



Rottweiler Club of Victoria Inc.

Breed Standard Evaluation (Australia) Program

Adopted: TBA

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Terms and abbreviations used

Dog	relates to both male and female unless specifically stated otherwise
ANKC	Australian National Kennel Council
RCV	Rottweiler Club of Victoria Inc.
NRC(A)	National Rottweiler Council (Australia)
BSE(A)	Breed Standard Evaluation (Australia)
Breed Standard	FCI Standard No 147

1. Purpose and Objectives

To ensure dogs fit within the parameters of the Breed Standard not only anatomically but also mentally.

Dogs are social animals and are the only animal that seeks human connection and interaction. In the modern society the community has an expectation that dogs are to be sociable, approachable and friendly, not only with humans but also with other dogs and are well behaved and well managed.

The purpose of this Breed Standard Evaluation (Australia) (BSE(A)) is to evaluate the dog and see that it is sociable, approachable and manageable. What we are not looking for is a sports-like performance from the dog; we are looking to see if the dog is well managed and that it has a sound nervous system.

As with any formalised test, people will train their dog and they should be encouraged to do so because the training regime is a testing and evaluating process. This in itself will serve for the betterment of those dogs that have problems because they can hopefully be addressed and rectified. Training of the dog is both beneficial to the dog and to the owner as it encourages social interaction with others, group participation and education. The dog is already being evaluated by the Judge during the Judge's interaction with the dog in the identification, weighing, measuring, critiquing and movement. If the dog shows any unprovoked aggression or severe avoidance behaviours the dog should be eliminated and not be permitted to continue further in the evaluation as we do not want to see the dog become more stressed or an incident occur where the dog causes harm to itself, another dog or person.

2. Eligibility

- The dog shall at the date of the BSE(A), have attained the age of no less than fifteen (15) months and be no older than eight (8) years.
- The dog must be registered with the ANKC and be issued with main register paperwork.
- The dog must be identifiable by a microchip. Where the Judge elects to split the Breed Evaluation process, where the measuring and critiquing phase is separated from the temperament evaluation, then each of the dogs must be positively re-identified at the commencement of the temperament evaluation.
- The dog is to be sound and in a healthy physical state and be of good temperament.

3. Documentation Required on the Day

- Original ANKC registration certificate showing microchip number which is to be verified against the entry details and dog's scanned chip number.
- The person entering the dog on the day must be the owner of the dog, or have written permission from the registered owner.
- All ID numbers must be identical and match the dog's scanned chip number on the day.

4. Equipment/Personnel Required

- Up to date copy of the FCI Breed Standard, Breed Evaluation paperwork, pens, etc
- Microchip Scanner
- Approved eye-grading device
- Approved metric measuring stick
- Approved metric head gauge
- Metric cloth measuring tape
- Starters pistol (6 mm) and blanks
- Metric weighing scales certified as accurate
- Computer and printer / typist
- Camera
- Event Secretary/Registrar
- Helper/Assistant (to be in the ring assisting the Judge at all times)
- Sufficient numbers for a crowd (minimum 12)
- Appropriate grounds with sufficient space and level ground to complete the Evaluation. The grounds are also to be free from any matter or object that may be detrimental to the performance of the dog.
- Set of numbered bibs or lapel cards
- Pram, trolley or similar
- Can or plastic bottle quarter filled with small stones, marbles etc.
- Evaluation form for Judge to fill in on the field (to be copied onto official Certificate)
- 5 metre strong rope or lead with clip attached to tether dogs during the traffic test.
- A bite roll, rag, rope, ball or similar tied to a line to evaluate prey drive.

It is the responsibility of the club holding the BSE(A) to have the equipment/personnel and the grounds available on the day of the Evaluation.

5. Number of Dogs and Judging Order

- 5.1. The maximum number of dogs to be evaluated by any one Judge in one day is 20. If excessive entries are received a reserve list will be held to allow for cancellations. Owners will be advised they are reserve number 1,2,3 etc.
- 5.2. The order of evaluating will be males then females. If the BSE(A) is conducted over 2 days then males are to be evaluated on the first day.
- 5.3. Bitches in oestrus may participate, but only after all other dogs have been evaluated. It is recommended that bitches in oestrus not be presented for BSE(A).

