else gives away, supplies, sells or advertises your puppies, they must use the Supply Number identifying you as the Breeder.

From 26 May 2017, it is a breach of the law to give-away, supply, sell or advertise a dog or puppies without a Supply Number that identifies the origin of the dog.

## **Working dogs**

Primary producers breeding working dogs on rural land for the purpose of droving, protecting, tending or working stock do not have to register as a Breeder, as long as they supply ALL pups to another primary producer as working dogs.



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### **What is the definition of a working dog?**

A working dog means a dog usually kept or proposed to be kept on rural land by an owner who is a primary producer, or a person engaged or employed by a primary producer.

The dog is to be kept primarily for the purpose of droving, protecting, tending, or working stock, or is being trained in droving, protecting, tending, or working stock.

### **I'm breeding my working dog and will be providing a puppy to another person as a pet – do I need to register?**

You must apply for a Breeder Exemption Number if you are a Breeder of a working dog and a puppy will be supplied to a person other than a primary producer, or will not be used as a working dog (e.g. sold to a neighbour as a pet).

Each puppy sold or given away must have its own individual Breeder Exemption Number.

### **Are pig-dogs considered to be a 'working dog'?**

No. Under the law, the definition of a working dog is limited to working dogs kept on rural land for droving, protecting, tending or working stock. It does not include managing feral animals.

## **Costs**

### **What will it cost to register as a Breeder for a Supply Number?**

There is no fee to register as a Breeder.

### **What about microchipping?**

There will be no extra cost for microchipping, as mandatory microchipping already applies to dogs from 12 weeks of age, or when supplied (if earlier).

The Supply Number identifying the origins of the dog will be included in the dog's information stored on the microchip. This allows lifetime traceability of the dog to the Breeder.

Certain dogs, such as genuine working dogs, are exempt from microchipping.

## **Penalties and reporting**

### **Is there a penalty if I sell my puppies and I'm not registered?**

Yes. It is an offence if you fail to register as a Breeder and you are giving away, supplying, selling or advertising your dog's puppies born on or after 26 May 2017.



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### How can I make a complaint about a Breeder with no Supply Number?

The Queensland Dog Breeder Register allows you to lodge concerns about a Breeder or the welfare of a dog, and this information will be referred to the appropriate authorities for action.

You can report an unregistered Breeder or a person supplying a puppy without a Supply Number through the Queensland Dog Breeder Register, or through your relevant local government.

### Are there mandatory Breeder standards?

Biosecurity Queensland is working with the RSPCA Qld, Dogs Queensland and Queensland Racing Integrity Commission to develop the draft *Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Breeding Dogs and their Progeny (Standards)*.

A number of key animal welfare issues, including maximum number of litters, will be considered during this process.

Once finalised, the Standards will be adopted as compulsory under the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*. All dog Breeders in Queensland, including working dog Breeders, will have to comply with the Standards.

### More information

For further information, please call 13 25 23.