

PET SHOP LICENCE CONDITIONS (1) DISPLAY AND SALE OF DOGS AND CATS

INTRODUCTION

- A. A pet shop licence from the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) is required to keep or display for sale pets under the Animals and Birds (Pet Shop and Exhibition) Rules 2004.
- B. The licence is issued subject to (1) submission of a valid application, (2) satisfactory applicant assessment (in the form of a course, interview or test), (3) satisfactory inspection of premises and (4) compliance with licence conditions.
- C. The licence is renewable annually.
- D. The licensee shall comply with all conditions of the licence at all times. Failure to comply with any condition of the licence shall constitute an offence under the law and the licensee shall be subject to regulatory action. The licensee may also be liable to be prosecuted in court under the applicable law, or have his / her licence suspended or revoked at the discretion of the Director-General.
- E. The licensee undertakes a duty of care to ensure that the animals in the confined environment of shop are (1) healthy and in good condition (2) housed in a clean, comfortable and safe environment and (3) managed properly according to their needs and development requirements.
- F. The licensee shall not keep or display for sale any animal which AVA has not given written approval for and which is not listed on the licence.
- G. The display or sale of drugs, medications and preparations that require a prescription from a veterinary surgeon is not allowed.

LICENCE CONDITIONS

HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

1. The cages / enclosures shall comply with the following:
 - Length of cage / enclosure must be at least 2 times the length of the animal from nose to base of tail
 - Width / depth of cage / enclosure must be at least 1½ times the length of the animal from nose to base of tail
 - Height of cage / enclosure must allow the animal to stand fully upright on its hind legs

2. The cage / enclosure structure must be in good condition and kept clean and dry. It must be safe and comfortable for the animals.
3. The flooring must provide firm and comfortable support for the animals. Mats covering at least half the floor area must be provided if the floor is made of thin wire or if the wire mesh has gaps larger than 1 cm by 1 cm.

MANAGEMENT & HEALTHCARE

4. All animals sold must have been vaccinated at least twice. The first vaccination must not be given before 6 weeks of age. Following the second vaccination, there must be an interval of at least 2 weeks before the puppy is sold.
5. Puppies must be vaccinated against canine distemper, parvovirus and infectious hepatitis. Kittens must be vaccinated against feline rhinotracheitis virus, calicivirus and panleukopenia virus.
6. Each animal must have a vaccination card, which must have the complete particulars of the animal, including breed, sex, age and colour, and the signature of the licensed veterinarian who did the vaccination. The card must be available for inspection and must accompany the animal.
7. Imported animals must be at least 12 weeks of age and be rested at least 72 hours before being sold.
8. Only healthy animals in good condition are to be displayed for sale. The animals must not be suffering from intestinal parasites (such as roundworm and hookworm), external parasites (such as fleas, ticks and ear mites) and ringworm. Sick, diseased and injured animals must be removed from display and treated by a licensed practising veterinarian. The veterinarian must certify that the animal is recovered before it can again be displayed for sale.
9. Animals that are pregnant or nursing young must not be displayed.
10. Clean drinking water must be provided at all times. Drinking containers must be kept clean.
11. The shop must display an emergency contact number on the shop front for the public to call in the event of an emergency and there must be evacuation arrangements in place.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

12. Each animal in the shop must be accounted for. The source of an animal, its date of arrival in the shop (and Singapore), the medical history and vaccination status, date of booking and date of purchase / release to the buyer should be available.
13. The shop should be able to show that customers have been duly provided with relevant information relating to their purchase of the animal. For example, the shop could implement a checklist or sales agreement that is initialled by the customer. Information provided to customers should include the following:
 - (a) Details of the animal - breed and whether it comes with a pedigree certificate; age & sex; vaccination history
 - (b) Advice on care of the animal
 - (c) Conditions for refund / replacement, if any
 - (d) Licensing requirement for all dogs above 3 months of age
 - (e) HDB rule - not more than 1 dog of an approved small breed in HDB residential premises
 - (f) Licensing rule - not more than 3 dogs in private premises.
14. All dogs must be microchipped. The shop must carry a microchip scanner to verify the identity of each microchipped animal.
15. When a dog is sold, the shop must apply for the dog licence for the buyer and lodge the microchip number of the dog with AVA.
16. Animals that have not received their 2 vaccinations and imported animals that have not been rested 72 hours must not be sold but bookings can be taken. The cage / enclosure in which they are kept must be tagged to indicate that the animals cannot be sold yet.
17. Only dogs and / or cats and animals for which AVA has given written approval to display and sell are to be kept on the premises.
18. Dog boarding and dog breeding must not be done on the premises.
19. Dogs for grooming must not be kept together with dogs for sale.
20. The following breeds must not be displayed or sold at the shop premises:
 - (a) Pit Bull which includes the American Pit Bull Terrier (also known as the American Pit Bull and Pit Bull Terrier), American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier and the American Bulldog
 - (b) Akita
 - (c) Neapolitan Mastiff
 - (d) Tosa
 - (e) Crosses of (a) to (d).
21. All animals must be kept in their designated display areas approved by AVA. Any change of location of the animal display area must be approved by AVA.
22. Animals must not be displayed outside the shop premises unless the licensee has obtained written permission from the relevant building or area management.
23. All staff must attend a compulsory briefing at the Centre for Animal Welfare & Control to familiarise them with their responsibilities and the licence conditions and best practices.
24. There must be no non-compliance with the requirements of other regulatory agencies.

Centre for Animal Welfare and Control
Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
75 Pasir Panjang Road
Singapore 118507
Tel: 64717198
Fax: 64733687