6. NRC(A) Administration

Not required until/unless program goes National

7. State Breed Club Administration

The State BSE(A) Registrar shall:

- 7.1. Source a Judge and ensure that approval is sought and received from their Club Committee.
- 7.2. Ensure that there is at least six (6) weeks notice of the intention to hold a BSE(A). Entry closing dates are to be advised.
- 7.3. Ensure that all information is transposed to the BSE(A) documentation prior to commencement of the evaluation, and that the club BSE(A) Register is maintained.
- 7.4. Ensure that all information provided at the time of entry is cross-checked against the originals supplied on the day of the BSE(A). Paperwork to be signed off prior to commencement of the BSE(A).
- 7.5. Ensure that completed Evaluation forms are retained by the Club and a copy of each sent to the NRC(A) Breed Recorder within fourteen (14) days following the completion of the Evaluation.
- 7.6. Set fees to be charged for entry to the BSE(A), with Committee approval.

8. The Evaluation

The dog must be presented for evaluation on leash wearing either a strong, flat leather collar or an appropriate chain linked collar which is not on the active ring (correction type collar on dead link).

8.1. Anatomical Construction

Each dog is to be presented individually and positively identified.

The dog will then be weighed, its teeth and bite examined, measured and eye colour assessed. The results are to be immediately transcribed onto the evaluation form by the officiating Judge.

The officiating Judge will then complete a written critique on the general appearance, attitude, constitution, conformation, movement, and fitness levels of the dog.

Double handling is not recommended but will be permitted, however, the Judge may stop the practice if in their opinion, it becomes hazardous, unruly or the dog is unmanageable without additional assistance. One handler only permitted to handle during evaluation.

If a dog shows/presents any unprovoked aggression towards any person or persons, or attempts to or bites any person the dog will automatically receive a FAIL rating and will take no further part in the BSE(A). Note: this is applicable at any time throughout the evaluation.

8.2. Sociability and Temperament Evaluation

(Refer to identification requirement if the BSE(A) process has been split.)

The purpose of this evaluation is to find stable and robust nerved dogs that are biddable and self-assured whilst also conforming to the Breed Standard.

- Is the dog under handler control?
- Does the dog require constant encouragement?
- Is the dog being pulled along on the leash?
- Is the dog boisterous and/or jumping on people?
- Is the dog highly reactive to noise?

The desired picture is that the dog walks confidently through the crowd, shows little or no reaction to noise, is obedient to the handler and is non fearful of the people present.

8.2.1 The Crowd Test

Part 1

At the Judge's direction the handler and dog on leash are to walk through two (2) parallel rows of people (minimum of 6 persons in each row) and proceed to the end of the rows. The dog and handler will then do an about turn and return in the opposite direction through the two (2) parallel rows of people. The crowd must be positioned sufficiently apart from each other to allow the dog and handler to walk unimpeded through the two (2) parallel rows. On the return, whilst the dog and handler are walking through the rows, a metal or plastic container containing rocks, marbles or solid objects is to be shaken and/or dropped behind the dog.

Part 2

The crowd will form a large loose circle. At the Judge's direction the dog and handler are to proceed through the circle, walking around the people in the form of a figure 8. The Judge can direct the handler. The Judge will then direct the handler to stop, the handler can command the dog to sit. The crowd should be at least 5 metres away from the dog and handler. At the direction of the Judge the crowd will close in at a walking pace towards the dog and handler and gather closely around the dog and handler. The handler will remain stationary with the dog maintaining a sit position. The crowd is to remain in that position until directed by the Judge to retreat to a distance of 5 metres from the dog and handler again and then at the direction of the Judge the crowd will move towards the handler and dog at a fast walk. Again, the crowd stop, closing in around dog and handler, and remain stationary until directed by the Judge.

The dog shall not show signs of aggression or nervousness. Natural curiosity, sniffing, etc. is permitted.

The Judge will document the dog's reaction to this pressure situation on the Evaluation form.

8.2.2 Gun Test

The dog and handler at the direction of the Judge will walk away from the Judge on a loose leash then at a distance of no less than ten (10) metres a 6mm blank starters pistol will be fired. The dog and handler will continue to walk another 3 to 4 paces and a second gunshot will be fired.

