



General Standards for Exhibiting Animals in New South Wales

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Definitions

Words and expressions that occur in these Standards have the same meaning as they have in the Act, unless otherwise specified in these Standards.

In these Standards:

approved means approved in writing by the Secretary.

attendant means a volunteer who has been suitably trained to handle or care for animals for exhibit purposes and who is taking direction from an employee or exhibitor.

authority means a licence, approval or permit issued under the Act.

authorised premises means premises to which an authority relates, including any land occupied by the holder of the authority for, or in connection with, the exhibition of animals in accordance with the authority.

Department means the Department of Industry.

enclosure includes a cage or other structure in which an exhibited animal is kept or is treated for illness or injury.

exhibitor means a person or company that is the holder of an authority.

fixed establishment means an animal display establishment comprising premises used, on an ongoing basis, for the display, and the keeping for display, of animals, not being the following:

- a) a mobile establishment, and
- b) an off-display establishment.

mobile establishment means an animal display establishment comprising premises used, on a temporary basis, for the display of the following animals, but only while the animals are displayed or kept for display at the premises:

- a) animals that are the subject of an approval under section 22 of the Act, or
- b) animals that are the subject of a permit.

NSW DPI means the NSW Department of Primary Industries, being a departmental office within the Department.

off-display establishment means an animal display establishment comprising premises used for the keeping for display of animals, but not the display of animals, that are:

- a) the subject of an approval under section 22 of the Act, or
- b) the subject of a permit, or
- c) ordinarily exhibited at a fixed establishment,

and includes the land, buildings, enclosures and facilities used for that purpose.

prescribed standards means standards prescribed under the Act.

Secretary means the Secretary of the Department.

staff means employees of an exhibitor.

the **Act** means the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*.

the **EAP Regulations** means regulations made under the Act.

these Standards means the General Standards for Exhibiting Animals in New South Wales.

veterinary practitioner has the same meaning as in the *Veterinary Practice Act 2003*.

Notes

Notes that occur in these Standards are for information only and do not form part of these Standards.

Part 1 – General

Clause 1 - Scope of standards

1. These Standards apply to all animals displayed, or kept for display, by exhibitors and must be used in conjunction with all other relevant prescribed standards and policies of the Department (including NSW DPI), where appropriate, including:
 - Standards for Exhibiting Carnivores in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Bottle-nosed Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Australian Mammals in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Captive Raptors in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Circus Animals in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Seals in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Animals at Mobile Establishments in New South Wales.
 - Standards for Exhibiting Animals during Temporary Removals in New South Wales.
 - Policy on Exhibiting Primates in New South Wales.
2. An applicant may seek the Secretary's approval to any variation of the application of these Standards. An applicant must satisfy the Secretary that the proposed variation is appropriate for the particular species to be exhibited. The Secretary if so satisfied may approve a variation in the particular circumstances.

Clause 2 – Purpose of standards

1. These Standards have been primarily developed to ensure the welfare of exhibited animals but cover a range of areas including:
 - a) psychological and physical animal welfare;
 - b) educational value of exhibits;
 - c) public safety;
 - d) requirements for new or existing exhibits.
2. All areas specified in these Standards are minimum areas required. Exhibitors are encouraged to make enclosures larger than those listed.

Part 2 – Staff experience

Clause 3 – General

1. An exhibitor must have appropriate qualifications, experience and knowledge of the species exhibited in accordance with the requirements of the Act, the EAP Regulations and prescribed standards.
2. An applicant for an authority, who is not the holder of a current authority, must have, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, completed a course of study of an approved kind concerning the requirements of the Act and the EAP Regulations.

Clause 4 – Requirements of the exhibitor

An exhibitor must:

- a) be at least 18 years of age.
- b) keep records of the experience and qualifications of all staff including a summary of the exhibitor's careers and a record of all species the exhibitor and their staff have previously had under their care. The exhibitor must provide these records to an inspector on request by the Secretary or his or her delegate, or by an inspector;
- c) engage a sufficient number of adequately trained and competent staff to maintain the prescribed level of husbandry at all times to ensure compliance with these Standards and all other relevant prescribed standards. The exhibitor must supply:
 - (i) a record of staffing over a seven-day period and back-up staffing in the case of holidays, sickness, food collection and other duties that may divert the staff away from the maintenance of the animals and the animal enclosures; and
 - (ii) a record of the time required to maintain the animals and the animal enclosures.
- d) must provide to the Secretary, upon the Secretary's request, proof that adequate levels of resources, including staffing and funding resources, are available for the maintenance of all animals for exhibit in compliance with the Act, the EAP Regulations and the requirements of these Standards and all other relevant prescribed standards that apply to the particular animal or animals;
- e) encourage staff to improve their knowledge and practical skills through recognised training courses in animal husbandry, staff exchanges, and attendance at conferences;
- f) ensure that the senior staff in day to day contact with the animals have:
 - (i) representation at the highest management levels to ensure full consideration of the needs of the animals, and
 - (ii) authority to call for veterinary advice when required;
- g) ensure new staff are appropriately trained and provided with a job description that outlines the exhibitor's responsibilities;
- h) make, and retain for at least two years after it is made, a record of the name and qualifications of a person who identifies a species of animals for the exhibitor.

Clause 5 – Knowledge and experience of animal keeping staff

An exhibited animal must be under the supervision of persons who are responsible for and collectively capable of:

1. Operations

- a) implementing the requirements of the Act, the EAP Regulations and prescribed standards;
- b) relaying animal requirements and associated budgetary implications to the budget controller of the exhibitor who is responsible for providing adequate funds to ensure that all animals are held in a manner that meets the requirements of these Standards and all other relevant prescribed standards;
- c) selecting, using and maintaining equipment required to perform the job of a zookeeper

or animal handler;

- d) describing the role of animal display establishments in society;
- e) maintaining daily animal records and compiling daily reports and relating these to individual and in-house species management and breeding; and
- f) recording behaviours, reproductive events, transactions, pairing and other information as required.

2. Safety and welfare

- a) complying with and implementing Work Health and Safety legislation requirements;
- b) minimising the likelihood of attacks on handlers and visitors;
- c) properly maintaining and storing capture and restraint equipment;
- d) handling and storing chemicals in a safe manner;
- e) ensuring that serious accidents, injuries and incidents, required by legislation to be reported, are reported, including those caused by animals or in which exhibit design is a relevant factor;
- f) safely capturing and restraining the animals in the exhibitor's care (except for dangerous or hazardous species that ordinarily must be anaesthetised to effect safe capture) as demonstrated by evidence of appropriate experience, or appropriate training courses; and
- g) identifying the range of zoonoses potentially carried by each exhibited species and an awareness of the measures necessary to prevent zoonotic disease transmission.

3. Animal husbandry

- a) understanding the basic biological, behavioural, nutritional and environmental requirements of the animals in the exhibitor's care and how this relates to their care in captivity;
- b) demonstrating good maintenance and husbandry of the exhibitor's enclosures and animals with an understanding of hygiene, cleanliness and neatness in regard to enclosures, equipment and feed;
- c) renovating enclosures as required;
- d) appropriately transporting animals within and outside authorised premises;
- e) training new staff in the management of the exhibited animal species; and
- f) maintaining enclosure security.

4. Identification and taxonomy

- a) identifying all species under the person's care; and
- b) utilising sufficient knowledge of each species wild diet and behaviour to implement appropriate captive diets and captive husbandry systems.

