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MINISTERIAL REGULATION of September 17, 2013, for the enforcement of Article 2, second paragraph, of the Dog Ordinance (AB 2012 no. 63) (Regulation wellbeing dogs).

Issued, September 20, 2013

The minister of Justice and Education,

A.L. Dowers

The minister of Health and Sports,

Having taken into consideration:

- that to enforce the Dog Ordinance (AB 2012 no. 63) it is desirable to lay down rules as regards the wellbeing of dogs;

With observance of:

Article 2, second paragraph, of the Dog Ordinance (AB 2012 no. 63);

HAS DECIDED:

Article 1

1. If a dog is kept in a dog-run, at least the following conditions apply:
 - 1) the run is solely intended for the stay of the dog and meets the following requirements:
 - a. the dimensions are:
 - height: at least 2 meters;
 - area: at least 7 square meters, on the understanding that the dimension of the shortest side is not less than 1 meter;
 - b. the floor is clean and not soggy;
 - c. the enclosure consists on at least one side of concertina wire netting with a mesh width of 5 cm at the most or of bars with a distance between them of 5 cm at the most;
 - d. the run is such that the dog cannot wound himself on it.
 - 2) in or connected to the run there is a provision that protects the dog from the sun, wind and rain, which meets the requirements referred to in Article 2.
 - 3) if the provision consists of a closed kennel, the space taken by the provision inside the run is not deducted from the minimum area mentioned in subsection 1, part a;
 - 4) there are no objects in the run that the dog can wound himself on;
 - 5) there is a clean water-bowl with fresh drinking-water in the run, but when a kennel is placed in there, the water-bowl is placed outside the kennel; this water-bowl is such that the dog cannot knock it over.
2. The provision, referred to under the second subsection, is solely intended for the dog and always within reach, and of such a construction that the dog is effectively shielded from the sun, rain and wind. If the provision consists of a kennel, the following requirements apply:
 - a. the dimension of the kennel shall be at least:
 - height: at least one and a half times the height of the dog;
 - length: at least one and a half times the length of the dog;
 - width: at least one and a half times the height of the dog;whereas under height of the dog is understood the height of the withers and under length the trunk length;

b. the kennel has a clean wooden floor resting on chocks, of at least 3 cm. thick, which is in good condition, draining to the outside and situated at least 10cm above ground;

c. the kennel is such that it can be easily cleaned, that it offers the dog sufficient shelter from injurious weather conditions and that the dog cannot wound himself on the kennel.

If the provision consists of open shelter the following further requirements apply:

a. the open shelter consists of a roof and a vertically placed partition of durable material placed in such a manner that the dog is effectively sheltered from sun, rain and wind;

b. the roof is placed at a height of one and a half times the height of the dog and the vertical partition is connected to it from the floor, whereas under height of the dog is understood the height of the withers;

c. the space to lie down under the roof is such that it can be easily cleaned;

d. the construction of the shelter is such that the dog cannot wound himself on it.

Article 2

If a dog is permanently chained, the following applies:

1) the chain, to which the dog is leashed, meets the following requirements:

a. the length is at least 2 meters;

b. the weight is at the most 300 grams per meter;

c. the links are no larger than 20 mm;

2) one end of the chain is connected to the dog collar by means of a swivel hook, under which is understood a freely revolving hook, the other end to a metal ring with a diameter of at least 8 cm, which ring can freely move along a traveling cord, under which is understood a horizontally stretched metal wire of at least 10 mm thickness, placed not higher than half a meter above the ground between two points of support with at least ten meters distance between them;

3) if the dog is leashed other than by means of a chain, the fastening means meets the requirements mentioned in the first paragraph, sections a and b, and the second subsection is equally applicable;

4) the dog collar is not a choker or barbed collar and is not otherwise harmful or distressing for the dog;

5) on the plot where the dog is located, there are no obstacles present that will hinder the dog in the freedom of movement he is provided by the traveling cord.

Article 3

For giving the necessary medical care as referred to in Article 2, first paragraph, of the Dog ordinance, are at any rate understood the cases in which there is question of:

a. lameness after trauma, when it is presumable that there is a question of a bone fracture or comparably painful injury;

b. extensive skin lesions, when there is a question of itching or irritation for the dog;

- c. serious emaciation;
- d. large open wounds;
- e. paralysis;
- f. high fever or low temperature with desiccation;
- g. an entirely very sick impression.

Article 4

1. This ministerial regulation takes effect at the time that the Dog Ordinance (AB 2012 no. 63) takes effect.
2. This ministerial regulation is cited as Regulation wellbeing dogs.

O.B. Sevinger a.i.,