If the Judge cannot make a clear determination of the dog's behaviour to the gun test, he/she can repeat the test and fire additional gunshots until he/she is able to make a clear determination in respect of the dog's reactions.

The dog may mark the gun shots by turning to where the noise emanated from, the dog can show indifference to the gunshots, the dog may be aroused by the gunshots, e.g. barking, movement towards the noise, the dog may be sensitive to the gunshots, i.e. show a slight flight reaction and the dog may be gun-shy.

We are looking for dogs with stable and robust temperaments but the Rottweiler must also be aware of its surroundings.

The Breed Standard lists the following as Disqualifying faults:

"Aggressive or overly shy dogs, anxious, cowardly, gun-shy, vicious, excessively suspicious, nervous animals and any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified."

A dog that is sensitive to the gunshots shall be eligible to be represented for the BSE(A) on a subsequent occasion.

*A dog that is gun-shy and whose nervous system collapses under this noise stress shall **FAIL** and be ineligible to present at a future BSE(A).*

8.2.3 Traffic Test

Part 1

The dog and handler will be required to walk along a set course accompanied by the Judge where they will encounter pedestrian traffic, a person running both towards and past them and a person pushing a pram/pusher, trolley or similar.

Part 2

On completion of Part 1, at the direction of the Judge the dog and handler will walk past a tethered, non-reactive, friendly dog. The tethered dog should be trained and not be boisterous.

What we are looking for:

We are evaluating the dog for its manageability and reactivity to situations that it would encounter daily. We want to see if the dog is aroused by these things, fearful of the situation or calm and confident. We want to see that the dog is self-assured and can follow direction. The handler should not be constantly pulling the dog on the leash or heavily restraining the dog.

What we require is that the dog is under control with the handler and that the dog is non-aggressive towards the tethered dog. It must not show fear towards the tethered dog.

Part 3

The handler is required to tether their dog and then the handler will walk away from the dog's sight. Once the handler is out of sight of the dog, at the direction of the Judge a non-aggressive, trained, friendly dog shall be walked past the tethered dog at a distance of no less than 5 metres.

At the direction of the Judge the handler will return to their dog and bring the dog to the Judge in preparation for the next exercise.

What we are looking to see is that the dog is non-aggressive, that it is under control, that it shows no fearful reaction towards the other dog and shows no stress or anxiety from being left alone by the handler.

8.2.4 Prey Drive

At the direction of the Judge a Helper will present a ball/toy/rag on a rope in front of and no less than 2 metres away from the dog and handler, waving and dragging the object backwards and forwards in a sweeping motion on the ground.

The dog should be willing to move forward in prey mode, showing interest and attempting to chase the object. The dog must show some interest and not ignore the item.

9. Conclusion of the Evaluation, Judge's Summary and Presentation

At the conclusion of the evaluations the Judge will give a Summary of the dogs presented.

Upon completion of the BSE(A) it is the State Breed Club's responsibility to ensure that all information is transcribed to the Evaluation Certificate and all results forwarded to the NRCA Breed Recorder within the designated timeframe.

A copy of the Evaluation Certificate to be kept on file by the Club holding the BSE(A).

A copy of the Evaluation Certificate be signed by both the Judge and Event Secretary on the Day.

A copy given to the owner of the Dog.

A Register of Results to be kept on file stating date of BSE(A), Judge and Club holding the BSE(A).

Pass

Allocated to dogs that pass all areas of the BSE(A). A dog that receives a **PASS** rating is not permitted to present at future BSE(A)'s. A dog that receives a **PASS** shall be classified as fitting within the FCI Breed Standard for correct Rottweiler type both anatomically and mentally.

Fail

Allocated to dogs that possess a breed disqualifying fault or who are evaluated as having an unacceptable temperament. A dog that receives a **FAIL** rating is not permitted to present at future BSE(A)'s and shall be classified as Not Correct Rottweiler Type.

Re-present

Allocated to dogs that are eligible for re-presenting. Dogs may re-present on one more occasion, which must be within the following 12 months. A dog that cannot complete the BSE(A) following two evaluations is deemed to have failed the BSE(A).