5. Interpersonal relations

- a) liaising with the visiting public and answering questions from the public regarding the animal's husbandry, welfare and biology (including sex identification, wild diet, distribution and breeding behaviour);

- b) liaising with the management of the exhibitor;
- c) delegating responsibility in a manner that ensures ongoing compliance with the Act, the EAP Regulations and prescribed standards;
- d) consulting with veterinary consultants when required; and
- e) using effective reading and writing skills to read and write basic work related documents.

6. Behaviour

- a) minimising stress to the animals when keepers carry out routine duties;
- b) identifying behavioural problems, including stereotypic behaviour, and implementing strategies to minimise such behaviour;
- c) identifying changes in behaviour that may be relevant to the physical or psychological welfare of the animal;
- d) implementing appropriate behavioural enrichment; and
- e) conditioning animals if required in order to undertake routine procedures safely.

7. Nutrition

- a) providing appropriate maintenance diets for the animals held; and
- b) understanding the relationship between an animal's biology and its diet.

8. Public presentations

- a) delivering short impromptu presentations of at least 2-3 minutes;
- b) preparing and delivering educational presentations; and
- c) properly training animals using positive reinforcement techniques (this only applies at times when an animal is undergoing training or conditioning).

9. Animal health

- a) visually assessing animal demeanours, physical condition, faecal output and feed intake which indicate health status;
- b) recognising signs of illness and good health;
- c) administering appropriate routine health treatments for external parasites as required;
- d) implementing appropriate quarantine requirements; and
- e) implementing appropriate pest prevention and control measures.

10. Reproductive management

- a) demonstrating the exhibitor's knowledge of effective methods for controlling the breeding of the animals under their care; and
- b) providing an environment conducive to breeding.

11. Species management

- a) maintaining coherent, comprehensive and relevant records in relation to the animals under the exhibitor's care;

- b) in the case of studbook species - keeping accurate records and participating in their management to the satisfaction of the Australasian Species Management Program;

Note. *In order to be involved with the Australasian Species Management Program the interested party must ordinarily be a member of the Zoo Aquarium Association (ZAA). They can be contacted at www.zooaquarium.org.au or admin@zooaquarium.org.au.*

- c) in the case of species subject to an Australasian Species Management Program Species Management Plan, understanding and being able to implement the plan recommendations when required; and
- d) implementing appropriate animal identification techniques.

12. Exhibit design

- a) designing exhibits that provide for the basic requirements of each species to be exhibited;
- b) designing exhibits that comply with the requirements of these Standards and all other relevant prescribed standards; and
- c) preparing, or arranging, for the preparation, of plans and diagrams of proposed constructions in accordance with the relevant guidelines distributed by the Department (including NSW DPI).

Part 3 – Educational value

Clause 6 - Signage

1. Subject to subclause 2, on each display enclosure or prominently displayed within the animal viewing area for animals on public display there must be signs and illustrations that:
 - a) enable the visiting public to identify each species in the display enclosure; and
 - b) provide information about the animals.
2. An exhibitor is exempt from the requirement in subclause 1, in relation to any exhibit where the exhibitor routinely provides each member of the visiting public with a publication that provides the information and illustrations required to be placed on species identification signs.

Note. *Where an enclosure contains more than one species, identification of the species by the visiting public is often enhanced by utilising coloured illustrations.*

3. The information to be provided under subclauses 1 and 2 includes aspects of:
 - a) population status, range and habitat;
 - b) food habits; and
 - c) physiological, anatomical and behavioural adaptations to their environment.

Note. *The use of pages out of textbooks is discouraged as a large number of words that may be written for another purpose do not provide clear concise information. As a general rule zoo educators recommend using less than 50 words on signs. Copying of text and figures from textbooks may also infringe copyright unless the publisher has granted*

approval.

Clause 7 – Other educational opportunities

In addition to appropriate signage for each species, an exhibitor must provide a satisfactory variety of other educational opportunities. These can include:

- a) talks that explain natural animal behaviours;
- b) handouts or guidebooks dealing with the behaviour and biology of different species;
- c) implementing targeted educational plans for adults, children and relevant ethnic groups;
- d) catering for school curricula;
- e) choosing species to illustrate ecological or conservation messages;
- f) interpretation of habitat settings; and
- g) displaying a reverence for life and nature via exhibit design, animal presentation and management techniques that avoid the raising of concerns about individual animal welfare.

Note. *Visitors who become concerned about the conditions under which animals are being held are unlikely to take in the exhibit's desired educational message.*

Part 4 – Visitors facilities

Clause 8 – General

1. Fixed establishments and mobile establishments must have:
 - a) adequately clean and properly maintained toilet and hand-washing facilities for visitors;
 - b) adequate shelter and seating for visitors; and
 - c) a first-aid kit for the use of visitors.
2. Buildings and grounds of fixed establishments and display areas of mobile establishments must be kept clean and in good repair.

Part 5 – Animal enclosures

Clause 9 – Enclosure constructions

1. An enclosure must be constructed in such a way as to minimise the entry of:
 - a) predators of animals in the enclosure;
 - b) pests; and
 - c) wild animals of the same or similar species.
2. An enclosure (display, treatment, holding, isolation and other) must be constructed of such materials and be maintained in sufficiently good repair so as to ensure that the enclosure will contain the animals at all times and are safe for the animals, for the staff attending them and for the public.

3. If the material used in the construction of an enclosure is not new it must be of good quality and not contain blemishes or corrosion.
4. An enclosure must be so constructed that:
 - a) the visiting public are safe if they comply with appropriately displayed warning signage, and that animal staff and attendants are safe if they comply with such signage and instructions under these Standards and all other relevant prescribed standards; and
 - b) an animal cannot escape except in circumstances that cannot reasonably be foreseen and guarded against; and
 - c) the risk of injury to an animal in the enclosure is minimised.
5. Vegetation or other material in or near an enclosure must be removed or repositioned if it would otherwise assist an animal to escape.

Clause 10 – Enclosure fences

Note. Different types of fences can be used to contain animals, depending on the species involved. These can include different sizes of mesh, glass, piano wire, electric wires, moats, tin and solid walls, or a combination of these. Electric wires are recommended for open top enclosures and moated enclosures which contain carnivores that have climbing ability.

1. A moating system must incorporate the following safety features:
 - a) installations to prevent stormwater raising the level of the moat; and

Note. It is recommended that a 50mm float valve be installed to maintain the correct water level at all times.
 - b) a base of clay or some other impervious material to limit the loss of water through the rock soil subgrade; and
 - c) a barrier (possibly incorporating vegetation) on the viewing side of the moat to minimise the risk of visitors falling into the moat.
2. An enclosure in which a digging or burrowing animal is kept must be constructed:
 - a) with a subterranean floor consisting entirely of concrete covered by sufficient soil so that the animal can dig or burrow without escaping; or
 - b) with an enclosing fence of galvanised metal mesh or concrete extending below ground level to a depth of at least 1 metre and then extending horizontally within the enclosure for at least 1 metre so that the animal can dig or burrow without escaping; or
 - c) so that the animal can dig or burrow without escaping.
3. Fences must be maintained in good repair.

Clause 11 – Gates, doors and slides

1. A gate or door on the perimeter of an enclosure, which is designed to allow human entry to the enclosure, must be designed to minimise the escape of the enclosed animals.

Note. This normally involves the use of inward opening doors. However other designs, that are appropriate, may be approved.

2. If an entrance to an enclosure (other than the entrance corridor to a drive-through area) is a safety entrance through successive gates or doors, they must (if hinged) open inwards towards the enclosure.

***Note.** In designing safety entrances exhibitors should allow space for a keeper to shut the outer door while standing in the safety entrance with regularly used equipment such as wheelbarrows.*

Clause 12 – Gates, doors and slides for dangerous animals

1. An entrance to an enclosure (other than a reptile pit) in which a dangerous (that is, capable of causing death or serious injury) animal is kept must be through successive gates or doors which are kept locked by key or combination unless a person is within the enclosure.
2. Doorways and other entrances and exits of enclosure boundaries for dangerous species must be designed and positioned to prevent direct access to such entrances or exits from areas that are unable to safely and securely contain those animals.
3. A gate, door or slide giving entrance to an enclosure must be so designed that an animal in the enclosure cannot:
 - a) lift the gate or door off its hinges or a slide off its tracks; or
 - b) unfasten any security device.
4. A door or gate that is electrically operated must also provide for easy manual operation without risk to the operator.
5. The operating position for gates, doors, slides or other means of access must provide for:
 - a) a safe means of access; and
 - b) a clear view of the gates, doors, slides and other means of access and the immediately surrounding area.
6. If a short-term management enclosure adjoins an enclosure for a dangerous species, the short-term management enclosure must provide for safe entry by staff for cleaning and maintenance, and also for easier capture or restraint of the dangerous animal.

Clause 13 – Weather protection

1. An animal must be able to access shade during the hot periods of the day and shelter from wind, rain and extremes in temperature.

Clause 14 – Substrate and drainage

1. The substrate of an enclosure must not be abrasive or irritating to the animals, however where abrasive substrate is necessary for maintaining an animal's health or wellbeing, for example, for curbing excessive hoof growth, appropriate abrasive substrate must be provided.
2. To avoid the accumulation of faeces and urine in or on the substrate of an enclosure around watering and feeding points:
 - a) a readily cleanable or replaceable substrate must be provided around fixed watering or feeding points; or
 - b) the feeding or watering points must be easily moved.

3. An animal enclosure must be provided with a drainage system that quickly carries excess water away from the enclosure.
4. Unless it carries only surface water, an open drain must be inaccessible to an animal in an enclosure.

Note. *Collection drains provided for the enclosure should be fitted with baskets of wire mesh sufficiently fine to prevent animal hair and faeces from entering the drain.*

Clause 15 – Enclosure furniture

1. An enclosure must:
 - a) include naturalistic furniture; and
 - b) include, where appropriate, such items as bedding material, branch work, burrows, nesting boxes and pools to aid and encourage normal behaviour.
2. Objects, furniture, apparatus, decoration, plants or other items that could interfere with the welfare of the animals or with efficient husbandry must not be kept in, or allowed to remain in, an enclosure.

Clause 16 – Indoor housing of animals

1. Lighting in indoor housing for animals must be adequate to facilitate proper cleaning of the housing and the carrying out of routine health, hygiene and maintenance checks.
2. The length of light and dark phases must change throughout the year to mimic natural light cycles.

Note. *The change in day length has shown to be an important trigger for breeding in many species of animals.*

3. Indoor housing for an animal must be provided with ventilation that:
 - a) is sufficient to maintain the health of the animal; and
 - b) is so designed as to minimise undue draughts, odours and moisture condensation.
4. If an animal is a diurnal animal housed indoors, light:
 - a) must be provided in the housing that is strong enough to mimic daylight; and
 - b) must be of such quality, intensity and duration as to disturb as little as possible the normal physiological and behavioural patterns of the animal.

Clause 17 – Electrical and other equipment

1. Any electrical apparatus or other plant and fixed equipment must be installed so that:
 - a) it does not endanger the animals; and
 - b) the animals cannot disrupt its operation.

Clause 18 – Spatial requirements

1. The size and shape of an enclosure must provide animals with freedom of movement, both horizontally and vertically.
2. An enclosure must be of sufficient size, and the animals in the enclosure must be so managed, as to:

- a) avoid undue domination of a herd or group by an individual or individuals; and
 - b) avoid the risk of persistent and unresolved conflict between herd or group members or between different species in enclosures containing different species; and
 - c) make it possible for an animal to avoid, or withdraw from, contact with other animals or with people; and
 - d) ensure that the carrying capacity of the enclosure is not exceeded; and
 - e) prevent an uncontrolled accumulation of parasites and other pathogens; and
 - f) encourage and permit exercise and behavioural enrichment.
3. Each animal in an enclosure must be provided with sufficient space in all directions to enable it:
- a) to take exercise; and
 - b) to be protected from undue dominance and conflict; and
 - c) to be provided with its social, breeding and husbandry needs.
4. With the approval of the Secretary, a bird rendered flightless may be kept in an enclosure smaller than that which would be required if it could fly.

Clause 19 – Manner of display

1. Each animal must be displayed in a manner that:
 - a) as far as possible provides a naturalistic setting that resembles the animal's habitat and provides for its behavioural and physical wellbeing. With the approval of the Secretary animals may be displayed in a manner that does not provide a naturalistic setting resembling the animal's habitat where the exhibitor has demonstrated the display will have sufficient educational merit and that this merit cannot be achieved if this requirement is enforced; and
 - b) provides the means for enrichment of the animal's behavioural activities in order to further its welfare, produce a more interesting educational display and aid in the reduction of stereotypic behaviour; and
 - c) provides recreational and educational opportunities which encourage an increase in public understanding of, and responsibility for, animals and their environment; and
 - d) by the use of staff or attendants and physical barriers, or both, protects the animal from abuse and harassment by the viewing public; and
 - e) as far as possible, uses modern display techniques.
2. Animals in multi-species displays must be displayed in ecologically and biogeographically correct species assemblages. With the approval of the Secretary exemptions may be given to display multi-species displays that are not in ecologically and biogeographically correct species assemblages if they provide adequate educational value.

Clause 20 – Display enclosures and off-display holding enclosures

1. Display enclosures

- a) An animal display establishment must simultaneously house all animals within its care in enclosures that satisfy either of the following:
 - i. the prescribed spatial requirements for a display enclosure for animals of that species; or
 - ii. if no spatial requirements have been prescribed for a display enclosure for animals of that species, are of a size approved for animals of that species, (“display sized enclosures”)
- b) However, by way of an exception to the housing requirement in subclause a), an animal may be held, on a temporary basis, in a short-term management enclosure, a health management enclosure or a medium-term holding enclosure in accordance with subclauses 2 to 4 below.
- c) An animal display establishment must not rotate animals through enclosures as an alternative to simultaneously housing those animals in display sized enclosures.
- d) An animal display establishment must have the capacity, in the relevant circumstances, to remove any animal within its care from a display sized enclosure to a short-term management enclosure, a health management enclosure or a medium-term holding enclosure in accordance with subclauses 2 to 4 below.

Note. *Off-display holding enclosures may be used for a number of reasons, including: health and quarantine, social constraints, pre-departure, reproduction, and additional housing.*

2. Short-term management enclosures

Enclosures used for short-term (<24 hours with a maximum of 32 hours within a 48-hour period) holding of an animal for management purposes (“short-term management enclosures”) must have the following characteristics:

- a) For a hazardous or dangerous animal, the short-term management enclosures must be located at the animal display establishment where the animal is kept.
- b) In the case of species covered by species-specific prescribed standards, the short-term management enclosures must comply with the relevant requirements for such enclosures in the relevant species-specific prescribed standards.
- c) For species that are not covered by species-specific prescribed standards, or where the relevant species-specific prescribed standards do not impose requirements for short-term management enclosures, the short-term management enclosures must be satisfactory to the Secretary.

Note. *Management purposes include: cleaning of enclosures, maintenance of enclosures, overnight security, capture of animals for transport or veterinary reasons, and overnight as sleeping dens.*

Note. *The Secretary may refer to the following general principles when assessing the suitability of short-term management enclosures: the animal can freely stand up, stretch*

and turn around; the length is at least three times the animal's length and the breadth of the enclosure is at least one and a half times its length; it has adequate protection from the weather; and it allows safe access to for the keepers and does not include blind spots.

3. Health management enclosures

- a) Enclosures used to hold an animal under veterinary treatment for health management purposes ("health management enclosures") must have the following characteristics:
 - i. health management enclosures may be any size determined as suitable by the treating veterinary practitioner as long as all appropriate husbandry requirements are being maintained and the animal is permitted to rest and move without undue distress or discomfort; and
 - ii. if a health management enclosure is smaller than the size stipulated for a short-term management enclosure or a medium-term holding enclosure for that species, the benefit gained by the animal being in the health management enclosure must be greater than any detriment arising from it being in that enclosure.
- b) Health management enclosures may only be operated under the following conditions:
 - i. health management enclosures may be used for any length of time determined by the treating veterinary practitioner, as long as all appropriate husbandry requirements are provided for and the animal is permitted to rest and move without undue stress or discomfort;
 - ii. if the animal is held in the health management enclosure for longer than seven days, the exhibitor must hold written advice from the treating veterinary practitioner that recommends continued holding in the health management enclosure; and
 - iii. a record must be kept relating to an animal held in a health management enclosure, which includes:
 - a veterinary report outlining the illness of the animal;
 - the size of the health management enclosure determined by the treating veterinary practitioner;
 - the date the animal went into the health management enclosure;
 - the proposed duration of the animal's stay in the health management enclosure;
 - any adjustments of the proposed duration by the treating veterinary practitioner.

Note. *If an inspector believes the health management enclosure is inappropriate they may refer the matter to another recognised wildlife veterinarian for advice.*

4. Medium-term holding enclosures

- a) Animals held off-display for periods greater than one day and up to 90 days (medium term) in a calendar year must be held in enclosures ("medium-term holding enclosures") that have the following characteristics:
 - i. a medium-term holding enclosure must be at least 1/3 the prescribed display floor dimensions size for a display sized enclosure for the species unless smaller dimensions for medium-term holding enclosures are prescribed within the relevant species-specific prescribed standards. The minimum prescribed height

requirement for a display sized enclosure must be provided in the medium-term holding enclosures. The Secretary has the power, upon an application, to exempt or vary the enclosure height requirements of the medium-term holding enclosures;

- ii. where no display floor dimensions have been prescribed for a display sized enclosure, or where the relevant species-specific prescribed standards do not impose requirements for such enclosures, the medium-term holding enclosures must be satisfactory to the Secretary;

Note. *If an inspector is not satisfied that the medium-term holding enclosures are large enough, the inspector may require the exhibitor to rehouse the animal in a larger facility, but not larger than the relevant display sized enclosure.*

- iii. the design of a medium-term holding enclosure must permit normal behavioural requirements, for example, flying space for flying species, climbing or perching opportunities for arboreal species or water immersion for aquatic species.

b) Medium-term holding enclosures may only be operated under the following conditions:

- i. an exhibitor must not hold an animal in a medium-term holding enclosure for more than 90 days in a calendar year;
- ii. an exhibitor who is unable to house an animal in an enclosure that meets the minimum display sized enclosure after 90 days is not in breach of these Standards if the exhibitor has applied for, and not been refused, approval to hold the animal in the medium-term holding enclosure for a specified longer period. Such an approval can be granted to allow an approved transaction to another institution or exhibit construction to be completed; and
- iii. a record must be kept of an animal held in a medium-term holding enclosure that includes the date the animal went into that enclosure and how long it is likely to spend in that enclosure.

5. Long-term holding enclosures

Animals held off-display for periods greater than 90 days (long term) in a calendar year must be held in enclosures (“long-term holding enclosures”) that are display sized enclosures. The Secretary has the power, upon an application, to vary the size requirements for long-term holding enclosures.

Note. *If long-term holding enclosures are proposed to be less than the prescribed size for a display sized enclosure, they will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Secretary and may be referred to the Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee for advice. The exhibitor should justify any proposal to use a long-term holding enclosure that is smaller than the relevant prescribed size for a display sized enclosure.*

Clause 21 – Outer property fence

A fixed establishment and an off-display establishment must have an outer fence sufficient to discourage unauthorised entry to the establishment.

Part 6 – Public safety

Clause 22 – Stand-off barriers

1. Subject to subclauses 2 and 3, if direct contact between a dangerous animal and a member of the public would be possible, the animal must be separated from the member of the public by a barrier so designed that:
 - a) direct contact with the animal is avoided if the public stand or sit behind the barrier or climb on the visitor side of the barrier, or if they lean over the barrier and reach towards the animal; and
 - b) evasion of the barrier by the public (especially children) is made as difficult as is reasonably practicable.
2. Subclause 1 does not apply in relation to a drive-through area operated in accordance with these Standards.
3. Subclause 1 does not apply in relation to situations where supervised contact between a trained dangerous animal and the public is controlled by an animal trainer employed by the exhibitor and the Secretary has been satisfied that the trained animal can be controlled by the trainer so that there is minimal risk of the animal causing serious injury or death to a person while under the trainer's control. If the animal is a carnivore the Secretary cannot be satisfied unless the animal also meets the requirements of the prescribed Standards for Exhibiting Carnivores in New South Wales as they relate to entering enclosures containing carnivores.
4. A pit containing dangerous snakes must be of sufficient depth to eliminate the possibility of physical contact between the enclosed snakes and a member of the public, including any person standing around the edge of the pit who attempts to reach inside the pit.

Clause 23 – Warning signs

1. If an enclosure is dangerous because it includes an electrified fence the enclosure must be provided with an adequate number of clearly visible and legible signs giving proper warning, by means of words or signs, or both, of the danger.
2. The signs in a drive-through animal enclosure containing dangerous or hazardous animals must warn visitors to the area:
 - a) not to leave the motor vehicle; and
 - b) to keep all the doors of the motor vehicle locked; and
 - c) to keep closed all the windows, and any sun-roof, of the motor vehicle; and
 - d) if the motor vehicle breaks down - to sound the horn, or flash the headlamps and warning lamps, and await the arrival of a rescue vehicle.

Clause 24 – Exit signs

1. Fixed establishments and mobile establishments must have clearly marked means of egress.
2. Fixed establishments and mobile establishments must have an adequate number of signs that clearly indicate the direction to be followed to locate the means of egress from the establishment.

Clause 25 – Safety of structures

If entry to a structure, or part of a structure, on authorised premises would present a threat to the health or safety of a member of the public:

- a) access to the structure or part must be kept locked against access by the public; and
- b) there must be placed, so that they are readily seen and comprehended by the public, notices warning that entry to the structure or part is unsafe and that entry by the public is prohibited.

Clause 26 – Drive-through exhibits

An enclosure containing a dangerous animal through which members of the public may drive motor vehicles must be so constructed that entry to, and departure from, the area is available to the public only through a corridor that:

- a) commences at the perimeter fence of the area and extends within the area for a distance of at least 25 metres; and
- b) is formed by fences of the same construction, and of at least the same height, as the perimeter fence; and
- c) has at each end a gate of an approved height and construction and so devised that, unless one of them is securely closed, the other cannot be opened; and
- d) is continuously monitored or operated by a suitably trained person while members of the public are inside the enclosure.

Clause 27 – Access points between separate enclosures

If there are access points between separate enclosures within a drive-through area, they must be so controlled as to prevent an animal in one enclosure from entering of its own accord into another.

Clause 28 – One-way traffic only

The road system within a drive-through area containing a dangerous animal must, when used by the public, provide for one-way traffic only.

Clause 29 – Zoonoses

Note. Zoonoses are diseases that are transmissible from animals to humans and include Australian bat lyssavirus, chlamydia, cryptosporidiosis, hydatids, leptospirosis, psittacosis, ringworm, salmonella, tetanus, toxoplasmosis and toxocariasis.

1. Visitors who are in contact with animals must be encouraged not to:
 - a) suck fingers or objects.
 - b) kiss the animals.
 - c) touch the mouth with hands, or lick fingers.
 - d) eat food intended for animals.
 - e) eat.

- f) wipe hands on clothing, if avoidable.
 - g) touch soil or faeces.
2. Subject to subclause 3, where members of the public are allowed to contact animals, proper hand washing facilities must be provided at a fixed establishment or mobile establishment and the members of the public must be encouraged to thoroughly wash their hands after touching any animals.

Note. *Proper hand washing means:*

- *using soap and running water, warm to hot water is best.*
- *wetting hands thoroughly and lathering with soap.*
- *rubbing hands vigorously for at least 10-15 seconds as you wash them.*
- *paying attention to back of hands, wrists, between fingers and under fingernails.*
- *rinsing hands well under running water.*
- *drying hands with disposable paper towel, clean towel or air drier.*
- *turning off the tap with the used paper towel, if applicable.*

Ideally a sign should be displayed that outlines this information.

3. If proper hand washing facilities cannot be made readily available, an exhibitor must ensure that members of the public who touch animals can clean their hands with anti-bacterial gel or wipes provided and are encouraged by the exhibitor to use them.

Clause 30 – Keeper and public safety

An exhibitor and his or her staff must ensure that a dangerous animal is not inappropriately handled and that they do not place themselves or others in potentially dangerous situations with animals or equipment. For this purpose accepted industry practices that comply with these Standards and any other relevant prescribed standards must be complied with when feeding, handling and training a potentially dangerous animal.

Part 7 – Husbandry and management

Clause 31 – Record keeping

1. An exhibitor must keep records of all animals on an individual basis or group in a form that can be quickly and easily examined, analysed and compared with those kept by other exhibitors because of the potential value for the development of improved management practices.
2. Animal record books issued by NSW DPI must be used to keep up-to-date records for each species and the original completed pages provided to the Secretary each year in accordance with the prescribed process for renewing exhibitor authorities. The Secretary may, at the request of the exhibitor, exempt the exhibitor from this requirement.

Note. *The EAP Regulations stipulate additional requirements in relation to keeping and submitting the animal record books.*

3. All documents and other information pertaining to each animal received from a previous location must be kept safely. Copies of all records relevant to each animal received must accompany animals moving to new locations.

Note. *Exhibitors are encouraged to maintain records that include the following information for each individual or group:*

- *species (common and scientific name).*
 - *given name of animal and its sex.*
 - *date of birth.*
 - *name of breeder, place of birth, sire and dam (if known).*
 - *previous ownerships - names and dates.*
 - *breeding history - mating dates, mating partners, number and sex of any offspring, and the fate of those offspring.*
 - *medical history (including diagnoses of diseases, medical treatments, surgical procedures, vaccinations). Dates are essential.*
 - *any noteworthy incidents involving the animal.*
 - *identification - e.g. legband, eartag, microchip, tattoo number, distinguishing marks or appropriate photograph.*
 - *dietary preferences.*
4. If required by the Secretary or an inspector, an exhibitor must supply to the Secretary an audit of all exhibited animals and the results of cross-checking this with the animal records. If discrepancies exist between the audit and the records then the exhibitor must provide an explanation to the Secretary's satisfaction.

Clause 32 – Planning

Where requested, an exhibitor must supply to the Secretary, within 30 days of being requested, a plan of future developments and species acquisitions and disposals over the requested time period.

Clause 33 - Identification

1. Unless distinguishing marks or features, documented in the animal records, can easily identify an individual animal, a permanent method of identification is required to identify that individual, if requested by the Secretary or an inspector.

Note. *Preferably two methods of identification should be used in case one method fails. The attributes of effective identification techniques may include:*

- *being permanent.*
- *positively identifying the animal as an individual.*
- *being easy to apply.*
- *not unreasonably damaging the individual.*
- *having a relatively painless application.*
- *not interfering with the animals' mobility.*
- *being adaptable to modern data retrieval systems.*
- *being clearly visible.*
- *being unalterable.*

Note. *Different identification methods (depending on the species) that can be used include:*

- *passive Integrated Transponders (PIT) Tags (most species).*
- *ear tags.*
- *tattoos.*
- *collars.*
- *leg bands (birds).*
- *forearm bands (bats).*

2. An exhibitor must use Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT) Tags to identify an

animal when requested by the Secretary.

Clause 34 - Hygiene

1. Excrement and other animal waste, leftover food, unwholesome food and water, bones, fur, feathers, dead animals and introduced rubbish and foreign objects must be removed daily from enclosures. This is required to avoid unhealthy and unsightly accumulation of these matters and to minimise vermin infestation and disease hazards, reduce odours and prevent the ingestion of potentially harmful objects.
2. Contaminated substrate material must be removed from enclosures and replaced as necessary.
3. When disinfecting solid surfaces within an enclosure these surfaces must first be washed with soap and water, or steam. Disinfected surfaces must be rinsed before animals come in contact with them again. The disinfectants must be of a kind approved by and used in compliance with veterinary advice.
4. The use in or around enclosures of insecticides and animal poisons, for example, rodent baits, must be with veterinary advice as required, and chemical registration and label requirements.

Clause 35 - Signs

1. At fixed establishments and mobile establishments there must be signs requesting the public to refrain from:
 - a) interfering with the animals; and
 - b) feeding the animals (except, in the case of specified animals, with food provided by the exhibitor).

Such signs must be conspicuously placed at appropriate places.

2. If an exhibitor has made rules to be observed by the visiting public, these rules must be conspicuously placed at the entrance to the fixed establishment or mobile establishment.

Part 8 – Nutrition and hygiene

Clause 36 – Diet

1. Each animal must be offered a variety of wholesome and palatable food and water in quantities that are sufficient to provide for its good health and normal growth.
2. The diet of an animal must be prepared with consideration of the age, size, condition and previous history of the animal.
3. Nutritional advice from professional sources must be obtained in relation to the addition of food supplements to the ordinary balanced diet of animals.
4. Food must be unspoiled and free from chemical and bacterial contamination.
5. Food supplements must be appropriately handled and stored, and stocks appropriately rotated.
6. Care must be taken not to include food that is known to have deleterious effects to the animal.

Note. For example, improperly thawed fish can contain high levels of thiaminase, which

can destroy dietary thiamine.

Clause 37 – Food quality

1. Food provided to an animal must be clean, fresh, wholesome, palatable and of a standard fit for consumption.
2. The nutritional value of food provided to an animal must be sufficient to keep the animal healthy.
3. Food provided to an animal must be free of pests or disease.
4. The following must not be fed to an animal:
 - a) any animal that has died from any toxic material, including euthanasia chemicals (CO₂ is acceptable), insecticides and rodenticides; or
 - b) any animal showing clinical signs of being infected by disease; or
 - c) any laboratory animal that has been used in those research programs that lead to the animals containing chemicals different from control animals; or
 - d) a diet consisting solely of muscle or organ meats; or
 - e) plant material that is toxic to the animals.

Clause 38 – Food preparation

1. The area in which food for an animal is prepared:
 - a) must be indoors or completely screened; and
 - b) must be constructed of materials that will withstand steam-cleaning and chemical disinfection. Walls must be non-porous and without cracks or crevices.
2. All chemical and bacterial contamination must be avoided when preparing food.
3. Thawing and preparation of the food must be done so that it retains its nutritive and wholesome qualities.
4. A toxic chemical or other harmful material must not be used or stored in the area used for preparing the food.
5. Toxic chemicals or other harmful materials must not be allowed to contaminate food provided to animals.
6. Subclause 4 does not apply to cleaning products or disinfectants used in cleaning the area, the food containers or the food preparation utensils.
7. All foods must be fed to the animals within 24 hours of removal from freezers for thawing, or properly discarded. Discarded food must not be kept in fresh food storage areas.
8. The thawed product must be kept iced or refrigerated until just before feeding.

Clause 39 – Cleanliness relating to food and drink

1. High standards of cleanliness must be observed:
 - a) by staff engaged in the preparation of food and drink for the animals; and
 - b) in relation to the utensils and equipment used,

and adequate equipment must be provided to enable this to be done.

2. Utensils and equipment used in preparing and distributing the food and drink must be cleaned after use and kept clean when not in use.
3. Food preparation areas must be washed down daily and treated with appropriate non-toxic cleaning products.
4. Boots, aprons and brooms used in the food preparation area must be cleaned after use and kept clean when not in use.
5. Utensils and other equipment used in preparing the food and drink must not be used for any other purpose.

Clause 40 – Food storage

1. Supplies of food for the animals must be stored in enclosures in which the food is adequately protected against deterioration, mould, contamination and pests.
2. Toxic substances, live animals, unrefrigerated dead animals and discarded foodstuffs must not be kept in a food storage area.
3. Stocks of food supplements must be handled, stored and rotated in a way that minimises nutritional loss.
4. Frozen food must be stored at a temperature that is not higher than 18 degrees below zero Celsius.
5. Non-food cadavers must not be placed in food storage areas.

Note. Food should be protected from rodent access, as many species of mammals such as primates, elephants and tree kangaroos, are susceptible to diseases such as *Encephalomyocarditis (EMC) virus* (a virus which causes heart failure and is spread in the urine of feral rodents).

Clause 41 – Food presentation

1. Utensils and equipment used for offering food or drink to animals:
 - a) must not be used for any other purpose;
 - b) must be easy to clean and designed to avoid risk of injury to the animals;
 - c) must, when in an enclosure, be placed in such a position that each animal in the enclosure has easy access to sufficient food and water and the risk of contamination from soiling by the animals is minimised. The exception is where food is being used to entice animals into a catching cage, nest box or night area;
 - d) must be kept in a sanitary condition and, except in the case of a self-feeder, must be washed daily following use; and
 - e) in the case of a self-feeder, must be inspected daily to ensure that it is working effectively and does not contain caked or unwholesome food.
2. Subject to subclause 3, food items must be presented on an uncontaminated surface that is covered and not exposed to weather.
3. Carcass feeding and enrichment feeds may be provided in areas that are not covered.
4. Where appropriate to encourage animal activity, at least some food must be scattered across substrate or included in wood chips, hay, paper, feeding puzzles or other suitable

material or presented amongst the climbing structures for arboreal animals.

5. Activity feeds must not promote weight gain or dietary imbalances.
6. Only food supplied by an exhibitor may be fed to animals and visitors must be discouraged from feeding any food to animals except food supplied by the exhibitor.
7. The provision of live vertebrate animals as food is not permitted. With the approval of the Secretary an exhibitor may be exempt from this requirement for up to six months in relation to wild caught predatorial animals that are being fed live captive-raised fish or live captive- raised tadpoles while being trained to eat dead food items. This period may be extended if the Secretary considers it to be essential to the maintenance of the species.

Clause 42 – Drinking water

1. Clean potable water must at all times be available for an animal to drink.
2. An animal must be provided with sufficient fresh drinking water daily to meet the animal's requirements and must:
 - a) be either reticulated to, or changed daily in, each enclosure; and
 - b) not be allowed to become stagnant.

Clause 43 – Pest and predator control

1. A safe, effective and regular program for the control of insects, ectoparasites and vertebrate pests must be established and maintained.
2. Enclosures must be so designed as to exclude predators.

Part 9 – Capture, handling and transport

Clause 44 – Capture and handling

1. An animal must be handled only by, or under the supervision of, staff authorised for the purpose by the exhibitor.
2. A sufficient number of trained staff must be available at all times to handle the animals in the manner prescribed in these Standards. Care must be exercised to avoid harm to the animal handlers.
3. An animal must not be handled in a way that causes it undue discomfort or distress or causes it physical harm.
4. The supervision of physical contact between an animal and a member of the public must be limited to a period, and must take place under conditions, consistent with the welfare of the animal.

Clause 45 - Transport

Except as indicated in other relevant prescribed standards or as the Secretary otherwise determines, transportation of animals within Australia by NSW exhibitors must comply with current International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations.

Part 10 - Health

Clause 46 – Daily health checks

1. Arrangements must be made:
 - a) for the health of each animal to be checked each day; and
 - b) for the person checking the health of the animals to provide the exhibitor of the animals with an appropriate report on any distressed, sick or injured animal.

Note. *The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 creates offences for persons who fail to provide adequate veterinary treatment.*

2. In particular, a report must be made in relation to an animal suffering from:
 - a) obvious under-nourishment or weakness; or
 - b) bare spots in fur or feather covering; or
 - c) persistent diarrhoea; or
 - d) unusual nasal discharge; or
 - e) sores or open wounds; or
 - f) broken bones or other physical injury.
3. If a report under subclause 1 is made in respect of an animal or poor physical health of an animal is otherwise detected, all reasonable steps must be taken to restore the animal to good physical health.

Note. *This will ordinarily require consultation with a veterinary practitioner.*

4. An exhibitor must provide as many enclosures as are necessary to ensure compliance with subclause 3.

Clause 47 – Veterinary care and preventative medicine

1. Arrangements must be made with a veterinary practitioner for the care of each animal. This includes:
 - a) routine inspections of each animal (at least annually); and
 - b) treatment of sick or injured animals; and
 - c) vaccination for potential diseases; and
 - d) administering drugs including: anaesthetics, analgesics, tranquillisers, antibiotics, anthelmintics, or other chemotherapeutics; and
 - e) monitoring and controlling the level of external and internal parasites; and
 - f) being able to safely anaesthetise individuals of each species when desired.
2. Enclosures must be provided on the authorised premises for:
 - a) routine examination of animals in surroundings that are clean and well-ventilated; and
 - b) the restraint of animals; and
 - c) the administration of a general anaesthetic; and

- d) euthanasia for animals.
- 3. An enclosed treatment area must be provided on the authorised premises for the care of distressed, sick and injured animals and those recovering from sedation.
- 4. Records of all veterinary inspections and treatments must be maintained by the exhibitor and be available for review by inspectors.

Clause 48 - Quarantine

A newly-acquired animal must be kept in isolation for as long as may be necessary to provide for its examination, acclimatisation and, if necessary, restoration to good health before being placed in the company of other animals.

Clause 49 – Drug administration

- 1. S4 and S8 drugs administered to animals must be prescribed by a veterinary practitioner. Administration of drugs may be performed by staff who have previous experience in the procedures, but only in accordance with a prescription of a veterinary practitioner.

Note. Exhibitor staff should be aware of the limitations that the Veterinary Practice Act 2003 and the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 1966 in NSW place on the procedures that may be performed by lay people.

- 2. Non - prescription drugs must only be used in accordance with labelled directions.

Note. Animals should ordinarily be properly restrained for injections. Some animals can be trained to submit to injections. Others may have to be injected remotely by projectile syringes or pole syringes.

- 3. Sterile disposable needles and sterile syringes or sterile projectile syringes (darts) must be used for all injections.

Clause 50 - Euthanasia

Euthanasia of an animal must be performed by a veterinary practitioner, except in an emergency when a veterinary practitioner is not available.

Note. The decision to perform euthanasia is ultimately the responsibility of the exhibitor or the exhibitor's delegate. In emergencies the advice of a veterinary practitioner should be obtained verbally.

Note. The individual performing the euthanasia must meet the relevant legislative requirements in NSW regarding correct euthanasia techniques. The person should have knowledge or prior experience in the methods of successfully euthanasing that particular species of animal. The animal to be euthanased may need to be properly restrained to ensure the operation is undertaken correctly. The correct procedures for undertaking euthanasia are outlined by the Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART) who have published the "Euthanasia of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes". Copies of this booklet can be obtained from ANZCCART at the address below:

ANZCCART Australia

C/- University of Adelaide Adelaide SA 5005

Ph: (08) 8313 7585, Fax: (08) 8313 7587

Email: anzccart@adelaide.edu.au

Website: <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ANZCCART/publications/>

Clause 51 – Dead animals

1. Provision must be made for the handling of a dead animal in a way that minimises the risk of transmission of infection or disease.
2. Unless there is an approved arrangement for a dead animal to be quickly removed to the premises of a veterinary practitioner outside the authorised premises, facilities must be provided on the authorised premises for:
 - a) conducting a post-mortem examination in a safe and hygienic manner; and
 - b) storing material under refrigeration if an immediate post-mortem examination is not possible.
3. Without affecting the generality of subclause 2., the facilities provided for post-mortem examinations must include:
 - a) an efficient drainage system; and
 - b) washable floors and walls; and
 - c) an examination table; and
 - d) facilities for taking and preserving specimens.
4. Equipment used for the storage of post-mortem material must not be used for any other purpose.
5. A veterinary examination to determine the cause of death must be made if:
 - a) a dead animal is a member of a prescribed species; or
 - Note.** *Prescribed species are listed in Schedule 2 to the EAP Regulation 2010 and must be the subject of a permit.*
 - b) it appears that there may be a pattern of deaths; or
 - c) such an examination is directed by an inspector; or
 - d) in any other case, it is reasonably practicable to do so.
6. Unless the remains of a dead animal:
 - a) are used for scientific or educational purposes; or
 - b) are offered to, and accepted by, an approved museum or other approved scientific establishment;

they must be disposed of by incineration or burial or by any other method adopted on veterinary advice.

Clause 52 – Infectious diseases

If an animal is identified as having an infectious disease:

- a) all hard surfaces of the enclosure must, after removal of the animal, be sanitised by:
 - i. washing with hot water (at least 75 degrees Celsius at source) and soap or detergent; or

- ii. washing with detergent followed by application of a suitable disinfectant; or
 - iii. applying high-pressure steam; and
- b) veterinary advice must be obtained and followed.

Part 11 - Behaviour

Clause 53 – Multiple species displays

1. Two or more species can be held together as long as none of the species are likely to prey on or cause serious injury to the others, be persistently aggressive to the others, or persistently deny the others access to food, water or shelter.
2. All mixed species groups must be monitored, particularly when first introduced and during breeding, to assess aggression, competition or predation.

Clause 54 – Social behaviour

1. An enclosure occupied by several animals must allow for normal patterns of group behaviour.
2. Subject to subclause 3, animals must be housed in social groups typically found in wild populations.
3. The Secretary may exempt an exhibitor from the requirement under subclause 2. where the animals:
 - a) were housed in an appropriate social group and following the death of one or more animals the exhibitor either cannot obtain replacements or is in the process of obtaining replacements;
 - b) are being held in quarantine prior to being placed with others of the same species to form an appropriate social grouping;
 - c) are being held in a short-term management facility, a health management facility or a medium term holding facility in circumstances permitted by clause 20; or
 - d) cannot be housed in groups without significant risk of serious injury.

Note. *Social groups may include:*

- *solitary animals.*
- *mother with offspring.*
- *paired animals with or without offspring.*
- *single sex groups.*
- *single males and more than one female.*
- *several males and females together.*

Clause 55 – Training animals

1. General Requirements

- a) Any training of an animal must be done by or under the personal supervision of an experienced trainer.
- b) A trainer must use positive reinforcement (that is, the anticipation of a reward for successfully completing a desired behaviour) and know the physical limits of each

animal being trained.

- c) Negative reinforcement (that is, the completion of a desired behaviour to avoid punishment for failure to "perform correctly") must not be used.
- d) The reward for the successful completion of a desired behaviour must be immediate and tangible for the animal.
- e) A trained animal must receive at least 45 minutes exercise per day in the form of training sessions or public performance. For the remainder of daylight hours the animal must have access to the display enclosure size dimensions unless more specific prescribed standards for those animals permit trained animals to be held in enclosures smaller than the display enclosure size dimensions when not being trained or performed.
- f) The training methods used must be humane and not include physical or mental punishment resulting in temporary or permanent distress, pain or injury to any animal involved. For this reason the use of fire in an animal act is prohibited.
- g) A trained animal must be trained to cooperate with regular handling and with regular veterinary procedures.
- h) When an animal is being trained care must be exercised in ensuring that the skeletomusculature of the animal is developing or has developed sufficiently to meet the demands placed on it by the training.
- i) All animal training must be discontinued if a worsening musculoskeletal condition manifests itself, until this condition and its cause are properly diagnosed and treated by a veterinary practitioner experienced with the species of animal involved.
- j) Special care must be exercised with young growing animals and old animals and training regimes must be modified accordingly.
- k) An animal that is clinically ill must not be trained until a veterinary practitioner experienced with the species of animal involved states that the animal has fully recovered or is capable of training or performing.
- l) Any stools, ladders, planks or steps used as props must either be fixed to a sturdy support or have a wide enough base to be sufficiently stable. Any wood elements within these items must not be splintery or have sharp edges.

Note. When deciding on the colour of a prop that the animal must be able to see in order to utilise it properly, it should be remembered that most animals are colour blind and therefore the colour of the prop should contrast clearly with that of its background. As animals eyes are sensitive to shape and motion the shape of the prop should also contrast with that of its background in order to enhance its visibility to the animal. Swirling designs on the prop that break up its outline should not be used as they make the prop harder for an animal to see.

2. Commands and Bridging Signals

- a) A training or command implement must not be used in such a manner that inflicts pain, injury or distress on an animal. An exception to this requirement is provided under subclause h).
- b) Any implement capable of administering an electric shock must not be used for training an animal for performance.

- c) Elephant hooks must have a probe (blunt) point on the hook, and must never be applied in a painful manner. Gentle pressure to the ears or to the elbows with the hook is acceptable. All other guiding pressures must be applied with the butt or the side of the stick.
- d) Collars, head collars or leads must not be jerked or pulled forcefully in order to guide an animal.
- e) Rattans (canes) and other types of rods may be used to push or guide an animal, and they may be struck against each other or against apparatus to provide a noise stimulus, but they must not be used to strike an animal. The ends of these implements must always be blunt.
- f) Sharp spurs, or spurs with fixed rowels, must not be used for training animals.
- g) All training implements must be non toxic to animals by virtue of their composition and construction.
- h) An animal must not be struck with any training device unless the safety of humans or other animals is under direct threat.

3. Types of Behaviours

- a) Trained behaviours must incorporate bodily movements that are within the enhanced normal physical capability of the animal. An animal must not be required to perform movements that carry a high risk of injury.
- b) The apparatus that an animal may make use of in the course of its trained behaviours must be easy for it to use and have minimal foreseeable potential to cause it injury.
- c) An animal that is unwilling to perform a desired behaviour must not be forced to continue.

Note. *If an animal is unwilling to perform a desired behaviour, it may:*

- *initially refuse, or balk at performing the behaviour;*
- *attempt to please the trainer by performing an alternative behaviour;*
- *perform a displacement activity (such as a grooming manoeuvre) which may be stereotypical in nature;*
- *attempt to escape the proximity of the trainer.*

- d) A trained animal must be constantly provided with minor changes in its behavioural repertoire, except if it becomes apparent that variation is causing distress in the animal, then variation must either be decreased or ceased altogether.

Note. *This will provide a constant level of mental stimulation for the animals. The level of variation instigated will ordinarily remain the prerogative of the trainer. This variation is intended for the benefit of the animals.*

- e) A trainer must halt a training or performance session if decreased attention span and an increasing level of unwillingness to perform a behaviour by an animal becomes apparent.

Note. *This should be taken as a signal that the animal has "had enough". The training level that animals are able to cope with is very much dependent on the individual animal. It is important that the trainers develop sufficient rapport with their charges to detect signs*

that the training session should be terminated for the moment.

Clause 56 – Stress management and behavioural problems

1. Regular inspection and evaluations of animal housing by staff must take place when feeding and cleaning, to monitor hygiene levels and to detect potential housing problems.
2. A nocturnal animal must at all times have free access to sleeping quarters.
3. An aquatic and semi-aquatic animal must be provided with water for swimming.
4. A semi-aquatic animal must be provided with dry areas for resting.
5. Each animal must be checked daily by a person capable of recognising signs of distress and stress in such an animal and ascertaining the causes of such. The causes must then be removed or alleviated as much as is possible. Veterinary advice must be obtained where the cause cannot be identified.

Note. *Signs of psychological distress and stress include:*

- *self mutilation of no dermatological cause,*
- *excessive self grooming,*
- *repetitive stereotypical behaviour,*
- *changes in eating, defecating and urination habits,*
- *abnormal aggression towards or withdrawal from either keepers or cage mates.*

Clause 57 – Behavioural enrichment

Each animal must be provided with behavioural enrichment activities to increase activity, simulate natural behaviours and reduce the incidence of boredom.

Note. *Behavioural enrichment includes:*

- *Physical Enrichment – Providing space and furniture to encourage natural behaviours. This can include planting enclosures with native species to provide additional smell and shade or providing plenty of climbing opportunities for arboreal species with the use of trees, trunks, branches and ropes.*
- *Occupational Enrichment – Providing objects for the animals to manipulate.*
- *Feeding Enrichment – Providing activity feeds and novel food items and feeding devices to increase foraging times. Examples include provision of browse for herbivores and providing live invertebrates for omnivorous and carnivorous birds, small to medium sized mammals and reptiles. It can also promote foraging behaviours by hiding food or involve varying feed times to increase activity. Care must be taken to ensure these feeds are part of the normal diet, rather than in addition, in order to decrease the likelihood of obesity.*
- *Senses Enrichment – Providing novel smells or noises such as vanilla, blood and peppermint or playing sounds of predators or prey.*
- *Physiological Enrichment – Providing proper temperatures, humidities and photoperiods to stimulate natural behaviour patterns.*
- *Social Enrichment - Providing opportunities to interact with the same or other species by keeping in pairs or groups.*

Clause 58 – Inter- and intra-specific interaction

1. Animals must be provided with sufficient space to ensure intra- and inter-specific aggression or proximity-related stress does not harm the animals in the enclosure.
2. If an animal is being unduly stressed or harmed by the aggression or presence of other

animal(s) in the enclosure, then it, or the aggressor(s), must be removed from the enclosure.

3. An exhibitor must not hold social species alone except as required for veterinary reasons or where the exhibitor is arranging for acquisition of a mate or disposal of the animal to another exhibitor.
4. Signage for a lone animal of a social species that is being displayed must explain the normal social grouping of the species and advise of the intended acquisition of a mate or its intended disposal to another exhibitor.
5. Animals in different enclosures must be so managed as to minimise stressful interactions between the animals.

Part 12 – Breeding

Clause 59 – Controlled breeding

1. An exhibited animal must only be bred as part of a carefully managed program.

Note. *The production of excess animals is discouraged except when requests for these animals have been submitted prior to breeding.*

2. Studbook species must be bred in accordance with the recommendations of the studbook keeper except where this would contravene the conditions on the exhibitor's authority or directions from an inspector.
3. The intentional breeding of hybrids is not permitted.

Note. *All species, except for domestic species, should be bred in order to maintain their wild phenotype. There may be other situations warranting an exception to this recommendation.*

Clause 60 – Growth and development

1. Records must be kept on the growth and development of offspring being hand raised.
2. The use of artificial breeding techniques such as double-clutching or cross-fostering is permitted.

Note. *Artificial breeding techniques increase the risks of the offspring imprinting on the foster parent species or the human hand-rearer. This could be detrimental for the animal's future breeding potential with members of its own species or for its potential for release to the wild.*

3. If an animal is hand-reared for eventual release to the wild, then all attempts must be made to ensure that animals are not imprinted on their human carers and that they are adequately rehabilitated prior to release.

Clause 61 – Disposal plans

The Secretary may require an exhibitor to provide a written plan for the disposal of any animal that can only be held under an exhibitor's authority, or under an authorisation issued under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

Part 13 – Bibliography

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